British News.

House of Lords, Feb. 13.

POOR LAWS IN IRELAND.

Lord J. Russell then moved that that portion of his most gracious majesty's speech referring to Ireland should be read by the clerk of the house.—Ordered accordingly.

The clerk read that part which recommended to the early consideration of the house the present constitution of the municipal corporations of that country, the laws which regulate the collection of tithes, and the difficult but pressing questions of establishing some legal provision for the poor, guarded by prudent regulations, and by such precautions against abuse as their experience and knowledge of the subject enabled them to suggest.

Lord J. Russell next moved that the house do resolve itself into a committee of the whole house, to take this part of his majesty's speech into consideration.—Ordered accordingly.

The Speaker then left the chair, and the house resolved itself into committee, Mr. Bernal being the chairman.

Lord J. Russell felt the extreme importance of the subject which he was then going to bring under the consideration of parliament. A system of poor-laws acted, to a certain extent, as a system of police, as it enabled the government to prohibit vagrancy and to prohibit those vagrant occupations which were so often and so closely connected with crimes of violence and blood. It was in itself a greater promoter of social concord, by showing that there was a disposition in the state and in the country at large to attend to the welfare of every class in the community. It was also of use in interesting the landowners and men of property in the welfare of their tenantry and their inferior dependants. These objects, and others collateral to them, were obtained in this country, first by the poor-law act of the 14th, and subsequently by the act of 43d of Queen Elizabeth. The principle of that act of Parliament was, that the aged, the infirm, the cripple, the orphan, and the impotent, should be relieved by the public; and that the able-bodied, not having the means of livelihood, should be set on work. There had crept in, at the conclusion of the last century, owing to the scarcity of provisions in some of the southern counties, a practice which almost authorised the notion that the proper use of the English poor-laws was to enable all persons, no matter whether industrious or idle, to be maintained out of the parochial funds. (Hear.) It was found to be more the interest of the idle and the profligate to live on the public funds than to obtain a subsistence by wages as the reward of labour, (hear, hear) and hence all reliance upon industry was abandoned, all value of character was neglected and disregarded. It was at the end of the inquiry into these and similar abuses that the system of poor-laws now in operation in England was introduced into parliament and made law. (Hear.) The principle of that bill was to act fully and fairly upon the principle embodied in the act of the 43d of Elizabeth—namely, to relieve the aged, and impotent, and infirm, but to see the able-bodied labourer who could not find employment on work, and to place him thereby in a situation more irksome than that in which the independent and industrious labourer finds himself placed. The means by which this was accomplished was, by offering the able-bodied pauper a residence in the workhouse, by giving him there a sufficiency of food and clothing, by affording him a warm and comfortable habitation, and yet at the same time placing him, to a certain degree, in confinement; so that, whilst the state gave subsistence and clothing, and an habitation, it produced to men who were able to work, and yet were deficient in that energy which induced men to seek work, that irksomeness which they would never submit to endure except in case of actual destitution. He mentioned this because it was to this principle, and to the experience of its beneficial operation in England, that his majesty's government looked as a guide in forming a system of poor-laws for Ireland; for whilst they were unwilling, on the one hand, to introduce into Ireland a system which would generate the abuses of the old English poor-laws, they were desirous, on the other hand, to produce those good effects which had resulted to England from the administration of her present poor-laws. To the poor-law commissioners for Ireland, it appeared, after the best consideration they could give the subject, that a legal provision ought to be made for the relief of the idiot, the confirmed lunatic, the blind, the deaf and dumb, the aged, the infirm, and the sick poor; that all these persons should be supported, as far as practicable, within the walls of public institutions, and that, where that was not practicable, by medical attendance and a supply of food at their own homes. It also recommended the levying of a rate for the support of widows, orphans, and others, in a state of casual destitution, and that penitentiaries should be erected, to which vagrants might be committed, and depots built, in which paupers wishing to emigrate might be supported till the period of their emigration. If a man of twenty-five years of age, were in full possession of health and vigour, but had not the means of obtaining a livelihood, if he were at their doors starving for want of support, and likely to die in a few days, how could they justify any distinction they might draw between him and the other classes which he had just enumerated by withholding relief from the one and extending it to the other? The real principle on which they ought to proceed was, to afford relief to destitution, and to nothing else but destitution, (hear) and it would be as wrong to refuse relief to the able-bodied pauper in the situation which he had just described, as it would be to afford relief to the lunatic, the widow, or the cripple who had means of their own sufficient to support them. (Hear, hear.) It appeared to him that penitentiaries and depots for emigration would afford ampler opportunities for abuse than could by any possibility be afforded by well-regulated workhouses. It appeared to his majesty's ministers, that they could not adopt, without further consideration, the plan proposed by the Irish poor law commissioners; and it seemed best to them to inquire whether a law similar to that now prevailing in England, of which they had some experience, could be introduced into Ireland with a rational prospect of success. He had, therefore, requested Mr. Nicholl, one of the poor-law commissioners, well known for his zeal, activity, and intelligence, (hear,) to go to Ireland and endeavour to ascertain on the spot in what manner anything like the machinery of the amended English poor-laws could be applied to that country. The result of this inquiry was, that it was expedient to extend poor-laws to Ireland, and that there was no sufficient objection against establishing a system alike in most respects to that established in England. There was no want of industry among the Irish population but there was no field for it to operate. The living of the peasant was derived from his holding—from the potatoes he grew upon it—from his scanty cultivation of his small patch of land, and not from the application of his wages as the reward of labour. There were nearer three millions than two millions of persons in Ireland, who were in a state of almost absolute destitution. The varied evidence which all the inquiries on the subject of Irish pauperism brought to view must remove the least shadow of doubt, that a large proportion of the population of Ireland practised mendicancy during a considerable part of the year. With a view to make some approximation to the amount of this impost as compared with the rent of the land, he had requested his noble friend, the chief secretary for Ireland, to procure him some returns; from these it appeared, that in two or three parishes in each of twelve separate districts of Ireland, the farmers, after paying rent, tithes, Roman catholic priests, and other charges, were under the necessity of contributing to the relief of mendicants an amount which in most cases did not fall short of 1s. per acre. A tax bearing such a proportion to the rent, and payable by farmers of such small capital as those of Ireland confessedly were, must prove a burthen of great amount and of most inconvenient pressure. It was annually between £700,000 and £800,000; if he had said £1,000,000, perhaps he should have been nearer the mark. The practice of mendicancy, though it led to the levying of so vast a sum, and was therefore a grievous burden, yet still it afforded no test of real mendicancy. From the alteration in the state of Ireland which the measure he intended to propose was expected to produce, very advantageous results, he hoped, would ensue; amongst them, besides the diminution of crime, would be an improved cultivation of the soil, and to a considerable extent and abolition of vagrancy. Looking at the recent report of Mr. Nicholl, looking at the evidence given on the subject, at the official returns, at the information which his majesty's government, through various sources, were enabled to obtain, they had come to a resolution of proposing a measure which should give legal relief in cases of destitution. The question of affording relief only to certain classes had been seriously considered by the responsible advisers of the crown; but after the best attention they were enabled to give to it, they arrived at the conclusion, that all cases of destitution ought to be open to relief. They thought, also, that if anything approaching to out-door relief were supplied, it must lead to greater miseries than even a similar system had produced in England. In the first place, it was proposed to grant relief to all destitute persons to whom relief might be ordered by those authorities who were invested with the superintendence of the intended institution. They might, under the new measure, erect four, or five, or ten, or fifteen workhouses throughout Ireland, and such relief might be afforded as a limited scale in the first indiscriminate aid could, without impediment, be obtained, then there could be no doubt that the workhouses would overflow at the beginning, and that the expenditure must end in failure; but he thought, at the same time, that it would be highly inexpedient to refuse relief until all the requisite establishments could be created. He did not propose to introduce the law of settlement. (Hear, hear.) It was a discouragement to industry, and a source of litigation. When the workhouses were in full operation, they would relieve all who came properly authorised to solicite relief, but from that time forward they would prohibit vagrancy. The next question was the creation of the local machinery of the bill; it was his intention to propose to the house that boards of guardians should be elected once a year, as was the case in England: that the persons who, on the first occasion of an election, were to possess the right of voting, should be those who paid county cess; but after that period the payment of the first year's rates the rate-payers should constitute the body of electors. He intended to introduce a clause into the bill that the number of the *ex-officio* members of the board should not exceed one-third of the elected guardians. Then came the question as to the admission of the clergy as members, and it was, as he thought, very fairly and wisely determined that no clergy should be admitted; for they could not, he thought, with propriety admit the ministers of one persuasion without admitting those of another; it was to be feared, then, that if different ministers of religion sat at the same board questions might be raised, the disputes on which had much better be avoided. The rating for the relief of the poor should be on the net annual value of all hereditaments. The bill would limit the payment by the owner to one-half of the rate, the other half to be paid by the tenant, provided the tenant's rates amounted to the full annual value of the land; but by whichever party, first or sub-tenant, a full value was paid for one, or both, or all of them, that half which the landlord did not pay was to be made up, each contributing to the rate in proportion to the interests he had in the land; the first tenant would in the first instance pay the full half, making up that portion to which he was not properly liable by levying it of the sub-tenants. Holding under £5 annual value would be rated to the landlord. Owners and occupiers should enjoy a purality of votes, not according to the old scale as it existed in this country, but on a new scale, to be created by one of the clauses of the bill. It fortunately happened that in Ireland it was not necessary to say any thing on the subject of bastardy or apprenticeship. With respect to the administration of the law, the houses of industry, the hospitals, and the charities, should be under the direction and conduct of those to whom the administration of the law was to be generally intrusted, viz. the commissioners. In case it became necessary, one commissioner might be added to the existing board in England, and then there would be a sufficient number to allow of one or two sitting in Ireland, as occasion might require, to bring into operation the new measure, and to carry it into effect. It was, of course, contemplated by the friends of this measure to invest the commissioners with power, from time to time, as they saw fitting opportunity, either to create unions of parishes, or to establish districts for the purposes of the acts, without attending to the present territorial divisions of the country; to adopt, in some instances, the existing workhouses to the purpose of the bill, and in other cases to build such new houses as the necessities of the district might demand. After the most exact estimates that could be formed on furniture, buildings, food, fuel, and other expenses, it was considered that about 18d. a-week would suffice for the maintenance of each of the paupers. If, then, they had 100 houses, the annual expenditure would be about £312,000. If they began with three-fourths of that number, the expense would be limited to £267,030; and if the number of houses were only one-half, that which he first mentioned, then the expense would be £208,000, with about £700,000 for new buildings. With respect to the allocation of funds for the maintenance of public works in Ireland, it was not his intention at present to enter upon that question. But, in providing facilities of communication between the various districts of Ireland, in forming roads for the attainment of that object, and in reclaiming and cultivating the bogs and waste lands with which the sister country abounded, a proper application of capital might be the means of securing a large amount of useful employment to the poor. (Hear.) It was also proposed that emigration agents should be stationed in the different sea-ports of Ireland; that individuals, resident in the country districts, and properly authorised, should communicate with those agents, as soon as a certain number of individuals were found ready to emigrate, and a certain proportion of the passage money advanced; that the agents, on, being satisfied that these were fit persons to emigrate, should provide a ship to convey the emigrants from the nearest seaport; that these agents should be paid by government, as should also be a naval officer, in every way a proper person to undertake the command of the ship. The colonists would thus in the first instance obtain satisfactory proof that the emigrants had been properly selected, and would, no doubt, be ready enough to provide sufficient means to avert the evil of these persons being thrown penniless upon shore at their landing, and converted immediately into beggars. The plan which he had thus sketched by no means contemplated the sending out a vast mass of emigrants together—a project which he deemed to be altogether impracticable; but it did look to emigration as a means of getting rid of a considerable portion of the surplus population of Ireland. (Hear, hear.) It might be well to have it clearly understood, that what he had stated with regard to public works and emigration, had reference to the future and to prospective resources. Neither the one nor the other subject would from a portion of the machinery of the present bill, which was intended to be strictly confined to a poor law act. By uniting, with the introduction of a well digested poor law for Ireland, a judicious system of education, they would not only remove distress, but would repress outrage; they would not alone provide a remedy for the physical ailments of the poor, but would sow the seeds of future virtuous habits, and eventually diffuse an universal enlightenment of character among the poorer classes of Ireland; thoroughly convinced, that while the legislature would thus exhibit the sincerity of its desire to promote the real interests of Ireland, and, inferentially, of England too, they would not only deserve well of the inhabitants of either country, but would receive an abundant reward of gratitude from every portion of the empire.

[*Lord Stanley's speech will be given in our next.*]

Communications.

[FOR THE CHRONICLE.]

Mr. Editor:—I am not at all surprised that the communication of "One of the People," in the Observer, should have excited some sensation. It is not only the first decent article which has appeared on that side of the question, but its style is so very specious and plausible, that the unwary may easily be taken in by it. We have, however, only to examine it with a little attention, to detect the speciousness of its statements, the weakness of its arguments, and the fallacy of its conclusions.

This writer proceeds gravely to assign the motives which actuated the Assembly to endeavour to obtain the Casual Revenue, and those which influenced the Executive to refuse his assent to the Civil List Bill: we shall find that he has misstated both the one and the other. But to begin with the first. He says that the Assembly ought to obtain the Casual Revenue in consequence of the suspicions entertained of the *gentlemen of the Departments* who have the handling of the public money, owing to the accounts not being submitted to the Assembly, and more to the same effect. It should however be borne in mind, that the Speaker has for some time been asserting, particularly at the famous Champagne Dinner given to the Delegates (it is a pity the public did not get a professional report of the speeches on that occasion) and as no one has attempted to contradict him, we may assume what he says to be true—that he began to agitate the securing of the Casual Revenue as far back as 1822. But at that time both the Government and the Land Office were in other hands, than those which now hold them, and the grievances and causes of suspicion and complaint widely different from those now alleged. I believe, we shall find the fact of the matter to be this—the gentlemen of the Assembly have never been satisfied with the conduct of the Crown and its officers since the settlement of the Province. Before ten years had elapsed more than one address had been passed by them complaining that the proceedings of the Land Office retarded the settlement of the country. In 1822 the grievances were two. One of them began in 1817, and related to the Crown Reserves in Charlotte County: in 1819 they resolved to petition the Crown for the removal of the reserves, but the Council refusing to concur in it, it was postponed for a time. In the same year began the discussion about the shilling duty on timber, which was the grievance when Mr. Simonds first agitated the purchase of the Casual Revenue, and continued so to do for several years.

It will be worth while to look a little into that affair. On March 8, 1819, an address was moved to the then Governor stating, "that the House had "learnt with surprise and regret that bonds are taken for one shilling per ton on all licences to cut "and manufacture pine timber on Crown Lands—"which measure must prove highly injurious, and "if persisted in, ruinous to the timber trade, and "praying that he will inform the House if any recent instructions have been received from His "Majesty's Ministers requiring such bonds to be "taken, and that, he will also inform the House, to "what purposes the large sums arising therefrom "are to be appropriated." The answer of the Governor was "that in consequence of the great "and unwarrantable destruction committed in His "Majesty's woods, orders had been issued to prevent the recurrence of it in future. The shilling "per ton formed part of the system for preventing "it. The monies which may arise therefrom, as "well as the monies which may accrue from the "sale or other disposition of property belonging to "the Crown, will be appropriated to such uses as "His Majesty may be pleased to direct." Upon this the House resolve "that the system is a measure highly injurious to the timber trade, and in "the opinion of the House—not contemplated by "the instructions of His Majesty's ministers, as it "could never have been the intention of Ministers "to lay a direct tax upon one of the staple commodities of the Province, so essential to its welfare "and so conducive to the importation and consumption of British manufactures received in payment "thereof. The House humbly conceiving that said "instructions are only intended to prevent the wanton destruction of pine trees fit for naval purposes, "which object can be carried into effect without "injury to the numerous classes of His Majesty's "subjects employed in manufacturing and shipping "timber to the Mother country." The Lt. Governor replied to this by Message, in which he complains of the unparliamentary course adopted by the House, and the House adhering to the resolutions, he dissolved the Assembly.

Although this shilling duty continued the grievance for several years, and was the grievance of 1822—it is unnecessary to trace its progress further. What I have transcribed will suffice to shew that whatever may have been the system adopted by the Executive, it has never in any one case been satisfactory to the Assembly: whatever it may have been, it has always been said by them, to retard the settlement of the country, though the population has always been rapidly increasing: it has always been ruinous to the timber trade, though that trade has every year been gaining more and more: it has always been vexatious and dissatisfactory to the inhabitants, although agitation has never yet shewn itself, when it could not be clearly traced either to members of the House, who hoped by means of it to secure their re-election, or to persons who by the same means, hoped to get elected. It will also shew—that the causes assigned by "One of the People" for the Assembly being anxious to obtain the Casual Revenue cannot be the real causes, because none of them existed when Mr. Simonds began to agitate the question in 1822. It could not be just at the arbitrary powers of a single irresponsible officer, because the department was under the controul of the Governor and Council: it could not be the magnitude of the duty imposed on Timber, because it was a mere trifle: it could not be the high price of the land, because nothing but the fees of office were charged and those on a very moderate scale: it could not be the expence of the office, for no surveys were made except at the cost of the applicants for land: it could not be the injudicious expenditure of the money, because the money was not spent at all: nor suspicions of official pecalation, because the money was known to be lodged in safe custody. It arose, like all preceding and subsequent agitation, from a factious discontented spirit which always has prevailed in the Assembly, and still does prevail, and always will be found to prevail in it, so long as democracy as at present predominates in it. "One of the People" is indignant at its being supposed that the Assembly had an eye to any *accession of power*, and styles it a '*silly slander*,' but if it be a slander, Mr. L. A. Wilmot is the *slanderer*—for writing to Mr. Brown from London, after he and Mr. Crane had corrected and revised Lord Glenelg's despatch, he says "it may be thought "we have given a large sum for this surrender, but "it must be remembered we have gained a great ACCESSION OF POWER." After this we shall hear no more of such an insinuation being a 'silly slander'!!

It is now time to look at the motives which he assigns for the Governor refusing to assent to the Civil List Bill; viz: a desire *to screen public officers suspected of peculation.* The absurdity and falsehood of this, is manifest from the act that the Executive has never offered the smallest objection to the *principle* of the Bill, neither has any one of the Executive Officers, except Mr. Saunders, the Advocate General, who is said to have expressed a determination to do so, but in his usual funny way, voted for the Bill. Indeed both in the House and Council, the principle of the Bill was at once conceded: all objections were confined to the details of it. As far as the Executive is concerned this can be made clear by referring to the Governor's despatches Nov. 25 and Dec. 23rd. He distinctly pledges himself 'to 'carry into full effect, as far as in him lies, all the arrangements. His Majesty's government have 'determined in, in the spirit, and according to the 'intention of the Despatches." "I trust to your 'Lordship's justice and candour in considering my 'remarks, to attribute them to *my earnest desire* that 'the present transaction should be settled in such a 'manner as to preclude all future vexations, doubts 'and references." The grounds of objection taken by the Executive are; that the Bill does not agree with the terms agreed upon by the Deputation with His Majesty's government—nor with instructions simultaneously sent out by them—nor with regulations prescribed by the Royal Instructions under the sign manual yet in force.

1. It was argued upon between Lord Glenelg and the Deputation—that the Revenue surrendered should be appropriated according to the usage of the British Parliament: viz. that the Executive should recommend the several items of appropriation, and that no petition or question for granting money out of it, should be entertained by the House which has not been sanctioned by the Executive. This is the mode adopted by the House of Commons. And it was well known by the Delegates, that both in the Legislative Council and Assembly great resistance would be offered to this qualification. Mr. L. A. Wilmot in his letter to Mr. Brown, writes thus—"the Government to direct an appropriation Bill!! Charley "(meaning Charles Simonds, Esqr. the Speaker of the House) will "stammer a whole day about this, and say it is unconstitutional, but if Hatsell will not bear us out "we must bear our burthens, and wait for the money another year." To get over this difficulty they offered to draw the Bill themselves, never explain to Lord Glenelg that there is a difference in the mode of Appropriation here and in England, but leave the subject quite unnoticed. The Governor points out this omission to Lord Glenelg: and the House resolve that the difficulty has been fully and satisfactorily answered by his Lordship's despatch of Oct. 31, and the draft of the Civil List Bill, though in neither of them is the subject alluded to in the slightest degree.

2. The sum of £14,500 stg. was fixed in the presumption that there would be a surplus of £566 currency: but Lord Glenelg was deceived by the Delegates as to the rate of Exchange—dollars being calculated at 4s. 6d. sterling and not at 4s. 4d. as fixed by Lord Goderich in 1832; this would reduce the surplus to £190 currency.

3. That the agreement, though based upon Lord Stanley's offer, made no provision for the £300 stg. for Government Contingencies, although he declared that that allowance should be continued; this would reduce the surplus to a deficiency of £142. To this the House reply that Lord Stanley never asked more than £14,000: they tried to prove that this sum was currency and not sterling: but the fact is that Lord Stanley's ultimate demand was £15,000 stg. for the revenue, exclusive of the N. B. and N. S. Land Company's purchase money. They farther resolved that the House on being made acquainted with the fact of such a surplus being required, should pass a vote for such additional sum—thereby admitting the justice and force of the Governor's objection.

4. The Bill made no provision for the expences of the Judges holding the Circuit Courts, although Lord Glenelg had directed them to be paid out of the Casual Revenue: for this the House resolve that they ought to provide—thereby admitting the justice and force of this objection also.

5. That the 5th section of the Bill, making future grants or leases null and void unless the land granted were sold or leased at Public Auction to the highest bidder, would operate very severely on the numerous body of squatters: 6, also on the mill proprietors and Lumberers, besides being the very system complained against by the Assembly in their Address to the Crown, presented by this very Delegation: 7. that it would render nugatory the Government Regulations for selling Land to Military and Naval Officers: 8, that it would deprive the Crown of the power of endowing with Land any public Institution: 9, that it would invalidate the Great Seal as evidence of title from the Crown. These objections being considered by the House of some weight, they proceed to provide a remedy against them, but do it in the funniest way possible. They passed the Civil List Bill for TEN years, to go into immediate operation; but the restraining Bill designed to remedy the objections was not to come into operation till next September, as if the Bill would not want restraint till then, and is to last only two years, out of the TEN, as if restraint would not be required between Sept. and the next meeting of the Legislature.

10. The tenth objection of the Executive was that the Bill was not accompanied by any authority under the Royal Sign Manual, or by any Order of His Majesty in Council to the Governor to assent to such a Bill as this which is at once repugnant to an Act of Parliament and the Royal Instructions: to this the only answer returned by the House was a sneer at the Royal Instructions.

In this way did the Assembly attempt to provide a partial insufficient remedy for the grave objections of the Executive; except that one, which for fear of making "*Charley stammer*" as Mr. Wilmot said, they forebore to notice at all—the mode of appropriation which formed the second specific qualification in which His Majesty consented to surrender the Revenue. The Assembly refusing to go beyond this, left the Governor no alternative; they compelled him to refuse his assent to the Bill till he can receive from the Government, which alone, according to the English Colonial Constitution, can authorize him to assent to such a Bill without a suspending clause; an order from the King in Council, under the Royal Sign Manual. X.

THE CHRONICLE.

SAINT JOHN, APRIL 7, 1837.

REPORT FROM THE DEPUTATION.

Our observations on the Report of the Delegates have hitherto been general; being designed as a sort of preliminary proceeding to ascertain what degree of credit may be due to it. Our own opinion we have not hesitated to express in pretty decided terms, and we know that there are numbers in all parts of the Province who concur with us openly, and multitudes more as we have reason to believe, who though they say but little for fear of being abused by the radicals, as the Chronicle gets abused, in their secret souls are satisfied that the whole concern is a tissue of tricks and fraud.

We shall now condescend upon particulars, and with a view to putting into a connected shape what is now lying higgledy piggledy, shall arrange our remarks on the different subjects in the order laid down by Lord Glenelg in his despatch of August 31: commencing with his No. 1, "the management of the Crown Estate." The representation of the Assembly, in their Address and by their delegates, His Lordship says "is in substance, that the powers "at present confided to the Commissioner of Crown "Lands are excessive, and that the system which "that officer in the exercise of his discretion has followed, has tended to retard the settlement and the "prosperity of the Province." This as Lord Glenelg declares is the substance of their representations: we shall now proceed to the particulars.

With respect to what the address of the Assembly asserts, it will be better to look at the resolutions than the address, because in them the different heads are more systematically arranged.

They complain in resolution No. 7, of "numerous and sudden changes in the system of disposing of Land in 1834 and 5: in No. 8 "of sales and leases of large tracts to individuals." In No. 9 "of sales by auction taking place at Fredericton instead of in the districts where the lands are situated." In No. 10 "of the upset price not being affixed to each lot." In No. 11 and 12, "of selling Timber berths at auction." In No. 13 "of granting timber licences on only one day in each month." In No. 14 "of leasing extensive tracts of timber land for a term of years." In No. 15 "of taking Bonds from lessees." In No. 16 "of timber licences not being renewed immediately on their being applied for: and of the competition for new Berths not being restricted to the applicants only." In No. 17, "of a higher rate being demanded from poor settlers than that fixed previous to 1828." These are all the items of complaint put forth by the Assembly, and in most cases we use the very words of their own resolutions, and *all* the material words, the remainder of each resolution being mere stuff, designed to give the thing as imposing an appearance as possible, one resolution scarcely differing in substance from the other, and merely showing the skill of the great master manufacturer of resolutions to the House, in ringing the changes upon any given theme.

We have now to begin the loathsome task of examining the report of the delegates to ascertain what they were pleased to say on this same subject of grievances. It appears that Lord Glenelg gave them a copy of his despatch at the "sixth interview, Saturday 26th August, and as nothing passed on that occasion about the "management of the Crown Estate," we must look for what they *said* to the five previous interviews; two of which were with Sir George Grey. In the first they confined themselves in their complaints to "the sales of large tracts of land to individuals, and the frequent and sudden changes in the system of disposing of land and timber," and stated that the Assembly wished that the "power of the Commissioners might be transferred to the Governor and Executive Council." This was all that then passed according to the *printed* report, except something about surprise at the small net proceeds and the large quantity of land sold, which will more properly come under another head. As usual the MS report differs materially from the printed one, containing particulars which have not been printed. The time appointed for the interview it says was half past three, (the printed report says 3 o'clock.) It says that they waited half an hour before they were admitted: that Lord Glenelg, (struck no doubt with the elegance of their appearance,) requested them to be seated: that "when they got up to take leave, a shower came on, and his Lordship asked them to sit down until it was over: some general conversation ensued, and when the rain ceased, (to let the noble Secretary see that they had larnt and not forgotten their manners) they *made their bow* and departed" This MS precise as it is in describing these apparently trifling particulars merely says with respect to the management of the Crown Estate, "we then stated the manner in which the sale of large tracts of land had been managed, and the frequent changes in the mode, and also in the disposal of logs and timber had created much dissatisfaction." (No doubt the lumberers would have been very glad to get logs and timber for nothing!)

In the second interview, they stated that if Lord Glenelg "was disposed to believe that the Assembly "had no just cause of complaint, but that the proceedings connected with the Land Department "had been wisely and prudently conducted, they "would be prepared to shew by incontestible evidence to the contrary." This is all that then passed, except that they incidentally speak of "the extraordinary proceedings of the Land Department in 1835." but do not go into any particulars.

As usual the MS goes into particulars which are not printed: it says this interview lasted upwards of an hour, and that Lord Glenelg did not begin the conference till they were seated. As we have no wish to exaggerate or extenuate in the slightest degree, we feel bound to say, that the printed report is in this instance a fair condensation of what is in the MS—the *incontestible evidence* is there stated to be "facts and figures."

The third interview 14th July is an important one; it is that one referred to in the note which Lord Glenelg addressed to Messrs. Crane and Wilmot, but not inserted in the printed report as we stated in our first paper The report says—"As to the sales of land in 1835—his Lordship admired and approved of the spirit with which the Assembly had brought that subject before the Government, as they had asked to have the power at present invested in the Commissioner transferred to the Governor and Executive Council." The MS. speaks "of the sale of land," but without specifying in what year. This is every thing that passed relative to the "management of the Crown Estate," at that interview, and as this was the last time they saw Lord Glenelg, till he gave them the draft of his despatch of 31st August, we have before us everything that they said to the Secretary of State.

In the fourth interview with Sir George Grey, they are called upon by him, "to particularize some of the proceedings of which they complained" they answered says the report, "large sales of land:" that "tracts ranging from 5,000, to 22,000 acres each, amounting to 240,000 acres had been advertised for sale by auction between April and November, and several large tracts had been disposed of by private sale. A tract of 100,000 acres on the Tobique had been sold for 10s per acre with leave for the applicant to explore and select from June till January following. The time was afterwards enlarged, and only two per cent deposited." That an advertisement appeared in the Royal Gazette stating that "*all the* vacant surveyed lands throughout the Province were to be sold at Fredericton by Auction on 7th December—afterwards the words '*all the*' were omitted: the sale was however postponed." This shews they said what might be done under the present system—! Yes! two immaterial words may be at any time left out of an advertisement, and a sale may be postponed! Sir George Grey astonished no doubt at the enormity of this offence made such a report as induced Lord Glenelg to request a minute in writing of this conversation from Messrs. Crane and Wilmot. At the fifth interview, 12th August with Sir George Grey, nothing was said relative to the Land Department. We come now to the sixth when Lord Glenelg gave them the draft of his despatch to Sir A. Campbell of 31st August.—It is quite refreshing after dwelling so long as we have, upon the trashy stuff of the delegates, to come to any thing written by Lord Glenelg, for whatever may be our opinion of him as a statesman and bargain maker—it is impossible not to admire the elegance of style in all his writings. But before we go into this despatch it will be necessary to advert to his despatch of 31st March, 1836—from which, as he says, Sir A. Campbell "will have seen, that the "management of the Crown Lands in New Brunswick has engaged much of his attention." A copy of this despatch was given to the delegates, and is copied into their MS. but Messrs. Crane and Wilmot with unpardonable disingenuousness, prevent its being printed in the report. This despatch contains Lord Glenelg's opinion and decision on the address to the King presented by Messrs. Rankin and Bliss, and Sir A. Campbell's despatch of 7th July, 1835, and the Commissioner's report contained in it.

"The memorialists represent, (writes his Lordship,) that while the supply of white and red pine "timber has of late year's diminished the prices demanded for licences to cut it has been raised:—(how droll!) that the regulations in regard to licencies are of a vexatious nature, and that the "high price fixed on wilderness land has retarded "the settlement of the Province: they therefore "pray that the prices fixed on land and timber may "be reduced, and the authority to alter them be "withdrawn from the Commissioner." "Mr. "Baillie reports that the price demanded for timber "on the Crown Lands is less than that received by "individuals and by the Government of the States "—the truth of which is admitted by some of the "memoralists." "This though not unimportant "would not of itself afford a sure criterion of the "moderation of the prices, a more conclusive argument is to be found in the continual and rapid "progress of the Casual Revenue during the last "four years. Nor are these the only grounds on "which I must record my opinion that the apprehensions expressed in respect to Mr. Baillie's proceedings are not born out by the facts.—I cannot "admit that the increased and growing scarcity of a "particular species of timber is a reason for diminishing its price, nor that the excess of the Casual "Revenue beyond what is indispensably necessary "to the expences of the Government, should be a "sufficient argument for reducing the price of the "waste lands. The Revenue to be derived from "this sale is by no means the only, nor even the "principal object which it is necessary to keep in "view. Such a system should be pursued as will "maintain a just equilibrium among the different "classes of society. Without denying the force of "the arguments which have been urged in favour "of encouraging by free grants of land, or by an "extreme lowness of its price, the resort to the province of the poor but industrious classes, I must "yet be allowed to observe that the system has been "found in practice to be attended with many and "very serious disadvantages, by forcing into the "class of land-holders all those who under ordinary "circumstances would gain their subsistence by "daily wages, it destroyes that division of labour "which is indispensable to the well being of every "community, by inducing every man to work only "on his own account, cripples the exertions of "capitalists, and materially impedes the advancement of society in that career of prosperity, which "its natural resources under a more enlightened "system might command." "For these reasons I "felt myself precluded from advising His Majesty "to accede to the prayer of the addresses now before me, by directing a reduction in the price of "land and timber." "With respect to their suggestion that twelve months notice in the Royal "Gazette of any alteration in the terms of Timber "Licences—it appears to be but little calculated to "meet the rapid changes in the value of land and "timber in a colony like New Brunswick." After this follows the passage which we quoted last week with respect to the sale of land and timber by auction.

This was the state of the case when Lord Glenelg gave his despatch to the delegates on the 26th August. In it he says, "in deference to the judgment "already expressed by His Majesty on this subject, "the Assembly withdraw on the present occasion, "their claim (*put forward by Messrs. Simonds and* "*Chandler* the former deputation) for the entire "control and management of Crown Lands, and "suggests that such controul and management "should in future be confided to the administrator "of the Provincial Government and the Executive Council. His Majesty is pleased to acquiesce "in the suggestion. It will be your duty hereafter "in all questions relating to the disposal of Lands "and Timber to submit the subject for the consideration of the Executive Council, and to proceed "only in conformity with the opinion of that Council, or of a majority of its members. To the Commissioner will still belong the duty of carrying into "to effect such measures as shall have been thus decided on. His Majesty at the same time readily "admits the right of the Legislature to pass such "laws as may seem to them expedient for the guidance of the Executive in this branch of their duties. "His Majesty will be at all times prepared to "receive and to consider with attention any suggestions and advice respecting the policy and system of management which may be offered to the "Crown by the Council and Assembly of New "Brunswick whether by address, or in the form "of legislative enactment.—It will be indispensable "that any Act should contain a suspending clause."

In the "remarks on the draft submitted to Lord Glenelg" by the delegates they suggest "Legislative "Regulation of the Land office, that it is desirable "that any Act passed should be allowed to go into "immediate operation because of the delay which "must ensue in obtaining the Royal Assent:"—then follows a good deal of the Messrs. Crane and Wilmot's style of stuff about the intimate acquaintance of the Legislature with the general interests of the country, and such like blarney. This point is again adverted to in the seventh interview 10th September, when they assured his Lordship "that "the Legislature (*as they always have been*) would be "careful not to pass such a Bill as would be disallowed by His Majesty." Lord Glenelg would not however accede to their proposal. The discussion on this subject was closed at the eighth interview 14th September, and the plan as settled is detailed in Lord Glenelg's despatch to Sir A. Campbell 5th September. There is, he writes, an alternative—this is, that no act "for the regulation of the land "Department, shall come into operation till a given "period after its passing. If therefore any act presented to you shall contain a clause, providing that "it shall not come into operation until the expiration of at least four months from its date: you "will be at liberty, should you see no objection to "the act on other grounds, to give our assent to it. "It will be your duty immediately to transmit the "Act to me, in order that it may be brought under "the consideration of His Majesty in Council."

This is a recital of every thing that occurred relative to this, which was by every body considered one of the most important objects of the deputation. Notwithstanding the preparations which have been making for years for this assault on the Land Office; notwithstanding they had all the assistance which could be derived from the John Gape papers—the famous committee of grievances—the highly valuable labours of Messrs. Simonds and Chandler who did, nobody knows what, for they were too knowing to commit themselves by submitting a written report—the petitions from Miramichi—the wonderful resolutions which Mr. Partelow has from time to time thrown off, with the rapidity of a steam press—and all the agitation, and all the falsehoods, and all the abuse and all the long dull slanderous speeches delivered in the House under privilege oh how absurd! this is all they could make of the management of the Land Office! Not one disapprobation of the conduct of the Commissioner could they elicit from Lord Glenelg! On the contrary he expresses his entire approbation of "the manner in which Mr. "Baillie has hitherto exercised the discretion committed to him, the records of the office offering abundant testimony to the diligence and ability with "which he has discharged his arduous duties."

He approves of his sales of large tracts, because the proceeds have filled the chest. He approves of the increase in the price of land, because it affords less encouragement to the poor settler to become a land holder. He proves that the complaints of the Assembly are all perfect moonshine. And what are the wonderful measures of amelioration agreed upon? The Commissioner as is the case at present, is to submit questions which may arise to the Governor, who is to bring them before the Executive Council, and be guided by the opinion of the majority. Good! this is worth something! Then the Council and Assembly are to be at liberty (as they always have been) to offer to the Crown any advice in the management of the department by address: Good! this again is worth something! Or they may do so (as they always could have done) by Legislative enactment, provided the act is not to go into immediate operation to give time for His Majesty's pleasure to be signified. Good! this also is worth something. Besides the Governor if he sees no objection to the Act on other grounds under such circumstances, may assent to it. Good! excellent! This too is worth something! Moreover the sales of large tracts are to be prohibited, Good! But how much of the immense sums (£1000, £1850, &c. &c.) which have been wasted upon deputations, and all the rest of that stuff, by which the country has been so infamously imposed. It puts one in mind of what the Vicar of Wakefield said to his daughters who for a shilling a piece had been promised by the fortune teller a Lord and a Squire—that for three pence he could have promised them a Prince and a Nabob. If instead of sending three times two gentlemen, they had sent two sheets of paper, to the Province agent, he could have sent them by the penny post (without any necessity for doubling his pay) to the Colonial office, and as much would have been done with the Crown Land office as the deputations have effected. Certainly it was quite right and proper for the House to resolve "that the despatches of Lord Glenelg containing the determination of His Majesty's government with respect to the Land Office should afford the House the most entire satisfaction: and that the House should entertain a deep sense of the high obligations they owe to His Majesty's Government for the measures of amelioration introduced into the management of that department. And it was equally right and proper that they should entertain a high sense of the attention shewn by Lord Glenelg to the deputation during the progress of the negociations carried on with His Lordship on the subject of the Land Department: and that they should give the thanks of the House to William Crane and L. A. Wilmot, Esquires, Members of the House who composed the Deputation, together with £1850 and members pay and allowances: and that they should also give the thanks of the House to Henry Bliss, Esqr., together with double pay as Province Agent. Hurrah for humbug! Hurrah!!!

From the Boston Ev. Mercantile Journal, March 29.

LATEST FROM ENGLAND.—The Packet ship Europe has arrived in New York from Liverpool with dates from that port to the 4th inst.

Bank of England, March 2.—The Governor and Company of the Bank of England do hereby give notice that on and after the 2d instant, they will be ready to receive applications for loans, upon the deposite of approved bills of exchange, not having more than ninety five days to run; such loans to be repaid on or before the 15th of April next, with interest at the rate of £5 per cent. per annum, and to be for sums of not less than £2000 each.

On the 28 of Feb. Lord Melbourne brought forward his motion for a committee of inquiry into the state of education in Ireland, which was agreed to.

The bill to abolish imprisonment for debt, was under consideration, on the night of the 1st of March.

The brig Vixen and cargo, had been condemned at Sebastopool.

The King of Denmark, was not expected to live, at the date of the latest advices from Copenhagen.

The following is the state of the Cotton market at Liverpool.

March 3d.—The sales of Cotton this week have been as follows: 30 Sea Island, 2s. 2d. a 2s. 8.; 4260 Upland, 7 1-4 a 9 1-4; 6870 Orleans, 6 1-4 a 9 1-2, 10, 11 1-4; 1310 Tennessee and Mobile, 6 a 9 4660 other kinds. Of which speculators took 420 Egyptian, and export buyers 420 American, and 60 Bengal.

We are down in price 3-4d per lb. this week.

March 4th.—Our cotton market is without improvement, and the continued pressure in money matters, the limited operations of the trade, and the almost total absence of speculation with the increasing arrivals of the new crop, all tend to keep it in a dull and drooping state.

No change in Turpentine since the sale last week at 11s. 4d. a 11s. 6d.

Liverpool Corn Exchange, Feb. 18th.—There were several vessels with Oats and Oatmeal fresh up for this morning's market; for the former there was a very limited sale at scarcely the prices of last week—Oatmeal sold more readily several parcels being bought on speculation at 28s. to 29s. per 240 lbs. Though the business in Wheat was only to a

very moderate extent, prices of all descr… very fully sustained, and good parcels … were offered less freely. 1000 to 1200 … Wismat Wheat under lock were sold at …

Later from Havre.—The packet ship … arrived at New York, having left Havr… *of March*,—and bringing Paris paper… instant,—and London papers to the 2… The cotton market is dull at Havre, and … ed in price. The following is copied fr… Mercantile:—

The Havre has brought out 600,0… gold, (a part of the French Indemni… Bank of America.

The papers contain very little politi… interest.

Madrid papers have been received to … Feb. The government had received … from the army of the North, and was … fied with Espartero and Quivaga. Th… the Carlist chief Cabrera, continued to …

Extract of a letter from Bayone, … "The same inactivity still prevails. … more than 3000 men attacked with the … St. Sebastian. Saarsfield states that … 6000 men, disposable, after having … guarded."

A letter of the 24th, from Bayonne, … the reports as to an existing misunder… tween the Queen's Generals, are ascer… false. Gen. Saarsfield is to have the … the combined operations. A courier h… patched to Gen. Evans with secret o… are believed to announce to him the day f… the attack. Two Steamboats are to … in conveying a battalion of the Spa… from Corunna to Santander, and then… of war.

Bayonne, Feb. 25.—The Infante Do… at the head of nine battalions, a squad… ty, and four pieces of artillery, left D… 21st, marching in the direction of S… Twelve battalions remained before … Saarsfield was at Pampeluna on the 2… 000 men. He had been joined on the … by three battalions of the division of A…

Paris, Feb. 25.—Advices from Beyr… under date of Jan 13, that on the 1st … earthquake took place there, which … towns on the Lake Tiberiade, and a … the population perished by the frigh… As all communication with Lessaker … we fear we shall soon have sad news f… At Acre, all the public works of … have been annihilated.

The N. Y. Herald says, that Cap… the brig Montevideo, from Cadiz, re… British government steamer, from … Feb. 10th, at Cadiz, and the Captain … "Smyrna" had been destroyed by … *and four thousand lives* were lost.

The king of the French is about to … sel to St. Helena, to bring home the r… poleon—the English government hav… to this step.

Bills on England.—The banking … ring, Brothers & Co. have adopted … relation to the acceptance of bills dra… States, which will be found exceedi… nient in their operation. By these re… following descriptions of bills are not … ed as proper remittances, to cover … entered into for their account, viz:—

1. Bills drawn by agents on their … employers in Europe, unless endorse… tial houses to the remitters.

2. Bills drawn by firms in the U. … partners in the firms drawn on in Eu… partner on his house, unless endorse… tial houses to the remitters.

3. Bills however otherwise in ord… longer sight than sixty days.

These regulations are considered … uncalled for. They will seriously … drawers in this country, many of … partners of the houses on which they … a large proportion of the bills draw… land are consequently thus prescribe… sulting from the measure will cause … barrassments, should other bankers in … rally adopt a similar course.—*N.* …

CITY ELECTION. The Annual el… ter Officers took place in the differ… this City, on Tuesday last. The foll… were returned:

King's Ward: Henry Porter, … man; Mr. John Knollin, Assistan… Fairweather, Constable.

Queen's Ward: John Humbert, … Mr. Lewis W. Durant, Assistant; … Herrington, Constable.

Duke's Ward: Thomas Harding, … Mr. William Hagerty, Assistant; … Aikins, Constable.

Sidney Ward: G. Vanhorne, … Mr. Ewen Cameron, Assistant; M… Constable.

Guy's Ward: Robert Salter, … Mr. Thomas Comm, Assistant; Mr. … Constable.

Brook's Ward: George Bond, … Mr. Joseph Beatteay, Assistant; Mr… Constable.

John R. Partelow, Esq. was electe… and Joshua Bunting, appointed Hig…

THOMAS LEAVITT, Esquire, of thi… appointed by the Liverpool Associ… writers, their Agent for this Port, in… tom House District.

TREASURES OF THE SEA.—We … nounce the safe arrival at this Port, … the fine Whale Ship PERUVIAN, to … Leavit, and James Kirk, Esquires, … a remarkably successful cruise of th… in the Pacific Ocean, with a full carg… amounting to 2,750 barrels, valued … We congratulate the enterprising … concerned, on the very successful … this voyage. It is also a general be… as well as to the owners individually… other ships belonging to the port, m… turn as richly freighted.—*Observer.*

It is with much regret we anno… sudden death of Captain SAMUEL … *Britannia*, of this port. Capt G. … this city, and was very generally … who knew him. He has left a … children to mourn their bereaveme… quence of Capt. Garrison's decease … letter from the consignees of the sh… John Wishart, Esquire, dated Live… ruary. After stating that the ship h… timore on the 6th, and returned on … ter proceeds—

"Shortly after the Pilot had left … Garrison, (who when last seen was … examining how the anchors were s… denly missed, but from what cause … nor such a melancholy circumstanc… one is able to account—Mr. Gray … all hands, being occupied at that … anchors, and about the after part of … distressing fate of this worthy man … felt by us, and must be deeply so by …

THE ARMY.—*War Office, Feb.* … Staff-assistant Surgeon G. N. Folk… tant Surgeon, vice Hamilton, dece…

Brevet Lieut. Colonel Turner, … Field Officer of Militia in this Pro… appointed Major of the 8th, or King… Powell deceased.

Major General Sir Amos Norcot… commanded the Rifle Brigade in th… been appointed to the command of … Southern District of Ireland.

From the Montreal Ga…

It was with unfeigned sorrow tha… both of the Scotch and Provincial … announced the demise of the Earl o… is with indescribable joy that we ar… ed to state, that his Lordship is not … and in his wonted health, as will … following notice extracted from the … ….

POOR CO