Communications.

[FOR THE CHRONICLE.]

Brief facts and hypothetical views of the combined action of light and heat—difference between Volcanic action and the Electrical shocks *to ships, called* Earthquakes.

"Be not ignorant of any thing, of a great matter "or a small.—Ecclesiasticus, chap. 5. v. 15.

"He sendeth forth light and it goeth, calleth it "again, and obeyeth him with fear."—Baruch, c. 3, v. 33.

"For thine incorruptible spirit is in all things." —Wisdom 12. v. 1.

"Surely vain are all men by nature who are ig- "norant of God, &c."—Wisdom c. 13. v. 1, 2, 3.

"When west thou? when I laid the foundations "of the earth, &c."—Job c. 38, v. 3 to 11.

"Seek him that calleth for the waters of the sea, "and poureth them upon the face of the earth."—Amos 5, v. 8.

"For the sun, moon and stars being bright, and "sent to do their "offices," are obedient; in like "manner the lightning when it breaketh forth;—"wherefore it is neither to be supposed nor said "that they are Gods, *therefore fear them not.*"—[that is do not fear them to adoration.]—Baruch c. 6. 60 to 69.

As the presence or power of light does not always imply a necessary or actual consequence of heat or the converse, as may be just now instanced by the little power or effect of heat exhibited, with all the prevailing brilliancy of the sun to boot, on the day that I am writing, 18th February, 1843, for at this moment the temperature of the atmosphere is down to 8 below zero, and the supply of oxygen in a given quantity of the air, owing to the great condensation of it, is far greater than where the temperature of it is much higher; which may be easily proved by observing the extra quantity of wood fuel consumed this day, being nearly double, as compared with that of other days, in a common box stove, within a given time; because we can see, and be satisfied also, at the same time, that the present most powerful and brilliant light of the sun has but very little effect in reducing the snow now on the surface of the ground, to water,—unless in exposed situations where an aggregation or congeries of his rays (which communicate something else besides light.) can concentrate, by meeting with such an obstruction as snow, and by accumulating and forming a focus or nucleus upon the snow quite as effectually as the rays would collect heat, pro rata, upon a glass lens. Neither does *light*, alone, contain the vital principle which communicates *heat* to the human lungs, imparted to them as it is in a cavern of darkness, and which process of supply enables man, and all warm-blooded animals to live in total darkness, even at the Poles, when and where the light of the sun is for some months together entirely cut off; but I can easily conceive that the *two forces*, comprising the principles or elements of both light and heat, travel *as one*, in company, either from the sun or from his immediate neighbourhood to the earth and all the rest of the Planets,—as well as in traversing over space in company together; and the manner they set in concert for producing their respective effects, is past finding out, from the secrecy, harmlessness and delicacy of their movements; that they act *singly* and also *separately* is obvious, as well as in connection together, each with the other, is also equally mysterious to us; but so it is! These vivifying elements become modified in some way during divergence, to accommodate every purpose, by stimulating *every thing in creation* to supply the wants of man, and contribute alike to his pleasure and happiness.

Some few years ago the writer of this undertook to compare our Globe, the Earth, with its outside coverings and appendages, as described in Job, to the similitude of an egg; and supported the comparison by what I considered unobjectionable and unanswerable illustrations. It is equally easy and admissible to compare the Earth, enveloped as it is within the "swaddling band" and "atmosphere" to the similitude of the orb of the human eye. If we suppose the outward covering of this earth, the "swaddling band," to represent the crystaline and aqueous humours of the eye, and that of the cloudy floating in the atmosphere, within the "band," to represent a cataract or other excrescence as obstructing the light in passing to the optic nerve, as an illustration of the intervention of clouds or dense vapours to obstruct the propelled waves of light and heat of the sun, after passing through the frigid "band," from rushing towards the surface of the earth, we shall have a very good illustration of what I conceive to be an undeniable fact!—that the clouds of rain, or other vapours according to their density, by *interrupting*, for a time, the divergence of the matter or elements of light and heat, do, by thus causing an aggregation of their particles, generate lightning in all its forms, of waterspouts, meteors, and shooting stars; one part of these elements is unquestionably oxygen; the other is what? I shall not hazard an opinion;—unknown. The *double* "office" performed by the sun's rays is an old crotchet of mine.

At the same time I mooted another question, by expressing my doubts, and in fact scouting the popular notion, till then considered as fact, that of the *possibility* of feeling the shock of an earthquake (more properly volcanic action, a pressure from within,) on board a vessel afloat on the ocean, or unless the anchor was down, in harbour, through the waters she floated in, without some violent commotion of the waters was exhibited at the same time, as described in the phenomenon then pointed out, and gave my reasons for it, which are undeniable; for those are the often occurring operations of nature, two very similar quakes or shakes, arising from two different causes—the one from *within* the earth, the other from *without*. A very similar shock to the latter has recently occurred to four different ships in the West Indies, all near the same locality, viz. to the Severn, Mohawk, Decatur, and Ringdove, all respectively off the Islands of Antigua, Barbuda, and Anguilla, within the Trade wind, the equatorial current, almost in a straight line of N.N.W. and all within the distance of about 300 miles, on the same day and nearly the same hour of the day. Now the shock, or *tremor*, as described by one of the reports, that these vessels experienced, arose from quite a different cause, and one exactly the reverse of that of the operation of a real Earthquake, as understood in popular phraseology. The real Earthquake, properly *volcanic* action, which moves every thing from beneath, arises from a force *within* the earth; but the phenomena felt by the ships as notice above, was caused or arose from a *force from without*, to *feed* the other force within; for it was generated by a congeries, an aggregation or accumulation of the interrupted and obstructed particles of electricity on its way to the earth, that produced the effect. This combined element, which furnishes both light and heat at one operation, which is constantly flowing towards some one part or other of the surface of the earth, by day and by night, on becoming concentrated in or upon some obstruction, as that of the intervention of a cloud with rain, or some such like vehicle containing aqueous vapours at that locality, or some other obstruction that had been wafted by the wind to where the tremor or shocks were experienced; and where the vessels which were by chance struck, happened from their position to fall between the accumulation of the electric field of fluid (suspended in the atmosphere,) and the earth under the sea; they thereby become common conductors or agents for conveying the previously confined electricity, and somewhat assisted by the partial submergence of the ships themselves, down to the submerged land, or to the summits of submerged mountains, for restoring the equilibrium. This phenomenon, or rather one exactly similar, was very fully and satisfactorily described some years ago by the Captain of an East Indiaman, when the same thing had occurred to several ships of a fleet; and ought to have satisfied any inquiring mind of the difference between a flood of electricity "*performing its office*" in the best way it could when obstructed on its passage from *without*, and that of the shock of a *real* earthquake, a volcanic action *from within*. It was fully noticed in the New-York Albion, about the time that the law of storms was promulgated. I believe that one of the West India Mail steamers experienced a *similar shock* among the Islands about two years ago, for there was no account given of any commotion of the waters of the sea. The very fine, quiet, and invisible, propelled waves of electricity, by meeting at any time with an obstruction to the freedom of flowing forward, *in its harmless state to serve the earth*, will concentrate in or on the obstacle, form a congeries or nucleus of very great force, and thus overcome the opposition.—Neither the sea, or land, or any other substance can stop its progress long, any more than arrest the action of gravity. What is gravity? Concentric, contractile, sphincter pressure!

I never heard of but one well authenticated and accredited account of an Earthquake, properly so, from volcanic action, having been experienced by a ship at sea, and that happened to a vessel on a beautiful moonlight night, while running among the West India Islands. The sea was very suddenly raised and depressed, and the vessel borne upon it was tossed to and fro within a small space of broken water, and as the vessel lurched between the billows, she shipped the water upon her decks, over both gangways: sounded with a hand lead but no bottom. This phenomenon was from the effects of a volcanic action, which arose from a pressure *from within* the earth, but the other recent phenomena in the West Indies, and the effect on the fleet of Indiamen, never came from the bottom; but arose from an unperceived obstruction of some kind, to the free flowing of electricity to the earth, for constantly *feeding* the *central* fires, to keep the sea liquid, and keep up the equilibrium; and thus producing all the effects that are seen, for the "offices" of Waterspouts, Meteors, and shooting stars are all obvious examples of its obstructed course: while the volcanoes in operation over different parts of the earth, shows how it so constantly escapes to the etherial field again. It is of no use to tell me, as an objection to my opinion, that no clouds were visible from the ships at the time, because any such vehicle, charged as these electric ones must be, aided by the brilliancy of the sun, would be of sufficient intensity of heat and light to neutralize any opacity they might, under other circumstances exhibit; and any opacity would consequently be merged and become invisible in the general light,—though I can easily conceive that the same thing might occur by night as well as by day, by clouds wafted by the wind from a low locality, and subsequently depressed within the requisite attracting distance of the earth, whether covered there by the *salt sea* or not.

I have long been satisfied that mankind in general, know but little, *at this moment*, of the constitution and economy of the Planet we live upon,—neither shall we till the book of Nature is better studied, and more attention paid to the writings of Moses, David, and Job: but more particularly the writings of Job—that ancient astronomer, philosopher, and natural Historian.

My ideas, set forth in the foregoing remarks, may probably not be so clearly stated or understood as I could wish them. The subjects have been referred to by applying to them the most popular names by which they are now best understood; but I would beg to suggest, that the *tremor* or trembling of the earth, or of a ship, from the effect of the shock if an accumulation or congeries of intercepted electricity, from *without*, like what the human limbs receive from the action of an electrifying machine, is a very different operation in its effects, to what a charge of gunpowder would exhibit, if lodged within a shell, and fired off to burst it: therefore the appellation, Earthquake, as used in common parlance, appears to be right only so far as it represents the effect of a shock of electricity, on a large scale, when communicated from *without*; but we must coin a new term to distinguish the partial or the complete volcanic action, of bursting open and expanding the crust of the Earth, by a force or pressure *from within!* Both phenomena will rend rocks and throw down buildings, and as will frost,—but only one, the volcanic action, will raise and depress the land and the sea. A second once charged with water by a water-spout, through the agency of electricity at one locality, may afterwards become a lens and generate destructive lightning to explode at some other.

M. Moser, of Konigsburg, has hazarded a similar conclusion to that one of my own, that the Sun propels the elements of two distinct forces at one time, light and heat, (see the 1st and 2d section of this article) but he has drawn his conclusion from totally different views. See the New-York Albion, Feb. 25, 1843. p. 91.

We can hardly believe that the sun *attracts* any of the Planets towards Him, but just the reverse. But we may easily conceive that the force with which the elements of light and heat are propelled against the Planets, or rather against the shields or covering of these orbs, is sufficient to keep them pressed off from Him to their proper distances in their respective orbits, according to their densities, like the proof bubbles in alcohol. No part of *that* force constitutes the force or power of *local* gravity; because the propulsive power can only act or strike against one half of the Earth at the same time, and that only, throughout the day. We must be satisfied also, that gravity is a constant and uniform centre seeking pressure; its force is equally exerted all round the earth, both by day and by night I care not how large the sun may actually be, but let the size be what it may, and that He parts with, and dispenses, the elementary matter of light and heat which our system requires, His bulk would become perceptibly wasted, even in a common life time, if His matter was not returned back to him again regularly, though in a more concentrated form, by the distant wanderers, the Comets.

How long, it might be asked, would any fire, however large, continue to furnish heat without fresh fuel is supplied to it?

However we contemplate God's wonderful laws; Feel or see their effects,—look well for the cause.

Your's, truly, S. S.

Down East, 4th March, 1843.

The Radical's Letters to his friend at Fredericton.—[CONTINUED.]

Halifax, 21st Feb. 1843.

MY DEAR ——,

In my hasty letter of the 7th instant, I promised to write you again in a few days. I shall now endeavour to redeem that promise, and as you are a young convert to our cause, I will give you a few hints upon the origin and history of our party, in order that you may understand, and be able to *conceal* our object the more perfectly: for every thing depends upon *concealment*.

You are to know, then, that the first advocate of Responsible Government in the Colonies, and therefore the originator of our party, was the arch traitor Papineau. He began by adopting the course which has always been pursued by our party—that of agitating and deceiving the people. His first object was to make the people believe that they were oppressed—that many and great abuses existed in the Provincial Government—and that he, as a disinterested, an incorruptible patriot, was ready to devote his best energies to their cause. With the French Canadians (who had a large majority in Lower Canada) he immediately became popular, and was made Speaker of the House of Assembly. The members of the House, being principally French, were entirely at his command, and upon this battery he erected his guns, and brought them to bear upon the local government. Some few abuses (as in all human governments) very probably did exist, but these were soon redressed. Far from being satisfied, however, M. Papineau only increased his demands; for *his object was independence*. He wrote letters to the Speakers of the Houses of Assembly of Nova-Scotia and New-Brunswick desiring their co-operation, and our leader in this Province, with many others, openly espoused his cause. In Upper Canada he had a powerful party in his favour, at the head of which was the infamous traitor, M'Kenzie, between whom and M. Papineau the closest union existed. Finding, at length, that the British Government understood their object, and would not concede to them Responsible Government, because it would, in fact, be a concession of independence; and supposing that, with the aid of foreigners, they had some chance of success, rather than abandon their object of self government altogether, they precipitated themselves into open rebellion. I need not detail to you the horrors, the desolation, the innumerable evils which the *patriotism* of M. Papineau bro't upon the Canadas: it will be more to my purpose to take up the history of our party in the lower provinces. We were, of course, obliged to admit that M. Papineau and his *friends* "had gone too far," and our arch leader wrote a series of Letters to the Colonial Secretary, in which the demands of our party were moderated to the management of our own *local* affairs only, and much sophistry was used to persuade the ignorant that our demands ought to be conceded. I say, *to persuade the ignorant*; for although these letters were *addressed* to Lord John Russell, yet *that* was only for effect—they were written to deceive and persuade the uneducated people of the provinces, and were printed and circulated accordingly. The writer knew very well that they could produce no effect upon the master mind of Lord John Russell, who had himself written a work upon the British Constitution; but they were *addressed* to him merely *ad captandum vulgus*. These letters, however, have been the text book of our party ever since; and I beg to refer you to them for the manner in which we give to falsehood the appearance of truth, and to absurdity the appearance of reason.

Now, before I close this letter, I will just explain to you how we ward off the blow which the Canadian rebellion was calculated to inflict upon our party. We assert, that if the just and reasonable demands of M. Papineau and his friends had been granted, there would have been no rebellion at all—that if ever man were "goaded into rebellion, they were by the British party—and we allege against *the old system*, that it has already produced one rebellion, which *the responsible system* never would. In this way we endeavoured to conceal the obvious fact, that the *object* of M. Papineau and his friends was *independence*, disguised indeed under the false pretence of asking for British Institutions; and that when their demand of independence was rejected, they determined to seize "the blessings of responsible government" by force. We, of course, know as well as our loyal opponents, that the moment Great Britain concedes responsible government, that is, *local-self-government*, we are as completely "free and independent," as if we were under the "stars and stripes;" for the several states of the Union have no more than *local self-government*, all other matters being regulated by the *federal* government—and every one admits, that if responsible government be once conceded, the concession can never be recalled.

The Colonists might otherwise be inclined to be loyal, yet, being without character or influence, the members of our party have no alternative but to make themselves important by agitating and deceiving the people. How this is to be done I will explain to you in my next letter.

Your's, &c.

THE RADICAL.

Provincial Legislature.

[From the Provincial Reporter.]

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.—MARCH 3.

The Order of the Day being the supply for ordinary services.—Mr. Wilmot rose to address the house the propriety of moving the *Standing Order*, which was not sustained. Mr. Wilmot said he was not prepared to vote upon the Light house supplies; he had not seen any Report of the Light house Committee, he therefore did not know at all about voting on that question. They should look before they leap; he could not vote on what he did not understand.

Mr. Partelow said the Light houses must be provided for, as well as the Parish schools, and whether the house voted the Supplies or not, his Excellency was authorized bylaw to draw the amount for them.

Mr. Boyd said are they ordinary or extraordinary supplies, that was the question.

Mr. Partelow said they must have the accounts before the house.

Mr. Hannington said Light houses pay their own expences, and must be provided for.

Mr. Wilmot would oppose the Grants for Light houses until he saw what was necessary. If a revenue was collected from Light houses, that house had the expending of it, as they pleased; and it was their duty to see it properly laid out.

Mr. Payne said it was agreed to that a reduction of 30 per cent, should take place in these establishments.

The house then went into a Committee of the whole on Supplies for Ordinary services, (Mr. Botsford in the Chair,) when the following appropriations were made for the Chaplain of the Legislative Council 20*l.*—for the Chaplain of the Assembly 20*l.* —for the Sergeant at Arms of the Legislative council 15s. per day.—for the Clerk of the Legislative Council, 150*l.* for the session.—for the Clerk of the Assembly, 150*l.* for the session. The setting of this amount caused a great deal of discussion, and was by hon. members set at 200*l.* 150*l.* and 100*l.*, it was finally settled at 200*l.*—for the Assistant Clerk of the Legislative Council, 75*l.*—for the Assistant Clerk of the Assembly, 100*l.*—for the Principal Doorkeepers of both houses 10s. per day—for Messengers and Door keepers, 7s. 6d. per day—for Beverley Robinson Esq., Treasurer, for his services for 1842. Mr. Williston proposed 600*l.*

Mr. Wilmot proposed 750*l.*, alleging as a reason that he had already drawn his salary, and as he had not been notified that he would be reduced it should remain as usual.

Mr. End thought 600*l.*, but the house must be honest; he had not been notified that his salary would be cut down; he would therefore pay him his usual salary for this year.

Mr. Gilbert said if every public officer paid himself out of money passing through his hands there never would be a reduction of salaries. If the house was in earnest in making a retrenchment they should carry out the principle.

Mr. Brown said for once he could go with his hon. friend from Queen's, 600*l.* was the sum agreed on for that officer, yet some how or other he had contrived to get 150*l.* more, there was always a discussion about it; he had no right to expect it, let him live on less; he (Mr. B.) could live on half that sum; he could not imagine what he could do with so much money, his regular salary of 600*l.* should come under the rule, and be cut down 25 per cent.

Mr. Boyd thought so too.

Mr. Partelow would go for the 600*l.*

Mr. Scoullar was surprised to hear that he took his salary before hand; he thought that quite an unwarrantable thing: he would however go for 600*l.* since it was motioned, yet he thought it too much for the office.

Mr. Hazen at first thought with Mr. End, that it would be unjust to cut his salary without giving him notice, but the hon. member from Charlotte (Brown) had convinced him that he (the Treasurer) should be subject to the reduction; he had a right to expect to share the same fate as others.

Mr. Hill said he should be reduced, 500*l.* was quite sufficient; he should be made to refund the difference.

Mr. Hazen would oppose it altogether, as other departments would likewise follow the same principle. Light house keepers if they had cash at their command, instead of oil, they also might help themselves to their salaries in advance; the principle was a bad one.

Mr. Gilbert said the poor Schoolmaster had to wait a year for his warrent, while this man helps himself. His hand should be restrained from that sheat. The country was reduced, and this man must have his salary cut as well as all others.

Mr. Scoullar said the Treasurer had his salary, because of the increase of his duty; he would not object to his being cut down now, because the duty was decreased.

The blank was then filled up with 600*l.*

SATURDAY, March 4.

Mr. Brown moved that the vote for the pay of the Clerk of the Legislative Council and the Clerk of the house of Assembly be reconsidered, also the Assistant Clerk's of both houses. Mr. Brown explained his motive for this departure from the decision of yesterday, he said that the officers of both houses were occupied the same length of time, and that although it was acknowledged on all hands, that the Clerks of the Assembly did more duty during the sitting, yet it would look like making an invidious distinction, which would not be liked by the Council, and would probably bring the two bodies into collision, he therefore in order to keep alive the good feeling that had happily existed throughout the session, hoped the house would re-consider those Grants and put them on the same footing.

(This motion aroused the ire of Messrs. Wilmot and Fisher, who both remarked upon it, in strong language.) The former gentleman said, that was the old system over again, resolve to-day and re-resolve again to-morrow. It reminded him, (he said) of the pendulum of a clock, vibrating from side to side, it was a system he did not like, and had hoped to have seen something like stability about the house he for one should oppose the motion.

Messrs. End, Williston, and Hannington, spoke in reply, the former gentleman said yes, he was not ashamed at any time to right a wrong, to undo today what he had done yesterday, the acts of that house were not the laws of the Medes and Persians, they were not irrevocable, and as to the comparison of the hon. member for York, of likening the house to the pendulum of a clock, it was an apt illustration a well timed simile, and he hoped that house would always act as the pendulum of the whole machinery of the Legislature, to regulate it by its motion, to keep it in proper tune and time. He was not afraid of the Council when it became necessary to take a stand, but he was afraid of giving them cause wrongfully, to quarrel with the popular branch; he was pleased to find that harmony did exist between the two houses, and thought it was wisdom in either branch rather to give up a minor point, than create a breach, which might not be easily healed again.

The re-consideration of the four votes were then put and carried, the Clerk's of both houses being put on the same footing, 150*l.* each for the Session, and the Assistant Clerk's 75*l.* each. The house then went into a Committee of the Whole, on the Timber Duty Bill, (Mr. Partelow in the Chair.)

Mr. Williston named a person in his neighbourhood, who had a licence for 176 square miles, for the getting of 1000 tons of timber, this he said, was a monopoly that should be guarded against in a Bill, as it was locking up the country from other persons with smaller means who wished to lumber.

Mr. Wark could not agree with what had fallen from the last speaker, as the bane and antidote were involved in the same question, for if he kept the land locked up as described by the hon. member, the timber would cost him 3*d.* a ton yearly, that would be a Revenue to the country, and a sufficient guard against monopoly.

Mr. Stewart said that it had been suggested to lay out the land in small blocks, that would make no odds, as a person wishing to do so could take as many blocks in other names.

Mr. Scoullar thought it best left to the discretion of the Surveyor General, the land in some places had been worked over and over, and the Land Office had the best information on the subject, and were the only judges how to regulate the quantity.

Mr. Taylor thought so also, there was sufficient confidence in the Land Office, and General Government to vest it with that power.

Mr. Gilbert said the lumberers must be restricted a Revenue must be raised; or a direct land tax would be necessary to meet the Civil List, The Casual Revenue was not indebted £10,000

Mr. Brown said there were two sides to the question, both of which required consideration; the first was to prevent as far as possible any thing like monopoly, and the other was so to protect the lumberer, that after his having worked a season on his licence, if he can make a second years work he should be entitled to a preference, because he had been at the expence of making roads, and otherwise preparing the plan for the operations of lumbering. He thought the Bill would prevent monopoly, by the lumberer paying ten per cent per annum, for each year; he also thought it best that the quantity of timber to be taken off would be defined.

Mr. Williston said the system would be bad unless it did define the quantity of timber to be cut off in one square mile, and also compel the parties to cut and pay for the quantity every year. The poor lumberer should be put on the same footing as the man who has it in his power to purchase up large tracts of land. Otherwise it would produce a middle man system; the great capitalist would monopolize, and then re-let to the small capitalist.

Mr. Scoullar said no timber berth should exceed four square miles and make it imperative that each lot should be worked upon every year.

His honor the Speaker said the Bill must be completed by the house, as the Council could not amend it. It was a Revenue Bill, they therefore could not touch it without committing an infringement of the rights and privileges of that house; he thought it best to split the Bill in two.

Mr. Boyd moved the bill be postponed for three months, on which the house divided. An hon. member asked how would the duty be received, as a part of the Casual Revenue, or as a Provincial duty.

Mr. Wilmot said as a Casual Revenue.

Hon. Speaker was doubtful if the Province could tax timber shipped to the United States in American bottoms.

Mr. Barbarie said the house should not question that, leave it to the home government to forbid us.

(This question appeared rather to puzzle the house, and a variety of opinions were given as to the authority of the Province on the question.—Progress was then reported.)

The house then went into a Committee of the whole on a Bill to incorporate the Aroostook Company which was agreed too.

MONDAY, March 6.

For J. Abrahams tide waiter, St. John, £91 5s —For the tide waiter, Miramichi, £60.—To His Excellency for bounties for the destruction of Wolves and Bears, 300*l.*—For the Grammar School, this blank was not filled up, as Mr. Wilmot said there had been no returns made to the house relative thereto, and as he had a scheme in contemplation to combine the Grammer and Parish schools, it would be as well to stand over.

Mr. End thought the Grammar Schools as now constructed were of little or no use, it only served to furnish 100*l.* a year to young gentlemen for a year or two between the time of leaving College and taking orders; he was very suspicious of these grants ever being of any use to the country, unless the arrangement was improved.

Mr. Fisher coincided with what had fallen from the last speaker; he thought the whole system both of Parish and Grammer schools required new modeling.

Mr. Partelow said the house might as well pass the grants, as his Excellency was authorised by law to draw the several amounts; the grants were then passed as follows: for Westmorland 100*l.*—St John 150*l.*—King's 100*l.*—Queen's 100*l.*—Charlotte 100*l.* —Sunbury 100*l.*—Northumberland 100*l.*—Gloucester 100*l.*—Kent 100*l.* Carleton 100*l.*—Restigouche 100*l.*—York 100*l.*—Biggs and Turner the stage drivers for the two Legislative Bodies 20s. each per day during the session. The Librarian for the two Houses 60*l.* per annum. The Lunatic Asylum 500*l.* for 1842.—Here the supplies closed for the present. Progress was then reported and leave asked to sit again.

A Bill was then commited to the whole house for assessing the inhabitants of the City of St. John, for contingencies, at the discretion of the Magistrates.

Mr. End would not consent that they should be vested with any such power, as to assess year after year to meet whatever debt they might please to incur: he did not think it constitutional to pass such an act. The County of Charlotte applied for a similar Act, but the people petitioned against it. No set of Magistrates should have a perpetual Act in their favour, there would in that case be no check upon their expenditure; the Bill was in itself a novelty.

Mr. Payne did not think there was anything novel in the Bill; the County was indebted, and the Magistrates must meet their creditors. (Here the hon. member went into detail of the accounts.) The credit of the County was at stake and unless they were permitted to assess for the debt the business of the County could not go on. Money must be had to carry on the public business, and he saw no occasion for limiting the magistrates in their assessment.

Mr. Barns said if that however was given, it would be giving power to men to tax the inhabitants, who could not themselves pay 5*s.* If there had been any economy observed in public matters in the County, there would be a large surplus on hand instead of their being in debt. If it had been generally known in St. John that such a Bill was to be brought in, Petitions would have been sent in against it.

Mr. Partelow said a Bill of the kind must pass, the County debt must be paid; the Bill had been read in Session, and there was no Petitions against it. He hoped the Bill would pass, altho' he did not wish it to be perpetual.

Mr. Hazen said the debt must be paid, there were many ordinary services which could not be dispensed with, such as the Jailor's salary, the Coroner's fees, and the Sheriff's allowance, these were all indispensible; he was as much as any one could be opposed to taxing the inhabitants, yet from the absolute necessity of the case, he would go for the Bill for one year only.

Mr. Boyd asked how much of the last two years taxes were yet unpaid.

Mr. Partelow said a very large portion of them, the people could not pay them.

Mr. Hazen said there were hundreds of persons in arrears of taxes, it did not arise from any disposition of the people not to pay, they did pay, and pay cheerfully too, until absolute distress put it out of their power to do so any longer.

Mr. Williston would not consent to give them a perpetual power, but only to assess for what was due, let them reduce the salaries of public officers, that would be the legitimate way to get out of debt.

Mr. Simonds would oppose the Bill, he thought the affairs of the country very badly managed; the people were not able to pay their last year's taxes, what then was the use of taxing them more. He should like to be told how the debt had so increased; he thought something very wrong must be the matter: the greater amount they were allowed to tax for the more extravagant they would be, and the more they would tramp up accounts. A large Revenue was always injurious to any country.

Mr. Payne said the County expences were great; and there was not a shilling of Revenue but from the Licences.

Mr. Scoullar said the people of St. John were willing to be to be taxed, as was evident from their not petitioning against it; he should therefore go for the Bill.

Mr. Hazen said if a Petition had been got up in St. John it would have been numerously signed; there was in the City a very great jealousy and suspicion existing, as to the way in which public matters were conducted; the *ordinary services* which were known to everybody, and indispensible to the well being of society, and must be met.

Mr. Williston said there was no document before the house to show how the debt stood, or how it was contracted. He did not know whether the accounts were made up by the Sessions, or by the Jailor; he thought the house should pause, the Clerk of the Peace should have certified that the Accounts were correct. It was highly discreditable to the County of St. John, that their Magistrates were on the lands no one knew how things stood, he was surprised that the Magistrates of the County of St John kept their accounts, in so slovenly, and disreputable a manner.

Mr. Jordan said no county in the Province had its accounts so well audited as the County of St. John. It was the distress and failures which the country had so recently experienced, that caused the present deficiency; he was sorry the hon. member for Northumberland, should cast such a reflection on the Magistrates of St. John, he (Mr Jordan) would not pay any thing like contingencies, if the Bill for one year, he would wish it to be collected in several assessments, so as to come as light as possible on the inhabitants.

Mr. Burns said it was truly disgraceful that people on the limits should be magistrates and allowed to assess the inhabitants, and not able to pay any thing themselves. He would prevent the Executive, by removing such men from office, would take away the reproach from the City and County.—The Bill then passed for an Assessment of £750.

Mr. Jordan then moved his resolution relative to small debts under 20*l.* being sued in the Supreme Court on the amount side, he said he expected to have received the information asked for relative to the expence of collecting those debts from the Clerk of the Peace in three or four days, but they had not yet arrived.

Mr. Hill brought in a bill to repeal all laws relating to Grammar Schools.

THE CHRONICLE.

SAINT JOHN, MARCH 17, 1843.

At the latest accounts from New-York the Great Western had not arrived, and it is probable she did not leave England at the time appointed. The mail steamer is now out thirteen days, and we trust that on Friday next we shall be able to present our readers with a view of brighter prospects in the commercial world.

A variety of Legislative matter will be found in this day's impression. Our journals of the Assembly, in consequence of a disagreement with that body and the Post office department, have not regularly come to hand during the Session.

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.—The health of the Governor General it the last dates, is stated to be not so favourable as for the few days previous. It is expected however that he will be able to proceed to England on the arrival of his successor, Sir Charles Metcalf.

At the Annual Meeting of the Stockholders and Members of the NEW-BRUNSWICK FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, held on Monday the 6th instant, the following Gentlemen were elected Directors of that Institution:—John Boyd, R. F. Hazen, John Hammond, R. M. Jarvis, William Jarvis, A. S. Perkins, G. T. Ray, Mark Dole, Robert Keltie, D. J. McLaughlin, John Kerr, Barnabas Tilton, Charles Adams.—And subsequently, at a meeting of the Directors, John Boyd, Esquire, was re-appointed President of the same.

ICE.—We observe that ice in large quantities is being exported from the Northern States in the Union to New Orleans, Savannah, &c.—Cannot we help to supply them? we have an inexhaustible mine, and certainly can furnish it as cheap as our neighbors.

DOMESTIC MANUFACTURED CLOTH.—Our attention has been called to samples of Cloth manufactured at Kingston, by Mr. Seymour Pickett, in machinery recently imported by him for that purpose. The quality of the material is quite superior to that which is so generally used for gents. wear at the present time; and when a sufficient supply shall have been furnished in the market, we have no doubt will supercede in a great measure the imported articles. The house of Assembly in Nova Scotia have made a liberal grant towards a similar establishment, and as cloths are a heavy article of import, it would be a judicious measure for our Legislature to furnish similar aid in encouragement of its manufacture in this Province.

VESSELS LOST.—It now appears that in the gale in the Gulf of Mexico, in September last, three vessels of war were lost, as they were in the Gulf at the time and have not since been heard from. They were the English brig of war Victor, the French brig of war Dunois, and the Texan schooner of war San Antonio. Nearly or quite three hundred men perished with these vessels. The Dunois was from Havana for France, and the Victor from Vera Cruz for the West Indies, and the San Antonio from Galveston to New Orleans.

RIGHT OF VISIT. [SEARCH.]—It appears by papers recently received from the United States that the great stir made in Congress respecting the opinions and stand sir Robert Peel has taken on this question, by some of its members breathing war, has not been backed out by the leading papers of the Union, who rather respond to his [sir R. Peel's] opinions: being satisfied that it would be impossible to carry out that humane cause, the suppression and abolition of the slave trade, without adopting those principles. This is a cause in which England has been the chief actor, in fact she has done every thing that has been done in the suppression of that unholy traffic, and she would be doing herself and the civilized world a manifest injustice were she now to relinquish the smallest point in the stand she has taken for this noble purpose.

The President, in a message to Congress says—sooner than any foreign government shall exercise the power of executing its laws, he doubts not but the government of the United States, instead of furnishing eighty guns, as agreed upon, would put the whole naval power in requisition for the suppression of the slave trade by their vessels. Judging from this, it would appear that the American Government are about turning from the error of their ways on that point, and acceding to the wishes of England—assisting thereby in the cause of humanity.—This may be the omen of better things in that boasted land of liberty; and should she agree to the right of visit, and some other points of which there is moral necessity, and of which we shall speak in some future number, she might use the words "land of liberty" with more propriety.

WILLIAM H. STREET, Esquire, took his seat in the House of Assembly on Friday last, as a member for this city; Mr. Burns having declined entering into the scrutiny.

CHARITY BALL.—It will be seen by advertisement that the *Highland Society* of this city intend celebrating the first Anniversary on Tuesday evening the 21st instant, by giving a Charity Ball at the St. John Hotel.

The Oil contract for supplying the Light Houses of the United States, including 38,000 gallons of spring, and 19,450 gallons of winter pressed sperm, has been taken by Hewins & Fisher, of Boston, and Dr. D. Fisher, of Edgartown, at *fifty eight cents* per gallon for winter, and *fifty one cents* per gallon for spring oil.

A fire occurred at Cincinnati on the 26th ult., in a Smoke house at the corner of Walnut and Canal streets, which extended to the packing pork house adjoining, which was a spacious and substantial building. The house becoming filled with inflammable gas, smoke, &c. from the smoke house, by an instant blew up as if filled with powder, making an awfully terrific scene and fatal consequences: it is thought that from eight to twelve persons were immediately killed, and about twenty wounded, some of them dangerously.

RIOTS IN CANADA.—Another disgraceful riot has recently taken place on the Lachine Canal, between two bodies of the Irish Labourers at work there, distinguishing themselves as Corkonians and Connaught men. The fight was furious; the former having proceeded to pull down and burn the shanties of the latter, led to retaliation. Fire arms were used, and two of the parties severely wounded by their use. The military were at length called upon, with decisive orders, and the riot put a stop to. The houses of the rioters were searched and all fire arms and offensive weapons removed from the custody of the occupants. These brutal scenes were followed up on a subsequent day by the laborers, and many of them dangerously hurt; on this occasion some of the ringleaders were secured and were tried for the offence. To such a length are these disorders carried, that it is dangerous for travellers to pass in the vicinity of Lachine after sundown. Several minor attempts have subsequently been made to create riots, which were as promptly suppressed, and a sleigh with nine muskets in going towards Lachine was taken possession of by the police, and the men placed in gaol.

St. John Debating Society.—Subject for discussion on Wednesday evening—Monarchial and Republican Governments.

HISTRIONIC SOCIETY.—Last Night the Comedy of Merchant of Venice, was performed before a full and fashionable audience; the characters throughout were well sustained, and gave great satisfaction.

FREDERICTON, March 14.

On Saturday the House resolved itself into a Committee on the Bill authorising the granting of Land by Instalment. A proviso was introduced by Mr. Payne, created considerable discussion, which had for its object to expend part of the purchase money on making roads to new settlements. This was opposed because it was introducing too much machinery into the Bill, and giving the Executive the appropriation of a large portion of the revenue, which may be raised from the sale of land, without the intervention of the House; and which in all probability would not be faithfully expended. And as there seemed to be no disposition to part with the right of appropriating the Bye-road money as usual, the proviso was withdrawn, having been ably supported by Messrs. Payne and Hazen.

Yesterday morning the Bill for regulating the duty on the cutting of Timber, by collecting it at the shipping port, was recommitted; when a motion was made by Mr. Hill to strike out the Proviso, exempting from duty timber cut on the American territory, and shipped to American ports. He grounded his motion upon the circumstance, that the Bill as originally brought in, did not exempt American property from duty, although it was intended it should extend to private property. Mr. Boyd said several members of the House including himself, were absent on Committee, when the proviso was passed, and as he was opposed to the principle of the Bill, he should oppose the proviso; and he read a letter from one of his constituents, expressing much alarm at the probable passing of the Bill. Mr. S. Earle was opposed to the Bill, because it authorised the levying a duty on timber cut on private property; and Mr. GILBERT was desirous of having the duty increased upon the better description of timber, which he would raise to two shillings; otherwise he said, the effect would be to grant a boon to monopolists.

The Hon. Mr. Simonds was of opinion, that American Timber after arriving on the St. John, must be treated as British Timber. The question of allowing timber to pass free of duty to American ports, he said had been referred to him by Lord Ashburton, and he had replied to his Lordship while at Washington. He was in favour of letting the timber pass free of duty during the present year, in the hope that the Americans would reciprocate, and allow it to be carried by British vessels also duty free.

It having been stated by Mr. Hill, that the proposed alteration would not produce £1200; the Hon. Speaker stated the saving to the Province would be at least £12,000. Not one-fifth of the timber he said, is cut upon private property; and at present it takes £6000 to collect £9000. Col. Allen was opposed to the Bill, because it interfered with private rights; a great number of individuals, cutting logs on their own lands. If there were a discriminating duty however, he was disposed to agree to the Bill, although after the manner in which the American interests had been preferred; he did not expect any Bill would become a law, which went to impose a duty on American timber.—Messrs. Wilmot and Fisher were in favor of the Bill passing, as it had been reported. The proviso was however struck off by a majority of one; but was afterwards reconsidered, and the Bill ultimately passed.

The House then went into a Committee of Ways and Means, when it appeared that the amount required to meet the usual appropriations is £73,000. There has been an immense falling off in the amount of revenue collected during the last year on spirits, not one-fourth the quantity consumed according to the best information paying duty. The much cheaper rate at which articles may be purchased in the United States; tea and other necessaries, being procured cheaper at Fish River on the upper part of the St. John, than at the City of that name, at its mouth in the Bay of Fundy; operates as a farther draw-back. Considerable discussion took place on the subject of laying a duty on agricultural produce imported from Nova Scotia; and a Committee was appointed to bring in a Bill to impose such duties as the Province can bear; consisting of Messrs. Partelow, Street, Wilmot, and Boyd.

The Loan Bill was then taken up, and after some discussion the first section agree