BRITISH SUMMARY—CONTINUED.

On Friday last, the authorities of several of the London parishes commenced serving notices, to be filled up, at the houses of the inhabitants, for the intended militia ballot.

There are 1,000 persons appointed in the London post offices, independently of the various "receivers" and other paid officers of the establishment.

After having had the good fortune to capture and keep about 3,000 pieces of artillery, principally French, the Duke of Wellington closed his military career without ever having left a single piece of cannon in an enemy's possession.

A letter from Rome states that the Emperor Nicholas, during his stay there, bestowed enormous sums in gratuities.—On quitting the Vatican, he left a sum of 12,000 Roman crowns for the domestics.

Mr. Jesse Hill, of Chedder, the steward of the Marquis of Bath, has a mare he is ready to prove to be in her 50th year. She is daily used in harness, her chief food being bran, potato-rinds, and grass.

On Friday last, in London, at 9 a. m., the mercury in the barometer reached the unusual height of 30.67, being 14-hundredths of an inch higher than the highest point of the past year.

The sum of £1,317,690 3s. 3d., being one-fourth part of the surplus revenue of the year ending the 10th October, is about to be applied towards the reduction of the national debt.

The Count de Montholon, now a prisoner in the fortress of Ham, who was the intimate companion of Napoleon during his captivity at St. Helena, has determined to give to the world a narrative of the occurrences to which he was there a witness.

We can do nothing now without steam. One of the auxiliary improvements, at the London Post-office, is an engine of 12-horse power, by which the bags and men are raised and lowered from and to the upper story. Would that there were steam in the Liverpool Post-office.

The Scotch are sly fellows, especially those of Glasgow. The bailies there have presented Lord J. Russell with the freedom of the city, "in consideration of his late abortive attempt to form a ministry." Never, surely, was a compliment better deserved than this, or more delicately conferred. They know what they have saved by the failure.

A letter from Leghorn of the 31st ult. says:—"A terrible accident took place a few days ago at Bastia, in Corsica. As the Marechal Sebastiani steamer was going out of port her boiler burst with a tremendous explosion. The passengers, 140 in number, and the crew, were landed safely, but the engineer and the two stokers were burned so dreadful y that they died in a few hours.

An agent of the League was last week distributing their tracts in a village near Mansfield. It appears, however, that tho' he was in the full pay of the faction, he was not a full convert to their principles. A person of his acquaintance asked him what he had got, when he replied, "A tract to show how there is to be a large loaf for six pence; and *three pence to buy it with.*

The French government has determined to spend between four and five millions sterling in increasing its navy, with a view of having at its disposal 40 line of battle ships, 50 heavy frigates, (fully equal to the old 74's), 100 war steamers, and about 150 smaller sailing vessels. This large sum, it appears, is not to be expended at once, but to be spread over seven years, at the rate of about half a million sterling per annum.

A letter from Rome, in the *Constitutionnel*, says:—It is in contemplation to canonise the late Princess Borghese, who was the daughter of the Earl of Shrewsbury. The great promoters of this elevation are the people of Rome and the Princess Adela Borghese, the mother-in-law of the deceased. The Borghese family have already collected 100,000 scudi for defraying the charges of the ceremony if the canonisation be granted."

The Prussian government has given orders for the strictest watch to be kept over the assemblages of the journeymen, and care taken that Communists and Socialist doctrines be not propagated amongst them.

A letter from Rome, of the 26th Dec. states that the chesnuts, which in that country are, like potatoes in the north of Europe, the principal food of the lower classes, have suffered from the same disease as the potatoes, and that scarcely one in ten is eatable. The grapes also have become already rotten, instead of remaining dry and fit for food until the end of February, as in ordinary times.

A decided case of plague has been discovered in the lazaretto of Marseilles.

One of the Ojibbeway Indians (the bird of the tempest) died at Brussels the other day of small pox, and another (the king of the bitterns,) is dangerously ill.

Provincial Legislature.

Tuesday, February 17.

The House was engaged during the morning in receiving a large number of Petitions and transacting other business, which elicited no debate, until on motion of Mr. Simonds, the House went into a Committee of the whole, on a Bill relating to the

PROVINCIAL PENITENTIARY.

Mr. Simonds explained that the object of the Bill was to authorise the Provincial Treasurer to issue Provincial Debentures instead of Debentures issued on behalf of the City and County of Saint John, signed by the Mayor, for monies borrowed for the erection of the Penitentiary. When the Legislature erected the Penitentiary into a Provincial establishment the understanding was that the Province should assume the debt; and although the Act specified the sum of £4 000 as the limit of the amount which the Province was to assume, this was merely inserted as the probable amount of Debentures then issued. It was now found that there had been debentures issued to the amount of £5000, which surely ought to be paid by the Province.—This he thought was a fair claim on the Province, and hoped it would be sustained, as no new County Debentures could be issued until the amount of Debentures issued for the Penitentiary should be liquidated. The Bill was not local but applied to the revenues of the Province.

Mr. End opposed the Bill, on the ground that it was a purely local Bill, and one which was intended to relieve Saint John of some £5,000, which they ought to pay, as they had all the advantages of the Penitentiary.

[A lengthened debate then took place, which ended in a motion that the Bill be postponded for three months, which was carried, and consequently the Bill was lost.]

Wednesday February 18.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Hazen, the House went into a Committee of the whole, on a Bill in addition to the Act relative to the Streets and Squares of Saint John.

Mr. Hazen explained that his object in bringing in this Bill was to legalize the present fences enclosing the public Squares in the City of Saint John It had been found on examination that there were encroachments on the opposite side of the streets, and the Bill which was then under the consideration of the Committee did not go to legalize those encroachments, but went merely to legalize the enclosures now made by the Corporation, for the benefit of the City, and which were placed on the proper line.

[After a lengthened discussion a motion to postpone the Bill for three months was put, and carried by a large majority, and the bill was consequently lost.]

On motion of Mr. End, the House went into a Committee of the whole, on a Bill to continue an Act to prevent the spreading of a disorder now existing in parts of the Counties of Gloucester and Northumberland. Mr. Jordan in the Chair.

Mr. End said, that the Bill before the Committee was one which he hoped there would be little discussion about. The Lazzeretto on Shell-drake Island had been burnt down, and it became necessary to erect another building for the accommodation of the unfortunate individuals who were afflicted with this loathsome disease. The Bill was precisely the same as the former Act, which it was meant to continue; and he trusted there would be no objection raised against its passing. The question had been most fully discussed on former occasions and he thought there would be no necessity for again going over the same ground.

[A long discussion ensued which ended in the Chairman of the Committee reporting progress and asking leave to sit again.]

Saturday, February 21.

Mr. J. A. Street stated that he had arrived the evening before from England; that upon the arrival of the Cambria at Halifax he found that the Mail for this Province had left about two hours previously, he therefore waited upon the Deputy Post-master General and requested him to send on an express with the Mail to New Brunswick. This he refused to do. He (Mr. Street) then offered to pay the expenses attending it, but still that Officer refused; alleging that such were not his instructions. He was then told that the reason why expresses are not forwarded to this Province with the British Mails, immediately upon their arrival, is because the House of Assembly of New Brunswick has made no provision to meet the expense. He (Mr. Street) came on, *and got here twelve hours before the Mail would leave Halifax.* He thought it proper to bring it before the notice of the house. It was his opinion the house should never rest until they had obtained redress.

Mr. Wark thought the hon. Member entitled to their thanks; and the subject was one deserving of the most serious consideration.

Mr. Payne observed that for some time past no friendly feelings had existed betwixt the house and the Post Office department: some two or three years ago the house had withdrawn the sums heretofore granted to the courier from Fredericton to the Finger Board, and to the Ferryman on the Washademoak; the consequence was that they had caused the heads of the department to send the mail by the roundabout way of St. John, and in one instance the mail was detained at the Washademoak for 24 hours. The Postmasters did not like this, and were determined to do no more for this Province than their instructions compelled them to do.

Mr. Partelow said he for one would never relax his exertions to have the department placed upon a more efficient footing. He considered their offer, made last year, to pay all deficiencies, a very generous one.

Mr. J. A. Street's name was then added to the committee on the Post Offices.

Monday, February 23.

Mr. Partelow rose to propose that the time for receiving petitions should be extended three or four days longer; after which he thought none should be admitted without special leave.

Mr. End observed that the recent snow storms had completely blocked up the roads in the eastern sections of the country: and as he knew that several important petitions were in concequence delayed, he would be willing to see any rule introduced which might lead to their reception.

Mr. Hannington thought it better that a few petitions should arrive too late, than that the session should be lengthened out three or four days in waiting for them. There is no danger that any petition would be rejected in consequence of it coming in too late, provided a special case could be made out for its reception.

Mr. Wark said it was better extend the time; and with respect to the waste of time, he thought there could be none; as there were a number of committee's formed having sufficient business to do for several days.

Mr. J. A. Street thought it better to extend the time for a few days longer. The North Eastern Mail could not arrive till the evening of the following day; beside such was the arrangement of the Mails that a week was lost on account of the particular day of the week appointed to limit the petitions. It therefore affected them there one week sooner. (The time was extended to Thursday.)

Mr. End brought in a bill defining the qualifications of Town and Parish Officers.

Mr. Jordan had a petition from James Brown and others, inhabitants of ten mile Creek, Gardner's creek, and Black River praying for a Legislative grant in aid of individual subscription, for placing a courier on that route.

Mr. Partelow brought in a bill on the subject of the public debt of the Corporation of St. John: upon which hon. Mr. Hazen read a petition from the western side of the harbour of that city, praying that the said bill may not pass.

Mr. Taylor presented the petition of William F. Barker, Denis O'Leary, Wm A Clarke and others, praying that the duties on imported Leather may be reduced.

Mr. Wilmot introduced the petition of several Ministers of Congregations in St. John including most of the Dissenting Churches in the city, and signed by 950 Laymen, praying that the law authorising the solemnization of marriage may be so amended as to place all the religious denominations on an equality. He also read the petition of Thos. Pickard, Esq., setting forth his claims to a Legislative grant in consequence of having built a steamboat capable of plying between St. John, and Grand Falls. Likewise the petition of Joseph Gaynor, Esq., and others, praying that the city of Fredericton may be made a free Warehousing port.

Mr. Simonds wished to inform the House on this subject: and from what he knew in other parts of the world, he could inform them, that the contemplated measure would involve a very expensive establishment. A Custom House Officer must be put on board every vessel for Fredericton, and he must remain in charge while such vessel was discharging her cargo. This, besides other great inconveniences, would be well worthy of consideration previous to the course recommended being adopted.

Mr Wilmot remarked that he knew of no circumstances under which Fredericton might reckon on the assistance of that hon member.—Last year he had stated that the water was too high in the spring and too low in the fall;—it would be impossible to suit the river trader to the views of that hon. member.

Mr. End thought it would be vain to attempt carrying out the views of the petitioners until a Canal was made to obviate the present difficulty of passing through the Falls. Fredericton had no right to complain of the amount of patronage which she had received. She had been created a city and Bishop's See, and should at present remain contented.

(Some observations made here by Mr. W. H. Street did not reach us with a sufficient distinctness to report them.—We understood the hon. member to say, that the Free Warehousing Port of St. John, was at present enough for this part of the Province.)

Mr. Partelow said he would not in the present instance give his opinion on the subject; but he thought it better that the petition be laid on the table, and that hon. members be allowed time to consideration.

Mr. Wilmot—"I wish to know if the feelings of petty jealousy, and rival interests, are to be brought to bear on this subject;—whether we are to be met in the spirit of antagonism and opposition, or whether we are to be met in the way of free and open and manly discussion."

Hon. Mr. Hazen presented the petition of John Paddock, Esq., President of the Total Abstinence Society, and a numerous list of most respectable names, praying for Legislative aid in carrying out the benevolent views of the Society.

Hon. Mr. Wilmot presented the petition of the Rev. Arthur McNutt, and other Ministers and laymen of the county of Westmorland, praying that an equal law may extend to clergymen of all denominations in reference to the solemnization of Matrimony.

EXTRACTS FROM THE JOURNALS.

Friday, February 20.

On motion of Mr. Wilmot,

Resolved, that an humble address be presented to his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, praying that his Excellency will be pleased to direct that copies of any Petitions against the Act for the amendment of the Charter of King's College, forwarded to her Majesty's Government through his Excellency during the past year, be laid before the house. *Ordered*, that Mr. Wilmot, Mr. Connell, and Mr. Thompson, be a committee to wait upon his Excellency with the address.

Mr. Boyd, by leave, presented a petition from William Ker, Peter Smith, and sixty others, inhabitants of Saint Andrews, in the county of Charlotte, praying that a grant may pass to enable them to extend the Public Wharf in that town, for the greater convenience of Passengers arriving at that place; which he read. *Ordered*, that the said petition be received and referred to the committee of trade to report thereon.

Mr. Hanington, by leave, presented a petition from James Wallace, Junior, W. H. Steeves, Robt Gildart, and one hundred and thirty three others, inhabitants of the Parishes of Hillsborough and Coverdale, in the county of Albert, praying that in the event of the line dividing the counties of Westmorland and Albert being so altered as to include the Parish of Salisbury in the county of Westmorland, that the Parishes of Hillsborough and Coverdale may also be annexed to the said county of Westmorland; which he read. *Ordered*, that the said petition be received and lie on the table.

Mr. J. Earle, by leave, presented a petition from William Streight, James G. Watson, and William Sharp, inhabitants of Queen's county, praying to be remunerated for Ferrying her Majesty's Mails over the Washademoak Lake and the Jemseg Creek in the year 1843; which he read. *Ordered*, that the said petition be received and referred to the committee of supply.

Mr. Hanington, by leave, presented a petition from George Pitfield, Lewis Trites, Esqrs., and fifty eight others, inhabitants of the Parish of Salisbury, in the county of Westmorland, that no additional export duty may be imposed upon Hackmatack or Larch Timber exported from this Province; which he read. *Ordered*, that the said petition be received and referred to the committee on the lumbering interests of the province to report thereon.

Mr. Partelow, by leave, presented a petition from David Vaughan, James Moran, and forty one others, inhabitants of Quaco, in the Parish of St. Martins, and county of St. John, praying Legislative aid towards the erection of a Breakwater at that place; which he read. *Ordered*, that the said petition be received and referred to the committee of trade to report thereon.

Mr. Partelow, by leave, presented a petition from David Paterson, and seventy four others, Boot and Shoe Makers, resident in the city of St. John, praying for Legislative protection; which he read.—*Ordered*, that the said petition be received and lie on the table.

The hon. Mr. Hazen, by leave, presented a petition from Peter M'Kenn, a commuted Pensioner from the Ninth Dragoon Regiment, praying that a grant may pass to enable him to purchase Land in lieu of certain Land granted by the Government after the same had been allotted to and partly paid for by him; which he read. *Ordered*, that the said petition be received and referred to the committee of supply.

The hon. Mr. Hazen, by leave, presented a petition from Thomas Sandall, of the city of St. John, Merchant, praying to be remunerated for loss by reason of a wooden building belonging to him being partially pulled down by the authorities for the purpose of preventing the further spreading of an alarming fire in the said city in the month of July last; which he read. *Ordered*, that the said petition be received and lie on table.

Mr Rankin, by leave, presented a petition from Charles Hensley, Esq., chairman of the Prince Edward Island Steam Navigation Company, praying that the company be compensated for having maintained a good and efficient Line of steam communication between Miramichi, Charlotte Town, and Pictou, for a period of six months during the past year, and also for further encouragement towards maintaining the said line, for the reasons set forth in the said petition; which he read. *Ordered*, that the said petition be received and referred to the committee of supply.

On motion of the hon. Mr. Hazen,

Ordered, that the several returns and documents relative to the granting of Licences on the Richibucto River, be referred to the committee appointed on the fourteenth day of February instant, to take under consideration a petition of John W. Holdemess, praying an investigation into the matters connected with those Licences; and on like motion of the hon. Mr. Hazen, *Ordered*, that the several Accounts and returns from the Custom House Department, as also the reports from Auditor General on the Supervisors accounts, and those of the commissioners for Light houses, be referred to the committee on public accounts to examine and report thereon.

Mr. Partelow, by leave, presented a petition from Stephen Wiggins and son, Robert Rankin and Co. James Kirk, John Duncan, and fifty nine others, Merchants, ship owners, light house commissioners, Branch pilots, and others, of the city and county of St. John, praying for Legislative aid towards the erection of a Breakwater at Dipper Harbour, in the said county of St. John; which he read. *Ordered*, that the said petition be received and referred to the committee of trade to report thereon.

Mr. Palmer, by leave, presented petition from William Weeks, of Bay de Verte, in the county of Westmorland, recommended by thirty three other inhabitants of that place, praying aid to enable him to continue the running of a packet between that place and Prince Edward Island; which he read.—*Ordered*, that the said petition be received and referred to the Post Office Committee to report thereon.

Mr. Connell, by leave, presented a petition from George Fields, an old soldier of the British Army, praying pecuniary aid in his present destitute circumstances; which he read. And upon the question, that the said Petition be received and ordered to lie on the table, the house divided—Yeas seven teen. Nays 9. Whereupon it was carried in the affirmative.

Mr. Thomson, by leave, presented a petition from Alice Clinch, widow of the late Peter Clinch, deceased, formerly Quarter Master of the second Battalion of the Charlotte county Militia, praying to be reimbursed a sum paid by her for Powder purchased by the said Peter Clinch, and furnished under the orders of the Lieutenant Colonel commanding the said Battalion; which he read. And upon the question, that the said petition be received and referred to a select committee to report thereon, it was decided in the negative.

Saturday, February 21.

Mr. Hill, by leave, presented a petition from Wm. Todd, James Albee, and twenty nine others, inhabitants of Milltown, in the parish of St. Stephen, in the county of Charlotte, praying aid towards a courier between the Post Office at saint stephen and that place; which he read. *Ordered*, that the said petition be received and referred to the committee on the Post Office Department to report thereon.

Mr. Partelow, by leave, presented a petition from Thomas Wallace, of the city of St. John, Merchant, praying to be reimbursed duties paid on Machinery imported from the United states, for the Manufacture of Cordage; which he read. *Ordered*, that the said petition be received and referred to the committee of trade to report thereon.

Mr. Partelow, by leave, presented a petition from William Carvill, of the City of St. John, Merchant, praying to be reimbursed duties paid on Patent Machinery imported from Liverpool for the use of saint John cordage manufactory; which he read.—*Ordered*, that the said petition be received and referred to the committee of trade to report thereon.

The hon. Mr Hazen, by leave, presented a petition from Eliza Hanford, of the city of Saint John, Widow, Guardian of Thomas T. Hanford, of the said city, Minor, praying that a bill to extend John or Water street to the southward may not pass into a Law; which he read. *Ordered*, that the said petition be recieved and lie on the table.

Mr. Connell, by leave, presented a petition from the Rev. William D. Finch, Baptist Minister, and forty nine others, inhabitants of the county of Carleton, praying for an amendment to the act extending the privilege of solemnizing Marriage, to all Ministers or Teachers of the several Religious Congregations in this Province; which he read. *Ordered*, that the said petition be received and lie on the table.

Mr. Boyd moved for leave to bring in a bill to alter and amend an act for the more efficient inspection of Flour and Meal. Leave granted.

Mr. Boyd, also moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend an act for the return of duties in certain cases. Leave granted.

On motion of Mr. Gilbert,—*Ordered*, that the petition of Robert Golding, and others, inhabitants of Queen's county, praying aid towards a courier between the Post Office at Gagetown, and Robert Golding's in Wickham, and which was presented to the house on the seventeenth instant, and ordered to lie on the table, be now referred to the Post Office committee to report thereon.

Mr. Payne, by leave, presented a petition from Samuel Strange, Esq., and one hundred and eighteen others, Merchants, Fishermen, and other inhabitants of St. John, praying for continuation of the act for the encouragement of the Fisheries, and also that provision be made for a superintendant to be stationed at or near the southern head of the Island of Grand Manan; which he read. *Ordered*, that the said petition be received and referred to the committee of Fisheries to report thereon.

On motion of Mr. Wark.—*Resolved*, that a committee be appointed to take into consideration the several acts relating to the solemnizing of Marriage, and report, either by bill or otherwise, such amendments as may be required thereto. *Ordered*, that Mr. Wark, Mr W. H. Street, Mr Wilmot, Mr Connell, and Mr. Thomson, do compose the said committee.

Monday, February 23.

Mr. End, by leave, presented a petition from George Matthew, late principal overseer of the poor and superintendant of the Lunatic Asylum of the city St. John, complaining that he has been unable to procure the issue of a warrant on the Treasury for the sum of 500 pounds granted in the Legislative session of 1843 to his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor or Administrator of the Government, to reimburse in part the overseers of the poor for the said city for expenses incurred in the year 1842 for the support of the temporary lunatic asylum, and praying for an investigation; which he read. *Ordered*, that the said petition be received and referred to a select committee to report thereon; and further *Ordered*, that Mr. End, Mr. W. H. Street, and Mr. Thomson, do compose the said committee.

The hon Mr Hazen, by leave, presented a petition from George P. Peters, Esq. of the city of saint John, M. D. praying that provision be made for his services as Physician to the Provincial Lunatic Asylum for the year 1842; which he read. *Ordered*, that the said petition be received and referred to the same committee to report thereon.

The hon Mr Hazen, by leave, presented a petition from James Busk and Thomas Hill, of Fredericton, in the county of York, praying for a return of duties paid upon a power press and types imported from the United states in the year 1845 and 1846; which he read. *Ordered*, that the said petition be received and referred to the committee of trade to report thereon.

Mr. Wilmot, by leave, presented a petition from the Reverend Messieurs Robert Irvine, of the Free Church, Samuel Robinson, John Francis, and E. J. Harris, of the Baptist church, James C. Galloway, of the Congregational church, Enoch Wood, Geo. Miller, Frederick Smallwood, and Samuel D. Rice, of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, together with nine hundred and fifty others, members of the said several denominations, and powholders in the churches thereof, in the city and county of St. John, complaining of certain restrictions and conditions in the act to extend the privilege of Solemnizing marriage, and praying a repeal of the same; which he read. *Ordered*, that the said petition be received and lie on the table.

Mr Wilmot, by leave, presented a petition from Joseph Gaynor, and one hundred and twenty three others, inhabitants of the county of York, praying that provision be made for carrying into effect the decision of the Lords of the Treasury of February 1844, for establishing a Free Warehousing port at Fredericon; which he read. *Ordered*, that the said petition be received and lie on the table.

Mr Partelow, by leave, presented a petition from Henry Gilbert, Henry Porter, and twenty one others, of the city of saint John, praying that an act may pass to incorporate a company under the name and title of the Mutual Insurance Company; which he read. *Ordered*, that the said petition be received and lie on the table.

Mr Partelow, by leave, presented a petition from James White, Esquire, High Sheriff of the city and county of St. John, together with Henry Gilbert, Ralph M. Jarvis, William Wright, Esquires, of the city and county, and Justus S. Wetmore, John Britain, Esquires, Justices of the Peace for King's county, with one thousand one hundred and thirty one others, inhabitants of the said counties, praying for Legislative aid towards the encouragement of a steam boat to ply across the Gondola Point Ferry, so called, in King's county; which he read. *Ordered* that the said Petition be received and referred to the committee appointed on the twelfth day of February instant, to take into consideration all matters relating to the improvement of the navigation of the River saint John and other principal rivers in the Province, to report thereon.

Mr Taylor, by leave, presented a petition from Joseph Gaynor, Robert Chestnut, and Thos. Pickard, Trustees of the Wesleyan Chapel at Fredericton, in the county of York, praying for a return of duties paid on a bell imported from England for the use of the said chapel in the month of November last; which he read. Ordered, that the said petition be received and referred to the committee of supply.

Tuesday, February 24.

Mr End, by leave, presented a petition from Jno. T Carter and Benjamin Adams, overseers of the poor for the parish of Bathurst, in the county of Gloucester, praying to be refunded certain advances made by them to John Kelchar, a sick and indigent pauper; which he read. Ordered, that the said petition be received and referred to the committe appointed on the seventeenth day of February instant, to take under consideration a petition from the corporation of Saint John of alike prayer, to report thereon.

Mr Taylor, by leave, presented a petition from Asa Coy and Zebedee G. Gabel, Trustees of the Baptist Chapel in Fredericton, praying for a return of duties paid on an Organ imported from Boston in the United states, in the year 1841, for the use of the said chapel; which he read. Ordered, that the said petition be received and referred to the committee of supply.

Mr Thomson, by leave, presented a petition from the Rector, Church Wardens and Vestry of the parish of Saint George, in the county of Charlotte, praying for return of duty paid on a bell imported from Boston, in the United states, in the year 1841, for the use of the Parish Church; which he read.—Ordered, that the said petition be received and referred to the committee of supply.

Wednesday, February 25.

Mr Wilmot, by leave, presented a petition from the President, Directors, Shareholders in the Mechanics' Whale Fishing Company, praying that an act may pass authorizing them to close the affairs of the said company; which he read. Ordered, that the said petition be received and lie on the table.

Mr Partelow, by leave, presented a petition from from the hon William Botsford, William Scovil, Benjamin L Peters, Charles Ward, Henry Gilbert, John Sears, an five hundred and forty one others British American Loyalists who landed in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia in the year 1783, and their descendants, including other inhabitants of the city and county of St. John, praying for a Legislative grant, in aid of individual subscription, towards the erection of a monument at the city of saint John to commemoration of the memorable event; which he read. Ordered, that the said petition be received and lie on the table.

The hon. Mr. Hazen, by leave, presented a petition from Richard Nowlan, David Paterson, Geo. Woods, and three hundred others, Freemen, Freeholders and inhabitants of the city of saint John, praying that no act may pass extending the limits within which wooden buildings may now by law be erected in the said city; which he read. Ordered, that the said petition be received and lie on the table.

Thursday, February 26.

Mr. Hannington, from the committee appointed to wait upon his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor with the Address of house of the 20th day of February instant, relative to the establishment of an Officer of her Majesty's Customs at Shediac, reported—that they had attended thereto, and that his Excellency was pleased to say, the information sought for should be furnished.

Mr. Dibblee, Master in Chancery, informed the house that the Council had passed—A Bill, intituled "An Act to repeal an Act, intituled 'An Act in addition to an Act for erecting a Parish in the city of St. John, and incorporating the Rectors, Church Wardens and Vestries of the Church of England in several Parishes in this Province,' and to make other provisions in lieu thereof;" and a bill, intituled "An Act to incorporate the Chignecto steam Navigation company."

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THE CHRONICLE.

SAINT JOHN, MARCH 6, 1846.

CHURCH SOCIETY OF NEW-BRUNSWICK.

The tenth Annual Meeting of the Church Society of the Archdeaconry of New-Brunswick, now the Diocesan Church Society of New-Brunswick, was held at Fredericton, on Monday, the 9th February, having been preceded by a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Society on the 6th, and of the General Committee on the 7th. The Anniversary Meeting of this Society have all along been numerously and most respectably attended; but several circumstances concurred to render this one more than commonly interesting. The Society was, on this occasion, to hold its Annual Meeting for the first time, under the immediate direction and personal superintendence of its Right Rev. President, the Lord Bishop of the Diocese; the rich, populous and important Parish of St. John was for the first time to take part in its proceedings; and some alterations in the Constitution of the Society of considerable consequence were to be discussed: these circumstances had the effect of attracting towards the society a more than usual share of public attention, and of drawing together a larger assemblage than had ever before been seen at any of its meetings. For the first time, ladies honoured the society with their presence, among whom it was gratifying to see Lady Colebrooke and a number of other ladies of distinction; and His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, the Patron of the Society was also present.

It may not be out of place to state, that this Society was formed in 1836 at the instance, and under the direction of the then Bishop of the Diocese, the highly respected Bishop of Nova Scotia; and was the first of the kind in the British North American Colonies. Its object, besides supplying, what has all along been so much wanted—a bond of union for the members of the Church—is, to raise funds within the Province, by means of which assistance can be given to the building and enlarging of Churches, to the circulation, gratuitously and at low prices, of religious and useful Books, and to the providing Missionary visits to different parts of the Province. To show the success which has attended the efforts of the society, it will suffice to say, that during the nine years it has been in operation, with only the limited means hitherto at its command, it has paid the travelling expences of two Clergymen employed in Missionary visits; has made grants to the building of 24 new Churches, and the enlarging of 5 others, thereby giving additional Church accommodation to 29 different places; has made 173 gratuitous grants of Books of the value of £812, besides selling a large quantity at very low prices: and in addition to this, has accumulated property, vested in Books, Mortgages, Notes, and balances in the Treasurer's hands to the amount of £980: which, with the addit on of the contributions for the current year, reported at the Annual Meeting, amount to nearly two thousand pounds.

The business of the Executive Committee at their meeting on the 6th was to receive a Report which the Ven. the Archdeacon had kindly consented to prepare, containing an abstract of the Reports from the various Local Committees now 26 in number, and of the different applications for aid, to serve as a guide to the General Committee, in making the Annual appropriations of the funds of the Society; and also to examine the different Accounts of the Treasurer, Secretaries, Depositories, &c. to be submitted to the General Meeting.

On the 7th the General Committee met, when the Right Rev. the President, presided. It is the business of this body, composed of the Missionary and two Lay Deputies from each Parish in which a Local Committee of the Society exists, to receive from the Executive Committee the report of the applications made for aid towards the different objects embraced by the Society; and having considered them, to place at the disposal of the Executive Committee so much of the funds of the society as, in their judgment, will be sufficient to afford the requisite assistance; leaving it to the Executive Committee to make the final distribution of the funds so placed at their disposal. At the formation of the society, it was thought good to vest the power to make these appropriations in a body composed as the General Committee is, of persons from all parts of the Country, and of an equal number from each part, that local influences might be of no avail in the distribution of the funds, and so jealousies and dissatisfaction be prevented. And that this plan has effectually answered the purpose intended, may be seen from the fact, that the places to which aid has been given towards providing additional church accommodation are so equally distributed, that there is only one County, and that the smallest of the number, which has not one such place; while the largest of the Counties, once divided into two, has only four.

On this occasion twenty two Committees sent representatives, viz: Woodstock, St. Andrews, Chatham, Glenelg, Kingston, Norton, Springfield, Hampton, Carleton, Portland, Sackville, Dorchester, Mangerville, Burton, St. John, Fredericton, Kingsclear, Gagetown, Stanley, St. Stephen's, Prince William and Westmoreland; and the General Committee composed of the Clerical and Lay Deputies from these Local Committees, made the following appropriations, placing the sums named at the disposal of the Executive Committee for final distribution viz. £450 for Missionary Visits; £500 for Books and Tracts; £200 for building and enlarging of Churches and Chapels; £100 for the creation of a fund for augmenting the stipends of poor Clergymen, &c. in all £1250.

On Sunday Sn. the Society attended Divine Service at Christ Church, the Sermon by the Rev. I. W. D. Gray, Rector of Trinity Church, St John; the Lord Bishop, assisted by the Archdeacon, his Chaplain, and Mr. Gray, administering the Holy Communion.

At the General Meeting on Monday were present, His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, the Patron; the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop, the President; the Ven. the Archdeacon, the Hon. the Chief Justice, the Hon. the Master of the Rolls, the Hon. Wm. Black, President of the Legislative Council, the Hon. the Speaker of the Assembly, the Hon. Messrs. Justice Parker and Street, Vice Presidents; and the Rev. Dr. Alley, S. Bacon, I. W. D. Gray, F. Coster, N. A. Coster, S. D. L. Street, W. Harrison, J. W. Disbrow, Rev. E. Scovil, J. M. Stirling, W. Scovil, T. M'Ghee, E. J. W. Roberts, W. Q. Ketchum, and W. H. Tippit.

The Lord Bishop having been requested to take the Chair, on motion of the Hon. the Chief Justice, and his Lordship having opened the business with prayer, and addressed the meeting at considerable length, explaining the objects of the society, and urging its powerful claims upon the members of the church, the following resolutions among others were passed.

On motion of His Excellency, the Lieutenant Governor, seconded by the Hon. the Chief Justice—

Resolved, that the alterations in the Constitution of the Society, agreed to by the Lord Bishop and the Committee of Conference, submitted to the Executive Committee, and approved at the Special General Meeting at St. John, be adopted by this meeting, and that the Constitution so altered be the Constitution of the Society.

The alterations were then put seriatim, considered and passed.

On motion of the Hon. the Master of the Rolls—

Resolved, that the next Annual Meeting be held at St. John.

On motion of the Ven. the Archdeacon—

Resolved, that this Meeting desires to express its satisfaction at the continued prosperity of the Sister Societies of Nova Scotia, Toronto, Quebec and Newfoundland.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Justice Street—

Resolved, that this Society cannot forget that it owes its origin to the Ven. Archdeacon Coster, who first proposed its institution to the Churchmen of this Province, to whom he submitted a Constitution prepared by himself for its formation; and that it was through his exertions that it was established, and that it has been under his fostering supervisindence that it has been since kept up, and has arrived at its present flourishing condition,—that the grateful thanks of the society be now therefore given to him for such his exertions, and for the strong interest he has always shown in everything that could promote its prosperity while he continued to preside over it.

On motion of the Hon. the Chief Justice—

Resolved, that the thanks of the meeting be given to the Rev. I. W. D. Gray for his Excellent Sermon preached in Christ's Church yesterday, on behalf of the society, and that he be requested to favor the society with a copy of the same in order to its being printed in the Report.

The Treasurer and other Officers having been elected—

On motion of the Hon. the Chief Justice, the Lord Bishop was requested to leave the Chair, and His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor to take the same—

Resolved, that the thanks of this meeting be respectfully offered to his Lordship for his able conduct in the chair.

On this the meeting was dissolved.

PHILOSOPHIC EXHIBITION.—Mr. SHARP has resumed his exhibition of Astronomical Views at the Hall of the Mechanics' Institute. The lectures and explanations are given by Mr. Duval. The price of admission to those intellectual entertainments is only 1s. 3d.

GREAT TEMPERANCE TEA MEETING.—The meeting which took place last evening, according to previous announcement, was undoubtedly the most successful affair of the kind that has ever been witnessed in this city. It is the office of Teetotalism to overlook creeds and sects, and to unite all in one brotherhood of charity—in one bond of mutual obligation to good, and this meeting offered a gratifying demonstration that the principle has not been in abeyance—every denomination of Christians being represented by many of its members, and if we are not mistaken, with the exception of one, by a pastor of its church. The success of which we speak, was still further evidenced by the number and the earnestness of the application made for tickets of admission, after they had been all disposed of. About 9 hundred persons we present, occupying all the available space in the room; and we have little doubt the number would have doubled, had there been accommodation for so many. In addition to other marks of favor for Total Abstinence, we have to note the cheerful and happy faces of our fair hostesses, who vied with each other in their efforts to render matters as agreeable as the crowded state of the room would permit. The viands were choice, and the *liquors* never better—the juice of the berry being wholly unfermented.—*Temperance Telegraph.*

PREPARATION.—The Montreal Courier says.—We learn by private advices from Quebec, that the greatest activity prevails in preparing the defences of the garrison. Workmen are engaged in deepening the ditches of the Citadel, and the artillery in mounting guns and conveying ammunition to the different service magazines. The artillery are constantly practising with both shot and shells.

A General Order just published, authorizes for two years further the enrolment of the three troops of Provincial Dragoons, and the Coloured Corps in Upper Canada.

Shipwreck and loss of life.—The British ship Ida, Captain Chambers, with 38 passengers, sailed from Portsmouth, England, about the 4th or 5th Jan. for this port. On the 26th in lat. 44, long. 52 30, the barque broached to, while scudding before a severe gale from s.s.e. and was thrown on her beam ends, but righted full of water. The captain then ordered the long boat to be got under the lee, the other boats having been lost: the passengers immediately rushed into her, followed by the captain and part of the crew, to the number of forty five: the land bore N.N.E. distant about 30 leagues by observation; the boat got about two cables' length from the vessel, when she shipped a sea, filled, and all in her perished. The mate, nine men, and one young woman remained on the wreck, in the tops, from Monday morning until the Friday morning following, when they were taken off by the schr. Three Sisters, which took them to Eden, (Maine,) much frozen and in destitute circumstances.

Another Shipwreck.—The Halifax papers state that the brig Laurel, of that port, Captain George, from Ponce, with a cargo of sugar, &c. in endeavouring to make the harbour of Halifax on Monday night last, got amongst floating ice and struck upon the Sisters, about five miles from Sambro Light, and soon after went to pieces. A fishing vessel took off the crew, with the exception of the mate and one of the seamen, who had left the vessel in the long boat, with the expectation of reaching the shore, but had not been heard from. One of the men also died on the wreck. The captain had one of his legs broken, and, with others of the crew was frost bitten.—The Union and Marine Insurance Companies of Halifax have each voted £25 to the fishermen who rescued the crew from the wreck.

REVENUE BILL.—We learn from Fredericton that the Revenue Bill of last year has been adopted by the House of Assembly, with the exception of Wheat and Flour, from which the Provincial duty is removed.

WASHINGTON, February 22.—The government organs, cabinet ministers, as well as chairmen of committees keep very secret about the despatches received by the Cambria. They are understood, however, to throw no new light upon the resources of public information. All the private letters received here concur in what appears apparent in every English newspaper, that England is ready to sacrifice the Oregon question to the boon held out of a reduction of the American tariff. The bullying and blustering of Congress comes back with words provokingly docile from Parliament. Mr. Buchanan finds sir Robert Peel and Lord Aberdeen as gentle as cooing doves, while the young Queen treats the Message of the President as kindly as if it had emanated from her Royal father, if he were living. The cabinet, I learn, and the official paper shows it, are much more disturbed by the grumblings of Guizot than by any word from England; for while the organs of the British government are careful to say nothing of that portion of the President's message that speaks in such high tone of European interference, the French Ministers tell the Executive that no heed whatever is paid to such declarations. John Bull will lose a number of hard words from Brother Jonathan in hopes of obtaining something approximating free trade from us. It is admitted to be a privilege of Democracy to rail the longest and talk the loudest, but where benefits are to be conferred, John Bull will be careful to secure an equiv