the desired effect. If this House was willing to yield the management of all local matters into the hands of the County Sessions, it would be better at once to introduce Municipal Corporations. This was a government measure, and he called upon the honble. Attorney General on the part of the Executive to come down with a Bill to carry that object.

Mr. Ritchie gave much credit to the honble. and learned Attorney General for the pains he had taken in preparing the Bill; but he would consider him entitled to much more credit if he, as a member of the Government, had come down to the House with some well defined scheme for the introduction of Municipal Corporations. The hon. and learned member had charged people of this Province with apathy. [Hon Attorney General —I only termed them apathetic in not showing a greater willingness to take the management of their own local affairs.] Mr. Ritchie continued —You never gave the people any power to act for themselves. He considered the people of this Province as qualified to act for themselves as those of any other country, if they had only the power to do so. As for the consolidation of the laws, he thought it was only a matter of convenience; and he could see no benefit that would arise from the adoption of such a measure. He would diminish the power of the Magistrates and give the authority into the hands of County Corporations. Some honble. gentlemen had said that the country was not prepared at the present time for the exercise of such a system; but he thought there were many sections in the Province which would adopt it, even at the present day; and he would have a Bill passed to give those who wished to exercise the principle the chance to do so. He fully agreed with his hon. and learned friend the Atty. General, when he said that Municipal Corporations would be a means of spreading intelligence among the people. Yes, he believed that such institutions would engender habits of thought, inquiry and self reliance, and lead those who are now politically ignorant to a true knowledge of their rights. The people would be led to discuss matters of which they are now ignorant. He thought the effect of the present Bill would be more to retard the introduction of Municipal institutions than to pave the way for their reception, as was stated by the hon. introducer. He considered it the duty of the hon. Attorney General to submit a measure for the establishing of County Coporations, which would be far preferable and more beneficial than anything that could result from the adoption of the present Bill.

Mr. Connell was ready to support the principle of Municipal Corporations, and he hoped the government would introduce a Bill for that purpose during the present Session. He was opposed to giving additional power to the Magistrates. He would diminish the power they already possessed. It was not right to tax the people without their consent, which would be the effect of the present Bill, by extending the power of the Magistracy.—He thought the right of levying taxes should be vested in the Grand Jury, instead of the Magistrates. He was of opinion that the greater portion of the country was prepared to adopt Municipal Corporations.

Mr. Brown said the Bill now before the House was a very important one. He was no lawyer, and perhaps was not qualified to comprehend the true merits of the Bill. If the object of the Bill was not to give an increase of power to the Magistrates, but only to simplify the laws, it was a very essential and important one. He could not perceive all the objections raised by hon. gentlemen; nor could he see that the present Bill would give greater power to the Magistrates than they now possessed. One effect of the Bill would be to render the duties of these (the Magistrates) more simple by having them plain and intelligible. He was proud to see a disposition to give people more political power. The people had hitherto been kept in perfect ignorance. He was willing to give them the selection of their local officers, because he considered them (the people) the best judges of their own affairs and of the persons best qualified to act for them; and such a privilege would pave the way for the performance of higher duties.

Friday, 15th February.

On Motion of Mr. End,

Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to cause to be laid before this House, a Statement of the Fees received or receivable by the Clerk of the Circuits during the last two years, for duties by him, in that capacity, or his Deputies, performed, —specifying the several Circuit Courts held during that period,—with the number of Causes entered for trial at each Circuit, distinguishing the summary causes from those not summary, and comprehending a detailed Account of the Clerk of Circuits' Fees connected with or arising from each Circuit,—with a statement of the Judges' Fees received at the same.

Ordered, That Mr. End, Mr. Jordan, and Mr. J. Earle, be a Committee to wait upon His Excellency with the Address.

Mr. Ritchie, by leave, presented a Petition from Robert Rankin and Company, Allison and Spurr, Thomas Wallace, John W. Cudlip, Chas. McLauchlan, Thomas Edward Millidge, Owen and Duncan, A. McL. Seely, Charles Eagles, Edward Eagles, Moses Tock, Michael Fisher, and twenty others, Merchants, Lumberers, Lumber Keepers, and other Inhabitants of the City and County of Saint John, praying that the Act to provide for the summary punishment of persons committing trespasses upon Square Timber and other Lumber, may be amended; the same having proved wholly inadequate to correct the evils it was intended to prevent; which he read.—Ordered, That the said Petition be received and lie on the Table.

Monday, 18th February.

Mr. Ritchie, also by leave, presented a Petition from Thomas Webber and James S. Knowles, praying that such a Grant may pass to assist them to continue their Express Lines as the public nature of the undertaking warrants; which he read.

Mr. S. Earle, by leave, presented a Petition from George Hall, Courier on the Road from Sussex Vale to Long Creek, at the Washademoac Lake, praying to be remunerated for services performed during the past year; which he read.

Mr. Vail, by leave, presented a Petition from Charles Keith, John C. Price, and twenty others, inhabitants of King's and Queen's Counties and the County of Westmorland, praying that a Grant may pass towards a Courier from Petitcodiac to New Canaan, passing through the Butternut Ridge Settlement; which he read.

Mr. S. Earle, by leave, presented a Petition from James Peters, Walter B. Scovil, Jas. Dunn, and others, Members of the King's County Union Agricultural Society, praying for an Act of Incorporation; which he read.

The Honorable Mr. L. A. Wilmot, a Member of Her Majesty's Executive Council, by command of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, laid before the House the following Documents, referred to in His Excellency's Speech at the opening of this present Session, viz:—

Report from Captain Reid, of the Royal Engineers, and Mr. John Grant, Civil Engineer, of a Survey of the River Saint John, from Grand Falls to Fredericton, with a view of improving the Navigation thereof, accompanied by plans of such Survey.

The Honorable Mr. Hannington, by leave, presented a Petition from Thomas Robson, of Sackville, in the County of Westmorland, praying Legislative encouragement in the erection of a Fog Bell, upon a new construction, in the Bay of Fundy; which he read.

Mr. S. Earle moved for leave to bring in a Bill to incorporate the King's County Union Agricultural Society.—Leave granted.—The said Bill being brought in was read a first time.

Mr. Landry, by leave, presented a Petition from Stephen Tinney, and one hundred and seventy three others, inhabitants of the Counties of Westmorland and Albert, praying that no Law may pass imposing a Duty on the exportation of Hackmatack Timber; which he read.

Mr. Jordan, by leave, presented a Petition from George Rogers, James M'Lean, and one hundred and forty five others, Owners and Masters of Vessels, and persons engaged in the coasting Trade of the Province, praying that a Grant may pass towards the erection of a Breakwater at West Quaco Head, in the County of Saint John; which he read.

Mr. Porter, by leave, presented a Petition from the Rector, Church Wardens and Vestry of Christ's Church, at Saint Stephen, in the County of Charlotte, praying that their right may be secured in any Act which may pass incorporating a Company for the erection of a new Bridge between the Main Landing at that place and the Town of Calais; which he read.

Mr. Boyd, by leave, presented a Petition from the President and Directors of the Saint Andrews and Quebec Rail Road Company, praying further aid towards the construction of the Line of Railway from Saint Andrews to Woodstock, by authorizing the issue of Scrip; which he read.

Mr. End, from the Committee appointed on the ninth day of February instant, to take into consideration the subject of the Laws relative to the appointment of Parish Officers, and the Auditing of County and Parish Accounts, submitted a Report; and he having read the same, handed it in at the Clerk's Table, where it was again read, and is as follows:—

"The Committee appointed to take into consideration the mode of appointing Parish Officers, and the investigation, audit and allowance of County and Parish Accounts, Report—

"That they have attended to that duty, and are unanimously of opinion that the present Law and practice in relation to both these highly important subjects, are capable of great improvement.

"The duty of appointing Parish Officers, by Law imposed on the Justices in Session, is always onerous, of entimes invidious, and frequently difficult to be performed in that manner which is most conducive to the public good. The Justices in Session as a body, can scarcely be expected to be at all times possessed of that local information which, your Committee believe, is the best security to the public, that the most eligible persons shall be nominated to office, and this state of things often exposes the Magistrates to unjust obloquy and unmerited reproach.

"Your Committee regard the efficient performance of their legal duties by Parish Officers to be of the first importance to the community, as bringing to every man's door, for good or for evil, the ultimate results of general Legislation.

"Your Committee recommend the passing of an Act authorizing the Town Clerks to convene Public Meetings in their respective Parishes, at some convenient time before the General Sessions of the Peace at which Parish Officers are generally appointed, at which Meetings the several Parish Officers should be elected by the majority of Rate payers then present, and that an authenticated list of the persons so nominated should be lodged in the Office of the Clerk of the Peace, at least one week before the said General Sessions, to be laid before the Justices then assembled, for their consideration.

"Your Committee beg to report that it has been made appear to them, that very general satisfaction is the result of the practice now recommended in several Parishes in this Province, where, by common consent, it already has been adopted.

"In reference to the other subject refered to your Committee: The Committee are almost unanimously of opinion, that the existing Laws authorizing the examination of Public Accounts by the Grand Juries has not produced all the good intended, inasmuch as such examination is merely in reference to the past, and gives no direct control over the future.

"Your Committee recommend the passing of an Act, directing that no County and Parochial Accounts shall be allowed by the Sessions, unless the same shall be lodged with the Clerk of the Peace, or with an Auditor to be appointed by the Sessions, at least one week before the day of its sitting.

"That those Accounts be classified, and put in an intelligible shape by that Officer, and submitted to the Grand Jury on the opening of the Court, for their consideration, and that those Accounts be returned into Court by the Grand Jury on or before the fourth day of its sitting, for the consideration of the Justices, with such Report on the same as the Grand Jury may think proper to make.

"Your Committee do not propose to deprive the Justices in Session of the superintending power now vested in them by Law, but are satisfied that the adoption of the measures herein suggested, will ensure alike to the satisfaction of the public and the relief of the Justices from a responsibility which now attaches heavily to their office.

"Your Committee ask leave to make another Report.

"W. END,
J. BROWN,
JOHN JORDAN,
JOHN SMITH,
CHARLES CONNELL.

"Committee Room, 18th February, 1850."

Saturday, 23rd February.

In the speaking line, this day's business has been small, though a considerable number of Bills passed. The following passed a third reading, viz:—

A Bill to enable the St. John Corporation to become shareholders in the Saint John Water Company; a Bill to wind up the affairs of the St. John Mechanics' Whale Fishing Company; a Bill to incorporate the Trustees of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in St. John; a Bill to incorporate the Albion Lodge of Freemasons, no. 570 on the Grand Lodge of England; a Bill to wind up the affairs of the Portland and Lancaster Steam Ferry Company.

The House then went into Committee on a Bill to incorporate the Arestook Falls Canal Company; also, on a Bill to establish the road leading from Madawaska to St. Francis, as one of the Great roads of communication in this Province; both of which passed a second reading without discussion.

Mr. Brown then asked if there was any thing before the House, and being answered, "no,"—he moved the following resolution:—

That "whereas several petitions have been presented to this House, praying that an Act may pass to incorporate the Grand and Subordinate Lodges of the Loyal Orange Institution of New Brunswick in connection with the Grand Lodge of Canada; and whereas it is desirable that this House should be put in possession of every available information connected with the subject matter of the said Petitions; therefore resolved, that an humble address be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor praying that His Excellency would be pleased to order to be laid before this House, any communications that he may have received from Her Majesty's Government on the subject of Orange Institution." The resolution was received.

The following Bills then passed in Committee of the whole:—

A Bill to authorise the Trustees of St. Andrews's Church in St. John to reconvey to the Crown certain lands in Albert County; a Bill to continue the several Acts relating to the Arestook Boom Company; a Bill to divide the Parish of Madawaska, in Carleton County, into four seperate towns and parishes.

Mr. Woodward's Bill relating to Usury in this Province underwent some discussion; after which, on motion of Mr. Ritchie it was resolved (on a division of 23 to 6) "that the further consideration of this Bill be postponed for three months.

A message was received from the Legislative Council, to the effect that that Body had agreed to a Bill to establish poling places in the County of Gloucester. A few other small Bills passed a second reading, when the House adjourned.

Monday, 25th February.

The only business done to day in the house, was in reviewing the consolidation Bill, several sections of which passed after slight amendments. The principle that each parish should elect their own officers were adopted. Some discussion arose on the 17th and 18th sections, as to whether it was proper tax where the person or his property was found. It was carried by a large majority, that wherever the property was found, there the taxes should be levied.

LATEST FROM FREDERICTON.

Tuesday, 26th February.

Of all the dull days we have had in the House since the opening of the Session, this has been the dullest. After the journals had been read, the Speaker said there were several Bills which he would like to see disposed of, when the following passed in Committee:—A Bill to appropriate a part of the revenue to the public service. A Bill to render more effectual the repairing of roads and bridges in the parish of Richibucto; and a Bill to facilitate the operation of the New Brunswick Iron Company.

The House then went into committee on the Consolidation Bill and was engaged therein until almost three o'clock without any discussion, further than what may be termed an exposition, by several members, with regard to their opinions on the original phraseology. Some hon. gentlemen argued against the general principles of such and such clauses, because, in their opinions, it was unsuited to their respective counties.

The Hon. Attorney general did not spare himself in amending clauses and making suggestions; it was moved that the Committee report progress, and ask leave to sit again, to further consider the Bill.

On the Speaker resuming his seat, he called out a number of Bills, asked Hon. Members if they were ready to take them up; finding none prepared, he said "here are about 50 Bills on the file, and Honble. Members are not prepared to proceed with them"; then,

On motion of Mr. Boyd, a Bill to authorise the Justices of the peace in the County of Charlotte to pay off the County debt passed a second reading.

Mr. Barbarie at the suggestion of his honor the Speaker, the moved a resolution that an humble address be presented to His Excellency, praying a return to be laid before the House of all matters relating to the Post Office in this Province.

Mr. Woodward said he thought the Government should have had this information before the House and he was surprised to see them so lack in this as well as in other public accounts. The House wanted much information before they could proceed.

Mr. Ritchie saw no public accounts before the House, and he called upon the chairman of the Committee on public accounts (Mr. Wark) to know what had been done in this matter. He (Mr. R.) saw no appearance of those documents forthcoming. (The House adjourned).

Tuesday, 19th February.

Mr. J. Earle, by leave, presented a Petition from Peters Yeamens, Esquire, and one hundred and two others, inhabitants of the Parish of Canning, in Queen's County, that an Act may pass incorporating the Grand and Subordinate Lodges of the Loyal Orange Institution of New Brunswick, in connexion with the Grand Lodge of Canada; which he read.

And upon the question for the reception of the said Petition, the House divided as follows:—

YEAS.—Hon. Mr. Rankin, Hon. Mr. Hanington, Messrs. J. Earle, Vail, Smith, Wilson, Steves, Botsford, Ritchie, Ansley, R. D. Wilmot, Connell, Hayward, Taylor, Tibbits, Baillie, Gilbert, M'Leod, Brown, Porter, Boyd, Carman, S. Earle.

NAYS.—Messrs. Barberie, Montgomery, Read, Thomson, Landry, Woodward, End, Cranney, Jordan.

And so it was carried in the affirmative.

Ordered, thereupon, That the said Petition be received and lie on the Table.

Mr. J. Earle, likewise, presented the following Petitions:—

A Petition from John Willis, and sixty two others, inhabitants of King's County, with a like prayer.

A Petition from Samuel Scovil, Harry Peters, William Foshay, Esquires, and ninety others, inhabitants of the Parish of Gagetown, in Queen's County, with a like prayer.

A Petition from Henry A. Bradenburg, Alexander B. M'Donald, and forty others, inhabitants of the Parish of Wickham, in Queen's County, with a like prayer.

A Petition from William B. Little, and fifty seven others, inhabitants of the Parish of Johnston, in Queen's County, with a like prayer.

A Petition from Joseph B. Perkins, Thomas Harrison, Esquires, and forty others, inhabitants of the Parish of Petersville, in Queen's County, with a like prayer.

A Petition from Francis L. Buchanan and sixty four others, inhabitants of Queen's County, with a like prayer.

A Petition from John Hagerty, E. S. Wetmore, Samuel Foster, Esquires, and one hundred and thirty six others, inhabitants of King's County, with a like prayer.

A Petition from John Britain, Esquire, and fifty two others, inhabitants of King's County, with a like prayer.

Mr. Taylor, by leave, presented the following Petitions:—

A Petition from George Anderson, Charles M'Pherson, Charles A. Harding, Thomas R. Robertson, Ass Coy, and three hundred and fifteen others inhabitants of Fredericton, in the County of York, with a like prayer.

A Petition from Thomas Pickard, Junior, John Marshall, John Hoa, Charles Long, Nathaniel Scott, and two hundred and ninety seven others, inhabitants of the Parish of Prince William, in the County of York, with a like prayer.

A Petition from Allan M'Lean, Benjamin Goodspeed, Samuel Clayton, W. S. Estey, and eighty five others, inhabitants of the Parish of Saint Mary's, in the County of York, with a like prayer.

Mr. Connell, by leave, presented the following Petition:—

A Petition, from George W. Cleary, John Bedell, John Dibblee, Rufus S. DeMill, James Wood, Esquires, and four hundred and eighty seven others, inhabitants of the Lower Districts in the County of Carleton, with a like prayer.

Mr. Tibbits, by leave, presented the following Petition:—

A Petition from John Baird, Benjamin Beveridge, and one hundred and twenty two others, inhabitants of the Parishes of Andover and Perth, in the County of Carleton, with a like prayer.

Mr Ansley, by leave, presented the following Petitions:—

A Petition from Robert C. Minette, James Nethery, and one hundred and seventy six others, inhabitants of the City and County of Saint John, with a like prayer.

A Petition from Samuel Strange, George Bond, Joseph Wetmore, George P. Peters, Esquires, and one hundred and thirty six others, inhabitants of Carleton, in the City of Saint John, with a like prayer.

A Petition from William Durant, James Harris, Richard S. Develber, and eighty four others, inhabitants of the City of Saint John, with a like prayer.

A Petition from William Eagles, C. E. Gerard, Joseph E. Lingley, Samuel Reynolds, Israel Merritt, and ninety others, inhabitants at Indian Town in the Parish of Portland, in the County of Saint John, with a like prayer.

A Petition from William Peters, J. D. Underhill, Nathaniel Adams, and eighty two others, inhabitants of the City of Saint John, with a like prayer.

Communications.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CHRONICLE.

SIR,—The present Session of the Legislature is in many respects an important one—and to judge from the tone of the Newspaper press great expectations are entertained from it—I confess myself one of those who think that those expectations will be in a great measure disappointed—and for this chief reason among some others—that the difficulties under which the Province labours being such as were not incurred so much by bad legislation as by individual bad management, it is not to that quarter we should look for their cure.

It is agreed on all hands that as regards its individual affairs the Province is in a worse state of depression than at any former period—proofs of it are seen in the great number of working men who have left the country within the last two years for want of something profitable to do in it, and the little employment and low remuneration for those who are left.

The public mind appears to have been stretched to the utmost in order to devise some remedy for this state of things—meetings have been got up and associations formed for that purpose—but no feasible scheme seems to have been yet adopted—although several nostrums have been propounded which if not absolutely mischievous, would be found of as little utility when resorted to as any of those quack remedies with which itinerant vendors from the States are continually drenching the country—as a skilful physician will first ascertain the nature and causes of the disease before he prescribes for a patient—so is it proper well and duly to consider how the Province has arrived at its present state. The origin is not far to look for, and may be clearly traced to the reckless and prodigal manner in which the lumbering business has been conducted; so long as the manufacture of lumber was kept within reasonable bounds it was a benefit, the effects of which were felt in the ample means of employment it afforded to the working classes—the profitable employment for shipping—the encouragement to emigrants—the revenue that was raised from it without materially burdening the people (a handsome one indeed for so small a Province)—the equal expenditure of that same revenue for roads and bridges throughout the Province, which are in a most improved state for so young a country, and the consequent circulation of money infusing life into every department of industry. Such was the state of things existing some years ago, and so they might have still continued but for the eagerness with which almost every body rushed into the trade—mechanics left their tools and farmers their ploughs to take share in a pursuit which held out a prospect of sudden wealth. The latter were especially to blame; not content with obtaining a high price for their produce, which should have stimulated them to raise still more to supply the large demand which had been created, and which would have still continued had they been satisfied with leaving the business to those who were lumbermen by profession, they recklessly engaged in it themselves—at first from the prospect of great gain, and failing in that, continued in it because they had got entangled and could not well get out, and finally persevered to the entire loss of their property.

The monied man must also come in for a full share of blame. It is a maxim no one will deny the truth of that Capital directs labour; and almost every man who had money of his own at command, or who could obtain it from the Banks, laid it out in some way or other connected with the lumber trade. It was on the part of this last mentioned class of persons that something like forethought or caution should have been expected, and had they possessed but a small share of either they would have seen the folly as well as danger of expending nearly all the available resources of the country in the production of an article which could neither be eaten, drank, or worn, and for the disposal of which there was but one market, worthy of being called such. That market as might have been foreseen is now and has been for nigh three years completely glutted; the price of Deals is at so low a point, that the manufacturer of them, even with the closest economy, will not afford a living to those concerned—still as the present winter shows there is no relaxation in the cutting and hauling out of logs: this of course must be for the want of other employment, and as nothing else than an abatement of the supply could have the effect of improving the market, there is only the same wretched prospect to look forward to for an indefinite length of time. This is the crisis to which the Province has been long coming and has reached at last. It is no use to attempt laying it off upon Imperial legislation—there have doubtless been Acts of Parliament which bore injuriously on the interests of the Colonies, upon as as well as others, but they dont apply in this instance; although the much dreaded reduction of duty on Baltic wood has taken place, yet whoever looks at the Custom House returns for the Port of Liverpool the past year, will see that the quantity of foreign wood imported was very small indeed, of such qualities as are dissimilar to ours, and which they must have at any rate—while the import and consumption of New-Brunswick Deals was greater than ever: this shows beyond a doubt that over production is the main cause of the present depression in price.

It is not surprising that our own Legislature should be resorted as if accessory to this state of things. It has I believe in all ages and under all governments been a custom for the people to exclaim against their rulers whenever they were visited with any calamity, although the causes might have originated with themselves. There is a certain description of persons who make a practice of undersating and vilifying those in power chiefly for the purpose as it would seem of showing their own superior understanding, such we have among us in no small numbers, and of late they have been by no means sparing of censure and abuse;—but it would be difficult for them to show how our legislature has had any agency in bringing the Province to its present state, unless indeed they were invested with the power of directing or controlling the capital and industry of the country. Had they done this years ago with a view of detaching the people from Lumbering and engaging in Agricultural pursuits, and used any thing like compulsory means for that end, it would have been exclaimed against as the event of tyranny. It must be owned however that they have taken many steps in that direction. The liberal grants for roads to open up the country, the bounties for Oat Mills, the sums granted to Agricultural Societies and for importing Stock of all kinds, the inducements held out to new settlers in the low price of Government lands, the facilities afforded for making payment and the credit given when asked for—all these serve to evince the disposition of the legislature to encourage agriculture, and would have been materially effective had the holders of capital been disposed to act in concert.

It may be well now to examine a little into the nature and tendency of those expedients which have been proposed as a remedy for present ills—great expectations were at one time formed from the Provincial association, composed as it was of men of high standing and much experience, some of them possessing sound practical sense as also staunch patriotism, among the latter one Gentleman in particular, known to be a true lover of his country, the Hon. Charles Simonds—if anything could have been effected, no doubt it would have been by such men, and the true reason why they failed must have been the impossibility under present circumstances of devising and chalking out any plan by which the Province could be suddenly restored to its former prosperity, it was not however for want of trying. Several propositions were made, and it is worthy of remark that most of them were based upon some favor or concession to be obtained from our neighbours, if indeed they fondly imagined that anything was to be gained from that quarter, let them "by the flattering unction to their souls" no longer—it is surprising that any one who knows the grasping disposition of the American Government—how assiduously they have laboured to obtain from the unthinking Goverment of England, one concession after another, without making the smallest return, would for a moment suppose that they could be induced to relax their protective policy to favour the poor Province of New Brunswick.

Annexation was even spoken of by one or two Gentlemen, whose sense it is to be presumed is on a par with their loyalty, but as this appears to have been altogether discountenanced, it is needless to comment upon it. The time has not yet arrived, and it is hoped never will, when the Democratic spirit with which the age is cursed, shall have so far infected the people of this province, as to induce them coolly to calculate what they were to gain by transferring the allegiance they owe their Sovereign, to a foreign Republic, altho' it were no hard matter to show that ever in a pecuniary point of view, it would be nothing—or worse than nothing.

Free trade has been loudly talked of by some who perhaps have not considered, how and where our trade could be extended, or to what advantage—to understand the matter rightly, let us first see what our present state of trade is. The staple articles of the Province, are fish and lumber, if Agriculture flourished, we might have them, such as Beef and Butter, but at present we have only those two. The first of these is indeed only nominal, for although when the West Indies Islands flourished, it entered largely into our shipments for that market, yet since their decline and the trade falling mostly into the hands of the Americans, who by some means or other have engrossed not only that, but most other markets, very little stress can be laid upon it as one of our exports. There are I believe but few caught and cured of late except for home consumption, or to smuggle across the lines into the States, which many of our fishermen are glad to do for want of better.—Any further observations therefore may be as well confined to the article Lumber, this indeed is produced in overwhelming quantities, and to dispose of it taxes the invention of our merchants and millowners, as much as it does the Manchester people to sell their cottons. There is always an abundance on hand when called for, or if we choose we may build ships and carry it away ourselves, but, where to carry it to is the question. There is indeed one market, that can be relied on as a steady and never failing one, that of the United Kingdom. But although their consumption is excessive, and we have the advantage of a protective duty there, yet unfortunately their demand is but limited after all, the great difficulty then is what to do with the remainder. If taken to the United States, it is met there by a duty of 20 per cent, almost prohibitory. It is true, and no free trader will attempt to deny it, that there is nothing to hinder a ship from this Province from sailing to the uttermost parts of the world, to Australia or the Isles of Japan in search of a market, but they will find none worthy to be called such. Should any chance quantity be disposed of, it is comparatively a drop out of the bucket, whence then this unmeaning clamour for free trade—the fact is there is too much of it already, it is free trade that is inflicting such injury on Britain and her dependencies, and to expect that any additional modicum of it, even if such could be suggested which is doubtful could correct the evil, would be realizing the fable of Telephus' spear, which could both kill and cure, or like the Drunkard's practice illustrated by the well known, though rather unchaste saying, "take a hair of the same dog that bit you." Far more intelligible was the project of obtaining from the British Government something like reciprocity in favor of the Colonies, (by the by since American reciprocity came in vogue, there should have been a new definition of the word inserted in the Dictionary, something like "keep what you have and catch all you can.") It had the merit indeed of being plausible, and the only objection is the utter impossibility of its being carried into effect. It gave occasion however, for dispatching a gentleman to Washington in the capacity of negociator, with what kind of credentials he was furnished does not appear, no doubt it was a pleasant excursion. His semiofficial character would of course bring him in contact with high functionaries there, and no doubt there was much interchange of courtesy between them but as to any other results the public are yet in the dark.

If report says true the negociation on that head, is to be renewed by a higher authority, namely the British Ambassador lately deputed to the United States. If so we may prepare to hear shortly of something very fit and proper to furnish out an appendix to that history of egregious ignorance and folly on the one side, and consummate duplicity and cunning on the other, which has marked the diplomacy between the two countries ever since the war of Independence, and which if fairly written out and commented on would fill an ordinary sized volume. For who that knows the policy of that Government, which is one of strict and uncompromising protection to the interests of her own subjects, can expect from them any concession, and, to come to the point, what is to be asked for? Is it that our fish and lumber should be admitted into the United States duty free, the latter would have the effect of flooding their market, to the utter ruin of the State of Maine, whose voice would ring from one end of the Union to the other—and as to the former they would rather take advantage of the right of fishing in our waters, so unwisely (and to the deep and irreparable injury of the Province) granted them by British Statesmen, and catch fish for themselves, than employ our fishermen to do it for them, most assuredly if they treat at all on this head, it will be with a view of gaining from England some important concession, in addition to what they already have had, not impossibly the free navigation of the St. Lawrence in exchange for some shadowy and unsubstantial benefit conferred on the Colonies, in other words, they will throw dust in the eyes of Sir Henry Bulwer, and the danger is that he rather than have it said, he failed entirely in that part of his mission, ignorant as British Statesmen are of the nature of things, and blinded by American duplicity—will patch up some kind of a treaty, which will have the effect of leaving matters worse than he found them.

But in what a humiliating position has England placed herself in, and how galling to any subject of the Empire, who retains any reverence for her name and glory, to see her after lavishing one concession after another upon a rival nation, until there is scarce anything left to concede, putting herself in the attitude almost of a suppliant to them, for some boon for her poor Colonies, whom those very concessions have helped to make poorer, a nation too, if they have not yet found it out, who will one day know as the most implacable and formidable of her enemies.

I have said enough for the present, but will resume the subject shortly.

Yours,
A PROTECTIONIST.

Charlotte Co. 21st Feb. 1850.

[FOR THE CHRONICLE.]

Messrs. Editors,—In the last *Freeman* there is a letter signed "*A Boot and Shoe Maker*," alleging that Mr. S. K Foster had no right to stand forward on behalf of the trade at the late Protection meetings. Although I am satisfied that the writer is *not* a Shoemaker, but merely a person entertaining sentiments on the subject similar to those of the Editor of that paper, yet I think it should be known that Mr. Foster stated at one of those meetings that he was not a Shoemaker—that he could not claim to belong to that useful and respectable class of citizens, but would be proud to claim that honor if he could. He very properly however, considered himself so far connected with the trade, as to justify his advocating their common interests; and in thus acting I have no doubt his conduct will meet with the general approval of the trade.

Allusion is made, in the same Paper, to Mr. Foster's intention to offer for Alderman of Queen's Ward. Ah! *that* is Mr. Foster's offence, and not his manly advocacy of the interests of the Shoemakers.

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and I fancy that his being an honest protectionist will rather *increase* his popularity.

With regard to protection, it is enough to say, that where a country is so poor that it has no other means of subsistence than the product of its *labor*, unless that labour is *protected* the country, in the nature of things, cannot subsist.

Yours,
A PROTECTIONIST.

[FOR THE CHRONICLE.]

Mr. Editor.—Permit me to make known a few facts relative to the all absorbing subject of Protection, at present engrossing public attention in all parts of the British Colonies, particularly New Brunswick, in which I am more immediately concerned. Circumstances over which I had no control, prevented my attendance at the numerously attended Public meetings held the past week, for the purpose of petitioning the Legislature for protection on Home industry and manufacture.

Up to the year 1843, there was a duty of 10 per cent on foreign Tallow. Subsequent to this period, the price of rough tallow in the Butchers' market was uniformly for many years 4d. per pound, and the price of candles were, for dips 11d. and for moulds 15d. per pound. That year, the duty was taken off, then the Butchers' tallow in our market, immediately rose in price equal to 20 per cent, and has continued so ever since. This went into the Farmers' pocket, as the sequel will show, and the price of candles fell to 8d. for dips and 9d for moulds, then for the first time I may say sprung up Soap factories which competed with importers.

In 18 4, a protective duty of one penny per lb. was put upon candles, and then the price fell to 7d. for dips and 8d. for moulds.

In 1849, a protective duty of one half penny per lb. was levied on Soap, and immediately the manufacturers reduced the price of the best quality from 6d. to 4½d. and the common from 4d. to 2½d. per pound. These facts prove, that the consumer actually got the benefit of the protection, which arises from Home competition, and the facility of getting the raw material, and that of a much superior quality to anything of the kind usually imported, and were it not for the protective duty, our markets would be glutted with a common trash of goods brought in by foreign speculators, and sold for whatever they may bring, and thereby throw Home manufacturers out of the trade, leaving no out-let for consumption.

Should the present protection be continued for seven years, so that confidence could be maintained in order to justify a larger investment of capital, I have no doubt but Soap and Candles would become articles of export, as I well know that we can produce a better article than is usually made in any part of the world.

There are at present Seven Soap and Candle manufactories in this City, who buy yearly from the Butchers over 83 tons of rough Tallow at a price equal to £3,873 6s. 8d. in Saint John alone, making no calculation for all the rest of the Province.

A fat Ox worth in the market, say £12 10s. should produce ninety pounds of tough Tallow, which at 5d. per lb. amounts to £1 17s. 6d. or 18 per cent on the price of the Farmers' Ox, which is a reasonable calculation, and no inconsiderable item in the value of his beef, and should stimulate Farmers to house and feed their cattle on nutricious food, previous to slaughtering.

Presuming that a similar protection given to other manufacturers, would operate in a similar way as it has done with the Soap and Candle manufacturers,

I am, Sir,
Yours &c.,
GEORGE WOODS.

LIVERY STABLE.
St. Patrick street.

THE subscriber grateful for the patronage he has at all times received, respectfully informs his friends and the Public, that, in addition to his former Coach and Stage establishment, he has opened a general

LIVERY STABLE,

where may be at all times Horses, and Sleighs, single and double teams, family conveyances &c., of every description, inferior to none in the City, and at PRICES in accordance with the times.

The subscriber trusts, that by proper attention, and by furnishing his customers with a good and comfortable "turn out," to procure a share of public support.

January 11. JAMES HEWITT.

Mr. Anderson,
PORTRAIT PAINTER,
HORSFIELD STREET,
Next the Residence of P. Bennard, Esq.
14th December, 1849.

SASHES! SASHES!

THE subscriber is prepared to Manufacture Sashes to any extent, from 3d. 4 light up, for home use or ready packed for exportation.

☞ About 1000 Lights on hand. DOORS made to order.

☞ Lumber, Bricks, or Country Produce taken in Exchange.

November 30. J. E. TURNBULL. Harding street.

THOMAS MANN,
Commission, Forwarding & General Agent,
NELSON STREET, ST. JOHN, N.B.
January, 1850.

PEW FOR SALE.—A single pew in West Isle of St. John Church, please apply to
Feb. 13. JOSEPH FAIRWEATHER.

50 M. PINE Boards; 30 M. Spruce Deals, 15 to 18 feet; 20 M. shipping Shingles; 500 Hackmatack Sleepers.
Dec. 21. THOMAS HANFORD.