the points made, and claimed that the resolution of Mr. Covert ought to be carried.

On motion of the Hon. Attorney General the debate was adjourned until to-morrow, at half past two p. m.

SATURDAY, March 23.

After Routine

MR. MARSHALL recommitted a Bill relating to Rates and Taxes in St. John, Mr. O'Leary in the chair. He referred to the former debate on the subject, and said that after further consideration of the matter and hearing the gentlemen representing the Common Council, the necessity for an extra appropriation of $20.000 to pay off laborers and masons, for horses, asphalt sidewalks, broken stone, etc. was apparent. He thought "sufficient to the day was the evil thereof," and would, therefore, move to strike out the sections of the Bill which made the increase perpetual and ask it for only the present year.

MR. WILLIS referred to the statute allowing an assessment of $60,000, and said the Council had for these services some $15,000 extra. The gentlemen wanted $5,000 for cutting down Union street and he asked why, when the special Debenture Bill was presented, did they not add that amount to the sum provided for under that measure. It would have spread the repayment over a number of years and relived the over burdened taxpayers to some extent. The members for the City and County had not yet talked the matter over since the Bill was last in committee and in the information which had been laid before him in the interim, the charge proposed was not alluded to.

MR. MARSHALL said he was as much opposed to piling up taxation as Mr. Willis, but the piling up of Debenture liabilities had gone far enough. If the people felt they would have to meet the cost of the work of restoration of their streets, etc., instead of piling up liabilities for posterity to pay, they would exercise a more wholesome control on the members of the Common Council, who were simply their proxies in the matter.

MR. ELDER said while he regretted the necessity for increasing the taxation, yet this amount was needed for the work—urgently required—and that was unavoidable. He had met with the Alderman for Wellington, and the Councillor for Kings, and gone over the items for which the money was required, and had reluctantly satisfied himself of the unavoidable necessity for the work to be done in the interest of the City. He hoped some means would be devised by which the expenditure would not require to be so great in years to come.

Agreed to.

MONCTON NON-RESIDENT TAX PAYERS.

HON. MR. MCQUEEN committed a Bill to amend the Moncton Incorporation Act in reference to the collection of Taxes, Mr. McKenzie in the chair. Mr. McQueen said the measure was intended to enable the town of Moncton to collect Taxes on property the more readily, safely and securely. Owing to the ownership of property in the town by a number of non-residents, it was difficult to collect Taxes thereon. One section provided for a rebate of a certain percentage for prompt payment of assessment; another section provided for a notice to delinquent Rate-payers of sixty days before the issue of Warrants and thirty days before sale. He said this gave four months' notice.

MR. RYAN (Albert) said he thought Moncton had same facilities for collecting taxes now as were enjoyed by the other towns. It seemed the Town authorities would be disposed to take advantage of non-residents and mulct them in costs. The notice was entirely too short.

HON. MR. MCQUEEN said there was no disposition on the part of the Town authorities to do anything of the kind. The property liable to pay taxes ought not to be allowed to go free because its non-resident owners might choose to neglect the duty of paying their assessments.

MR. HUMPHREY explained the difficulties of coming at non-residents, whose place of residence was not known to the authorities. The alteration from the existing law was to publish a notice for 60 days to the non-paying non-residents, instead of sending them written notices. The Bill was to guard the property of those who properly paid their taxes from additional burdens, on account of those who did not.

HON. PROVINCIAL SECRETARY thought the final notice should be given in the *Royal Gazette*, as provided in the General Assessment Act.

MR. JONES showed that the General Assessment Act provided for publication in the *Gazette* only when there was no local paper; and the Secretary said he had been under a wrong impression in the matter, because he supposed it, seeing so many of these notices in the *Gazette*.

MR. HUMPHREY read sections of the Bill affecting non-resident rate-payers and argued that they would be put in no worse position under the Bill than now.

HON. PROVINCIAL SECRETARY said he thought the provisions of the Bill were too summary as applied to non-residents. The notice should be for a longer term.

MR. JONES was of opinion that at least sixty days' notice should be given before the sale after the issue of the Warrant.

MR. RYAN (Albert) said the notice in a local paper was not sufficient for a non-resident who might live in New York or other place abroad, and would never see it. The *Gazette* would be far preferable.

MR. ROGERS argued that the final notice should be in the *Gazette*, which non-residents could more readily see than purely local papers.

MR. WILLIS was of opinion that it was not necessary to put such notices in the *Royal Gazette*.

MR. JOHNSON said that if a non-resident owner of property was so careless as not to attend any better to his interests than to allow his property to be sold for taxes he deserved to lose it.

DR. DOW said that was precisely his view of the matter.

The Bill was agreed to.

MR. BURNS presented the petition of John E. O'Brien, Samuel Malencon, D. G. McLaughlan, John Seivewright, R. A. Lawlor, and others, praying for the passage of the Bathurst Alms House Bill and said the Bill was read a second time.

MR. PHILLIPS introduced a Bill to authorize Geo. Moffatt to erect a boom in the River Restigouche.

SETTLEMENT OF THE POOR.

MR. JONES committed a Bill to amend the act relating to the Settlement of the Poor, Mr. Parker in the chair. Mr. Jones referred to the amendment of the Legislative Council in the Bill, which he thought a proper one. It provided that any person bringing a pauper into a Parish, having no settlement there, should be liable to a fine.

The amendment was agreed to.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE, YORK.

MR. BARKER committed a Bill for the administration of justice in the County of York, Mr. Butler in the chair. He explained the object of the Bill, which was to make a readjustment of the assessment of cost of the administration of justice, between the County of York and the City of Fredericton. He argued in support of the Bill, and read a statement to the House showing the increase during the past few years, in the valuation of the County, although, he said, real estate had gone down since 1872.

MR. PICKARD asked if the mover of the Bill had a comparative statement of the number of electors in the County.

MR. BARKER said he had not, but might obtain one.

MR. WILLIS opposed the Bill, and said he had been informed that the City had frequently sought from the County Council a statement of valuation, such as had just been submitted, without result, and why had it been withheld? The City and County had agreed to bear certain proportions of the assessment, and now it was desired, in the face of an election coming on in the Province, an election in which the County influence and vote would override the city vote, to attempt to introduce this measure, and so override the influence likely to be exercised by the City. From information he had gathered, he thought they should consider the Bill with caution. The Committee had had this Bill under consideration, but if they had gone deeper into it, perhaps they would have arrived at a different conclusion. He argued that the criminal element left the County and went to the City, and it was not fair to tax the City more than was right. It was urged that the fines received from the administration of justice were sufficient to indemnify the City, but that was not so. He referred to the Act of 1858, settling the proportions on the basis of Population, and said if it was desired now to arrange it on the basis of property, the County valuations could not be taken as reliable. He said there was a disposition on the part of the County to make the burdens fall on itself as lightly as possible, and he regarded the system of valuation as an imperfect one as giving a basis for a readjustment of the proportions to be borne by the County and City. To show that the County were suppliers of crime, he referred to the recent depredations committed in Fredericton, the whole expense of which would have to be borne by the city.

MR. BARKER said he never saw the hon. member so far astray. The County Council had made every effort to settle these things with the City.

MR. WILLIS said he was differently informed.

MR. BARKER said the County Council had appointed a committee to meet a committee of the City.

MR. MURCHIE rose to give information in regard to seeking information from the Secretary-Treasurer of York. Within the past few years he had had business with him, and had asked for information as to valuation in different Parishes, and had never had any trouble whatever in getting that information. He thought that the argument of the hon. member—that the City had not been able to obtain information—would not be borne out by the facts.

MR. MARSHALL said that, as a member of the Committee, he would make a few remarks in answer to his hon. friend from St. John. He agreed with him that the matter should be fully considered. The hon. gentleman said the City had not had an opportunity of discussing this matter with the City Council. He could say that the matter had been exhaustively considered by the Committee, and if there was any advantage at all, it was on the side of the City, who were represented by able lawyers. The hon. gentleman had said the approaching election brought this up, but the election did not influence him in recommending the Bill. The Police receipts, too, had been taken into consideration by them. He referred to the Act of 1858, and to the different valuations of City and County property, and explained the views the Committee had come to, and concluded by saying the bill was a righteous bill and ought to pass.

HON. PROVINCIAL SECRETARY said when the hon. member for St. John (Mr. Willis) undertook to address the committee he expected he would have been prepared with some facts and statements that had some foundation in fact, but instead he said the Bill was introduced for electioneering purposes.

MR. WILLIS said that was not what he said.

HON. PROVINCIAL SECRETARY — That was the inference he wished the House to draw, but as one of the members for York, he would like to hear the hon. gentleman explain. In the last session there was a similar Bill introduced and he opposed it because he thought the arrangement should not be opened up until the parties had consulted together. He referred to the meeting and proceedings of a Committee of the House with Committees from the County and City Councils, and said the whole subject was exhaustively examined. The Sect'y.-Treasurer of the County had assured him that no information required by the City Council had been withheld from it. The Committee laid down a proposition that Property, rather than Population, was a true basis of taxation. If any gentleman was prepared to dispute that it was a fair point for argument, but there was no argument in Mr. Willis' statement that there was something behind the Bill. If that gentleman knew of anything he ought to state it, so that it could be met. The City assessment was found by the Committee to be $3,217,162 and the County assessment $3,888,691. It was claimed for the City that its assessable value was fixed at too high a figure relatively with that of the County, but as shown by Mr. Marshall those figures would make the relative per centages 45 for the City, and 55 for the County; but it was claimed that no account should be taken of income valuation in the City, and that being thrown off, it left the County as before, and reduced the City valuation of $2,500,000. On that reduced valuation the true per centage, as shown by Mr. Marshall, was 39⅓ for the City, and 60⅔ for the County; but the bill only asked that the City should pay, not, 39⅓, but 37½ while the County would pay 62½. If the valuation were estimated on these per centages, that of the City would be $2,500,000 while that of the County would be $4,166,665. That, he thought, was raising the County valuation pretty high. If the Bill had been introduced before 1871, when the valuation of the County was unsatisfactory, owing to the disposition of Parish Assessors to keep down values as much as possible, in order to lighten the relative assessment for County purposes, he would have opposed it, but under the Assessment Law the Valuators had corrected matters in that respect. The valuation of the County in 1869 was $2,406,000; in 1872 it was raised to $2,517,000; while at the present time it was $3,888,000. He was sure the valuation had been carefully made, and there was no evidence that it was not equitable. The Bill did not oblige the City to pay for the expense of the proceedings to summary convictions in the County, but it was only to the general administration of justice in the City and County that the percentages applied. The City, as claimed by Mr. Willis, paid the expenses of the Fredericton Police Court, but it must be remembered that it received the fines imposed therein. Referring to the claim that the County Council had not placed the matter before the City Council, he read a resolution of the latter body declining to join with the County Council in seeking legislation on this subject. This, certainly, looked as if the County Council had not sprung the matter suddenly upon the City as in fact they had not done. He referred to other points in connection with the matter, and said the Bill ought, on these grounds, to pass.

HON. ATTORNEY GENERAL argued in favor of the Bill, and thought that the people of the City should be perfectly satisfied. A few amendments were made, and the Bill was agreed to.

HON. SURVEYOR GENERAL laid on the table papers relating to Stumpage in Northern Counties; also returns of Lumber seizures in Albert.

HON. PROVINCIAL SECRETARY handed in the Returns of the People's and St. Stephen's Banks, South Bay Boom Company, also returns in connexion with Marriage Licenses, etc.

MR. COVERT suggested that the debate on supply be allowed to stand over until Monday.

HON. CHIEF COMMISSIONER opposed and Mr. Burns supported Mr. Covert.

MR. RYAN (Albert) thought supply should go on.

HON. ATTORNEY GENERAL thought that supply should go on.

Recess.

AFTER RECESS.

The Order of the Day being read—

HON. ATTORNEY GENERAL said he did not think that the Government had any reason to complain of the way in which this motion had been brought forward, or of the way in which it has been supported beyond the use of some expressions that probably arose during the excitement of debate, and some imputation of motives and unworthy conduct which he would hope were not really intended by the persons who made them. To these he might have occasion to refer, but as regarded the general course of the debate he did not think the Government had any reason to find fault.

He did not think they have any reason to feel ashamed of the position in which they stood when, at the close of eight years' service of the country, this was all that could be brought up against them.

In this amendment there were certain things which were tolerably harmless in themselves, and it would not hurt the Government much to admit them. There were certain other statements that were entirely innocent of any meaning so far as regarded their prejudicial effect upon the conduct of affairs by the Government, and which also might be admitted as a matter of fact, but it was not the mere statement of facts that were contained in the amendment which give it meaning. It was the conclusion which it was said ought to be drawn from the statement. It was said that the Government have not gone on with the carrying to the Supreme Court of Canada the Appeal from the decision of the Court of this Province, in reference to testing the constitutionality of the Liquor Acts. That was admitted. The Government were the parties who had to act and determine whether it was desirable, under all the circumstances, to incur expense in a course which would not be at all advanced by the incurring of that expense, and if they had come to a conclusion on that matter which other gentlemen might think they would not have reached had they been in the Government, that might be a reason for differing from the Government, but it would be no reason for uniting in the opinion that the Government merited the condemnation of the House.

It was true that the Government had not brought down all the returns that had been asked for, and if that was a reasonable ground for condemning the Government there were very few governments that would ever stand during a session, for it was well known that since the opening of the present Parliament of Canada returns had been brought down asked for in the session of 1877, and yet, had these astute gentlemen who framed this Resolution been in the House of Commons, they might probably have aired themselves by bringing forward a Resolution censuring the Government of Canada, and stating that they did not merit the confidence of the country because they did not bring down all the returns when asked for. And so with regard to the matter of over-expenditure. The Government might admit that in certain departments of vital importance to the country, and where the people were benefitted by the over-expenditure, there was an over-expenditure, but that did not justify the conclusion that was reached by this amendment.

He would traverse some of the statements made by the other side. It was said they had not brought down the returns asked for. He had said they admitted it, but he also said they had brought them down as rapidly as they could and as rapidly as any other Government could bring them down, looking at the facilities which the Legislature placed in the hands of the Government. The returns, it was well known, were made up by the officials, the civil servants, and their ability to make them up was dependent on the rapidity with which these gentlemen could get the facts and papers together, and when the returns asked for and made were looked at it would be found that so far from the Government delaying the returns, they had passed them in with a great deal of despatch, and to such an extent that when the hon. member for Gloucester was enumerating those not answered, he found himself limited to about half a dozen.

[The hon. gentleman then read from the Notice Book all the notices asking for returns, one by one, and said that they had all been answered, and the information given, with the exception of a very few, and those of recent date, and then resumed.]

He had read over the total number of notices of motion of all sorts, 46 in all, and that included such notices as were formal, political and non-political, and from what he had read it would be seen there were only three or four of any political significance which had not been answered, and the papers brought down to the House, and if members would look at the papers, and the labor which was expended on them, they would see that the Government could not be charged with needless delay in bringing down returns. Then the hon. member said there were other returns, not asked for by the House, but returns that were filed in the Public Departments by the People's Bank that should have been brought down. In the first place they were never asked to bring them down, and could not be charged with any dereliction of duty, and at the first moment of the question being raised the Provincial Secretary brought these returns down to the House. The first notice of them was made yesterday, and the Provincial Secretary laid them before the House to-day.

The hon. member tried to make the House and country believe that there was an intention on the part of the Government to conceal, and that they kept these returns of the Bank back, and he endeavored in this way to prejudice the minds of the House and of the country against the Government in this respect, but when it was shown how prompt the Government were in bringing down papers, members would see how very careful they ought to be, before endeavoring to make charges against the Government which might be very far reaching in their consequences, without giving the matter some little consideration. There is no doubt that the Bank returns last year were not laid before the House, and why, because the Charter of the Bank did not require the Bank to make up their returns before the last Wednesday in February and August, which was the time their meetings were held. These accounts had to be sworn to by the Manager and three Directors, and when made up and sworn were to be filed with the Provincial Secretary. The last Wednesday of February, 1877 was about the end of the month, this year it was the 27th of the month. The House adjourned on the 16th March, within a fortnight afterwards. Last year one of the Directors was away, and it was impossible for them to have these returns prepared, submitted to the Bank, and sworn to by the Manager, and verified by the affidavit of three Directors of the Company, in time to have them filed with the Provincial Secretary before the 16th March, and, consequently they were not filed during the session.

Did any person believe that the Directors of the Bank conspired together in order to mislead the country, and to mislead the House—that they were co-conspirators with the Government in order to cheat and defraud the people of the country? Now, however, the returns were before the House and hon. gentlemen could see for themselves whether there was any collusion to cheat and defraud the country.—The Secretary, with the Financial Statement had handed in a statement of the President and Cashier of the Bank, that the Government Statement as to the amounts in hand in those returns was correct. Yesterday, when the hon. member for Northumberland (Mr. Davidson) was speaking he made some remarks about the duty of the Bank as to these returns. Perhaps he (Att'y. General) spoke then rather hurriedly as to the duty of the Bank to make the returns, but the Government could not compel the Bank to make them. The Government had not the power to deal with banking matters at all. This Legislature had not the power to revoke the charter, or to compel them in any way to comply with it. The Bank, however, was quite willing to make and did make the returns.

Then the Opposition attacked the financial condition of the Province but not very successfully. The Province has more revenue to-day than at any time since this Government had taken charge of the affairs of the country, and in the meanwhile it had lost $63,000 a year, not by the Government's act, but by the operation of the Act of Union, and nothwithstanding that the finances were now in a better condition than at any time since the Government had had charge of them. The Government endeavored to get a continuation of the subsidy of $63,000 a year but the Dominion Government in their wisdom declined to grant it. If the policy of the hon. gentlemen opposite was carried out, we should have $63,000 less than we had last year of revenue. If they had had control of the country it would have had less revenue? And why, because they were opposed to Stumpage, because they consider it a breach of faith to put on the Stumpage.

MR. WILLIS—Not so.

HON. ATTORNEY GENERAL—I do not recognize the hon. gentleman as belonging to that party; he is the Ishmaelite of New Brunswick politics and has no authority to speak for that body, and I do not take him for one of the mouth-pieces of the party. That gentleman was in the Government when the Stumpage of 60 cents was imposed, and yet he sits by and listens to his colleagues denouncing it as improper. The man who is the real leader of the party—a man of force and capacity for affairs, the hon. member for Gloucester (and here I may say that the County of Gloucester is honored by the two men it sends to this Chamber to represent it)—that hon. member says it is a breach of faith with the country to impose any stumpage. The hon. member for Sunbury see-saws upon it, and will not say it is a breach of faith, but says it was an inopportune time to impose it; and the hon. member sits by and joins hands with them in censuring the Government. Now, as I am speaking of the hon. member, I may as well say two or three more things about him. I say that if that hon. member's views prevailed, the revenue of the country would be very much less than it would be by the reduction of the $63,000, for if the hon. member dragged that Government along as he had endeavored to do ours, they would find themselves into Maritime Union within less than six months, because it was well known that he attempted to force the question of Maritime Union and brought in a Resolution clearly beyond his competency, and proved to his own satisfaction that we ought to go into Maritime Union, and that it would largely promote the interests of the Province, and would be very much better for the Province, and promote the prosperity of the Province, and increase the revenue, and he wanted negotiations immediately commenced to bring about Maritime Union, and the hon. member made a long speech in which his views were fully elaborated. Now, I say, sir, that these hon. gentlemen will have to look out when they come into power that the hon. member does not run away with them, as he endeavored to run away with us. I say that the financial condition of the Province is good, and those people who invest in our bonds say it is good, and capitalists say it is good and invest their means in it; and I say that the statements of estimated and actual revenue last year and estimated revenue for the present year show that we are in a good position, and are able, and will be able, to provide for the services of the country. It is not well known in the country, but should be, that the services are better provided for now than previous to Confederation. Then there was only $45,000 spent on By-Roads—now there is $70,000; then there was $60,000 spent on Great-Roads—now it is much more.

The hon. gentlemen continued—The services of the country can hereafter be as efficiently managed with the revenue at our disposal. In the course of three years there will be $29,000, to be added to the revenue, and when all matters are taken into account, hon. members will see that we must be considered in a good financial condition. Never have we had a larger revenue for local purposes than now, and it will be increased in three years by $30,000 and if hon. members think it advisable not to spend so much money, they can do so, but there is the money, we can spend it if we like, and looking at the financial condition of the Province, the country has to look at the outstanding liabilities and revenue, and if it is found that the revenue is large and continues large notwithstanding the interest on outstanding liabilities, then it is a good financial condition.

The hon. member for Sunbury started off by finding fault with the Department over which he presided. In reference to the Consolidated Statutes he stated that the sum spent on them was enormous, and the hon. member came here before the House and had the presumption to tell that the cost was twice that of the old revised statutes, and that the cost of the old revised statutes in 1854 was only $9,000. He saw that he had evinced great industry in getting at it, and told the House it was $9,000, but when the hon. member commences to prove it, he put himself out of court. He told the House that the cost of the old Revised Statutes was only $9,000, but the honorable member for King's County (Mr. Crawford) had given that statement to the winds yesterday [here the Attorney General went at length into the facts and figures as Hon. Mr. Crawford did in his speech of yesterday.]

The hon member for Sunbury had referred to him in another connexion. He has said that he had not attended to the Criminal business of the country. The hon. member said he did not do anything about the criminal business but go to Caraquet. It was true he did not attend all the Circuits, but he would show how the recurrence of the Circuits made it impossible for him to attend them all. The member for Sunbury (Mr. Covert) said he made a good job out of the Caraquet matter, but he had never got a penny for travelling expenses in connection with the administration of justice, and the matter had been entirely done from first to last without any remuneration or charge save his salary. He thought that common decency should have prevented Mr. Covert from using the language he did in reference to the Caraquet matter. He said it was "a put up job," and was magnified in the interests of the Government. It was well known to the judiciary of the Province that Mr. Covert was entirely wrong. Did the hon. member forget that one of those trials that continued for between 20 and 30 days resulted in a conviction, and that the other one which took 46 days resulted in a conviction, but the conviction was quashed. The hon. member stated that the conviction was quashed and therefore he inferred that the business for the Crown was badly managed. He was sorry to be obliged to say anything about this Caraquet business, but was glad—sincerely glad—that the judgment of the court resulted in the quashing of these convictions, because he should have felt extremely sorry if the result had been that so many fellow men should have been placed in peril of their lives, and even at the risk of justice miscarrying, he thought the people of the country, who were not a bloodthirsty people, preferred that that result should be reached more than any other, and no man in the country, he thought, regretted the result. But because the conviction was quashed it was said that the administration was mismanaged. The expressions of those who have the best means of knowing by reason of their presence and high judicial skill, were that the trial was not mismanaged. It lasted 46 days, and all sorts of questions were raised. Most important questions were raised on that trial never raised in any trial in this country before, and the decision was practically in favor of the Crown on these questions, so far as they affected the proper administration of justice. A practice was springing up, destructive to criminal business, and the courts, on important questions in reference to jurors, and the challenging of jurors, and other questions, were gradually drifting away from the well settled practice of the English courts, and following the practice of the United States courts, which had the effect of leading to a breaking down of justice, and these questions were raised, and argued, and settled satisfactorily. He referred to this matter because he thought it necessary, to show that in attempting to carry out the law in Gloucester, those who represented the Government and Legislature were not careless of their duty, and were not incompetent or unskilled, but that they displayed reasonable skill in the matter. In a criminal case, the defence presses in all the evidence it can, because if it gets in evidence improperly, and the prisoner is acquitted there is no new trial. You cannot try the prisoner over twice, and so the counsel for the prisoner presses in all the evidence he can, and if it is all right, well and good, and if objected to, there is no harm done; but if a single question is answered which ought not to be answered, and a conviction is had the whole conviction goes over and the verdict is set aside. Then it was not wonderful that in a trial lasting 46 days there should be a few points upon which the determination of the Court should be, after argument and consideration, that the matter so shut out, was wrongly shut out or let in, as the case might be.

He regretted that the Leader of the Opposition had brought this matter up, but as he had done so it was right that it should not be allowed to remain in the false position which that gentleman's extraordinary way of dealing with it had left it.

But the hon. gentleman had also said that he (Attorney General) had not attended to the criminal prosecutions in the Province. If the Circuits were all held at different times it might be possible for a man to travel to them all; but hon. members knew that that is not the case, and that the Circuits were held in a few months, and several circuits occurred together. There were five Circuits in St. John, and no Circuit passed that there is not a large criminal calendar.

The hon. gentleman then referred to the different courts, one, he said, being held in St. John in January, and at the same time a circuit opened in Westmoreland. In February, the Circuit opened in Kings, and he could not leave the Legislature to go down there. In March also, the Session was sitting, and criminal trials were going on in St. John, conducted by the learned Clerk of the Crown. At the same time there was a Circuit in Kent and another in Northumberland, to which the hon. members for Northumberland—Messrs. Davidson and Tweedie—had now gone, but it was impossible for the Attorney General to go there. In April there were no sittings. In May there were Circuits in St. John, Carleton and Charlotte, but the Saint John business was always more important, and the Attorney General could not be at all those places at once. In June the Courts were sitting in Fredericton, and the annual business sitting at York, but the Clerk of the Crown attended to them for his salary, and he did not get any extra pay, except about $20 for travelling expenses. In July there were five Circuits, and three of them sitting at the same time, and of course the Attorney General had to choose as to which he would attend to. In August there were Circuits in Restigouche and St. John. In September there were several Circuits, three of them sitting at the same time. In October the Courts were sitting *en Banc*, and in November there were three sitting at the same time—one at St. John. So hon. members would see that it was impossible for any two or three Crown Officers to attend to all this business. Members must know, too, that the County Courts had criminal jurisdiction, extending it to all cases except capital cases, but most of the criminal business was done by the Clerks of the County Courts. It was a much better thing to have frequent trials of criminals, for in the old times a man would have to wait, perhaps, a whole year for trial, and that was not a wholesome thing. When a man was charged with a crime he ought to be tried as soon as possible, in order to save expense to the Counties, and that he might commence his punishment at once, but the effect of the old law was to make a man lie for months waiting for trial, and so put the counties to the expense of keeping him all that time.

The Opposition affirmed that there should be a Solicitor General, but if the Solicitor General was going to attend to the County Court, and do the criminal business also, they would want half a dozen of him.

In 1870 the amount paid to outside lawyers for criminal business amounted to $112 without reckoning the County Courts: in 1871 it only amounted to $74; in 1872, $256; in 1873, $336; in 1874, $737; in 1875 (and this included $150 paid in respect of the Caraquet prosecutions), $1,219, or less than $1,100, and in this year a great wave of crime was going over the country. In 1876 the expenses were $2,964, but that included $1,951 paid for the Caraquet prosecutions to Mr. Kerr, and nobody who knew the skill he brought to bear on them, and his ability and standing in the profession, and the fact that he was 60 or 70 days over in Caraquet, could say it was exceptional, and leaving that out, it was $1,000; and last year it was about $525.

(Special to the Advance.)

FREDERICTON, April 9.

There was a long discussion on Tuesday, over the bill for the protection of certain birds and animals which was introduced by Mr. Elder. It proposed to amend and consolidate the present law on this subject assimilating it with that of Nova Scotia in most particulars. It provides for appointment by the Governor in Council of a Chief Game Commissioner, who shall have power to appoint County Wardens, and also placed in the hands of the Municipal Council power of appointing a parish deputy.

HON. ATTORNEY GENERAL thought the change was not necessary in view of the fact that the matter was dealt with when the Consolidated Statutes were going through. At present the Governor in Council had power to appoint County Wardens to look after the protection of game, and he feared if the work was not done now, the new arrangement would secure no better results.

HON. SURVEYOR GENERAL, and Messrs. ELDER, MCKENZIE, SWIM and others debated the matter. Arguments in favor of bill were that United States and Nova Scotia had stringent game laws in operation, and persons from the former country caused slaughter of New Brunswick game to obtain supplies which they were denied in their own country. The Bill fixes close time for moose, deer, caribou, etc., from first January to first of August, prohibits use of dogs in pursuit of deer or caribou, prohibits nets, swivel guns, traps, etc., in the capture of ducks, protects partridges, and fur bearing animals. Progress was reported.

Mr. Tweedie, who has been ill for some time, is in his place in the House again.

None of the investigating committees have yet reported.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

The following summary is, necessarily, brief on account of the limited space we are able to allot it.

Wednesday, April 3.

Mr. Cartwright moved going into supply, and Mr. Brown (Reformer), seconded by Mr. Ross (Reformer), moved a resolution in amendment, that, whereas a large quantity of wheat and flour has been imported into Canada within the last few years, this House is of opinion that the interests of Canadian farmers would be promoted by the imposition of a duty on these articles.

After some discussion Mr. Mills moved the adjournment of the debate. Adjourned.

Thursday, April 4th.

Mr. Mackenzie moved for the second reading of a bill amending the Pacific Railway Act, explaining that it gave power to lease the Pembina Branch, or make an arrangement for running it in connection with American lines, subject to ratification by Parliament. The Government did not contemplate running the North West roads. The bill was read the second time and committed.

Sir John Macdonald said there was uneasiness in the public mind about the monopoly proposed to be given.

Mr. Mackenzie said a lease for twenty-one year was demanded, and refused by the Government. The period mentioned in the proposed lease was ten years. The Government had to choose between such leases to the St. Paul & Pacific Company or go without railway communication with the North West for years. He knew of no other company offering to make connection with the Pembina Branch. The rates of freight would be controlled by the terms of the lease, to prevent their being too high or discriminating against our interests. The connexion would give the North West a cheap means of importing goods and exporting grain.

Friday, April 5.

At 12.25 o'clock after the passage of the Audit Bill. The house went into committee on the bill to amend the Stamp Act.

Considerable discussion was had. At 2 o'clock progress was reported.

A number of petitions were presented praying that the Liquor Bill may become law.

Mr. Brown's Agricultural Protection Resolution was taken up and discussed at some length.

The bill passed through committee.

The bill appointing the Auditor General was committed and passed.

Saturday, April 6.

The House divided on Brown's Resolution as follows: Yeas, 28; Nays, 148.

Sir John voted yea. Mr. Campbell was the only Maritime yea.

The House went into supply on penitentiaries item.

Mr. Mitchell asked when the prisoners would be transferred to Dorchester Penitentiary, and what it would cost.

Mr. Laflamme said the change would be made when the building was completed.

Mr. Mitchell protested against the curtness of the reply.

Mr. Mackenzie said the contractors had some months yet, and would not finish till well into the year.

Mr. Domville said grave irregularities had been reported from St. John Penitentiary. Prisoners had given up money on entering and failed to get it again. The warden had been superannuated and an older man, a defaulter, appointed in his place.

Mr. Burpee (St. John) said the irregularities had been inquired into fully and the papers would be produced. The statement regarding the ages of wardens was erroneous as Mr. Quinton was a very old man, and Mr. Ketchum was many years younger.

Mr. Ford Jones said the penitentiaries were made too pleasant for the convicts. Prison labor should not compete with honest labor. Our prisoners were too well fed and too eager to get back for another term.

Considerable discussion followed on the relative cost of maintaining prisoners at different establishments, revenues arising from work, cost of materials, etc., Mr. Mackenzie pointing out that Kingston was the only complete penitentiary in Canada. The St. John Penitentiary yielded the largest revenue in proportion to the number of prisoners.

Adjourned at two.

BUSINESS NOTICE.

The "MIRAMICHI ADVANCE" is published at Chatham, Miramichi, N. B., every THURSDAY morning in time for despatch by the earliest mails of that day.

It is sent to any address in Canada, the United States or Great Britain (Postage prepaid by the Publisher) for $1.50 A YEAR, or 75 CTS. FOR 6 MONTHS—the money, in all cases, to accompany the order for the paper.

Advertisements are placed under classified headings.

Advertisements, other than yearly or by the season, are inserted at *eight cents* per line nonpareil, (or eighty cents per inch) for 1st insertion, and *three cents* per line (or thirty-six cents per inch) for each continuation.

Yearly, or season, advertisements are taken at the rate of *Five Dollars* an inch per year. The matter in space secured by the year, or season, may be changed under arrangement made therefor with the Publisher.

The "MIRAMICHI ADVANCE" having its large circulation distributed principally in the Counties of Kent, Northumberland, Gloucester and Restigouche (New Brunswick), and in Bonaventure and Gaspe (Quebec), among communities engaged in Lumbering, Fishing and Agricultural pursuits, offers superior inducements to advertisers. Address

Editor "Miramichi Advance," Chatham, N. B.

CORRESPONDENTS who wish to communicate directly with the editor of the ADVANCE will, during the Legislative Session, address him at Fredericton.

Miramichi Advance.

CHATHAM, THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 1878.

Seining for Bass and Gaspereaux.

The Minister of Marine and Fisheries has decided to allow seining for bass in Napan and Black Rivers, as usual, until the 25th of May, for domestic use and sale in immediate vicinity, the killing of young fish to forfeit the permission thus given. Gaspereaux seining is also to be allowed in the main river and North and Southwest branches up to the Railway Bridge on the former and to Barnaby's Island on the latter, until June 25th.

The Eastern Question.

The aspect of the Eastern Question has again materially changed, for the better, and as we indicated last week, the bold objections made by England regarding the Treaty of San Stefano have had their result. A few days ago, the despatches inform us, some very strong advice was tendered to Russia from Berlin, recommending concessions necessary to avoid a European war, and even wavering Austria, who has been waiting for something "to turn up," now appears to have assured the Sultan of her support against the enforcement of the obnoxious treaty. It is thought that the Czar's ruling idea has been to obtain the cession of Bessarabia, and hence his refusal to submit all matters in the treaty to the conference, which will probably take place after all, with Russia consenting to a strict revision of every line of the treaty which has cost her so much.

The latest advices, dated the 9th inst., state that at the close of the discussion on the San Stefano Treaty in the Lords, the Address to the Queen thanking her for calling out the Reserves, was adopted.

Mr. Layard, British Ambassador, has received a report from the British Consul at Rustchuk, claiming satisfaction from the Russian Government for an outrage committed by the Russian troops in entering the consulate there and taking possession of its archives, nothwithstanding the British flag was hoisted over the building at the time.

Earl Derby's statement in the Lords showed that several differences arose between him and his colleagues before his resignation. He was with difficulty persuaded to assent to the early summoning of Parliament and the six million vote. He also stated that in the event of war, all England could hope for from Germany was a bare and not benevolent neutrality.

Address.

The writer of the following omitted to send his name, but as the gentleman concerned is known in Chatham we publish it:—

To the Editor of the Miramichi Advance.

SIR:—The "Weldon" House, Shediac, was the scene of a social gathering on the evening of the fourth inst. occasioned by the contemplated departure of one from among us, in the person of Mr. P. M. Jack. Mr. Jack has not resided for any great length of time in this place but during his stay has proved himself an agreeable citizen, a willing worker and ever ready to come to the front when his valuable assistance was needed to enchance in any way the interests of the community. It is with regret we part with him, inasmuch as the loss to our town both in a social and literary bearing will be great. The accompanying address (which would have borne many more signatures had time permitted) was presented at the banquet table to Mr. Jack by D. B. White Esq., who made some very appropriate remarks relative to the occasion, which were responded to by Mr. Jack in a very happy style, expressing his appreciation and gratitude to his friends after which the company sat down to a sumptous repast prepared in the usual "Weldon" House first class style, Justice being fully done to the edibles, merriment ensued, several toasts were given and responded to, and songs and the customary programme for such occasions pleasantly carried out. The company dispersed about 11 p. m., after the usual "Auld lang syne" each participant having been pleased with a happy meeting which will be remembered with pleasure in connection with the departure of our friend and guest, Mr. Jack, while regretting his loss from our midst. Mr. Jack takes with him the sincere good wishes of the community generally, who wish for him and his family, prosperity in whatever sphere they may be called upon to labor.

To P. M. Jack, Esq.

We take the opportunity afforded us by the present festive gathering, to express to you our sincere regret at your contemplated departure from our midst.

Although you have only been a resident of this place for a comparatively short period, yet you have by your unvarying courtesy, kindly disposition, and manly bearing, commended yourself to our esteem.

Appreciating as we do, your many good qualities, of head and heart, we cannot let you go, without the assurance that you carry with you to your new sphere of labor, our sincere wishes for your continued prosperity, and happiness, and we trust that by a continuance in that course which has distinguished you here, you will raise up for yourself hosts of friends, in your new home, who will appreciate you, as highly as we do.

With best wishes for the future welfare of Mrs. Jack, yourself, and family.

We are, yours sincerely

W. J. M. Hannington,	Jos. E. Best,
Hazen Kinnear,	Oliver Melanson,
David B. White,	R. C. Tait,
Harper & Webster,	T. W. Bell,
H. S. Bell,	A. E. Wilson,
A. Tait, J. P.	T. E. Smith,
W. B. Deacon, J. P.	H. H. Schafer,
Geo. Pellitier,	G. L. Hannington
James D. Weldon,	John Prier,
R. B. Cutler, J. P.	P. J. Sweeney,
Joseph Prescott,	C. E. Sumner,
Chip. W. Smith,	A. H. Newman,
A. D. Campbell, L. D. S.	C. B. Deacon.

SHEDIAC, April 4th, 1878.

NEW ADVERTISEMENT.

SPRING GOODS!

J. B. SNOWBALL has much pleasure in announcing the early arrival of a very large and excellent stock of

ENGLISH & SCOTCH

TWEEDS & TROUSERINGS,

Black and Indigo Worsted Coatings,

(ALL NEW PATTERNS.)

Also:—A very large assortment of plain and fancy DRESS MATERIALS. All the newest designs for this season.

All Goods marked at reasonable prices.

WHOLESALE BUYERS very Liberally dealt with.

April 10th, '78.

SPECIAL NOTICE!!!

J. B. SNOWBALL

has just received a very large stock of BLACK DRESS GOODS, for Spring and Summer wear, consisting principally of

Black French Merinoes,	*Black French Cobourgs,*
Black "Empire" and "Canton" Crapes,	*Black "Persian" Cords,*
Black "Sedan" Cords,	*Black Russell Cords,*
Black "Princetta" Cassimeres,	*Black "Henrietta" Cloths,*
Black Brilliantines,	*Black Alpaca Lustres,*

—AND MORE ESPECIALLY—

BLACK "SCICILLIAN" LUSTRES,

(Extra heavy, soft and brilliant)

highly recommended as being the most effective in appearance and useful in wear of any material yet imported.

These goods have been successfully tried in this Province for years past.

April 10th, '78.

1878. 1878.

NEW SPRING GOODS!

GREAT REALIZING SALE!

I now offer the Balance of my WINTER STOCK of Staple and Fancy Dry Goods, along with a Beautiful assortment of the following SPRING GOODS, which will be sold at a WONDERFUL REDUCTION on former low prices:—

New Fancy Ties, New Fancy Prints, New Dress Poplins,

NEW FRENCH MERINOS, (all colors) New Shirtings, New White and Brown Sheetings, New White Cottons, New lb Patches, New Brown Cottons, New Knitting Cottons, (all colors) New Stamped Mats for hooking, New Flowers, Java Canvas (all colors).

Received to-day:—1 Case of LADIES' BLACK AND WHITE STRAW HATS, in latest styles.

Save Money on Boots & Shoes. Extraordinary Value now Offered.

Gents' New Felt Hats, New Ties, New Shirts, etc etc.

VICTORIA HOUSE. - - - G. I. WILSON.

GLEANER BUILDING, CHATHAM.

NO LONGER AGENT.

Our Agreement with W. H. Olive, of St. John, N. B., has this day terminated by mutual consent. In the meantime, parties desiring Machinery can obtain information from us direct or through

AMOS FISHER, Truro, N.S, or
JOHN WELSH, St. Martin's, N.B.

BOTH PRACTICAL MEN WHOSE JUDGMENT AND ADVICE CAN BE RELIED ON

PRICES REDUCED!

Great Improvements in our SAW IRONS—PORTABLE GRIST MILLS—PORTABLE SAW MILLS. Address—

WATEROUS ENGINE WORKS CO., Brantford, Canada.

FEBRUARY 1ST, 1878. D. S. P.

"Bulley in the Alley."

Just received:—A lot of

Marbles and Allies.

Also on hand, job lots of the following:—

A lot of Tumblers 42cts. doz.
" " Goblets, $1.00 "
" " Cream Jugs, 15cts each.
" " Preserve dishes 15cts. and upwards.
" " Cruet Bottles 13cts. each.
" " Small Lamp Chimneys 6cts. each.
" " Large Lamps white marble stand complete 75cts each.

A lot of Canned Strawberries in 1 lb. cans, 18cts. each.
A lot of Canned Pears, Pine Apple, Blackberry, 25cts. per. can.
A lot of Canned Beans and Sweet Corn, 20cts. per can.
A lot of two pound tins Tomatoes, 24cts per can

All warranted to be good.

A lot of Bouchton's and Old Brown Windsor Toilet Soap, 30cts doz or 3cts each.
A lot of Wash Boards, 18cts each.

TERMS CASH.

At SINCLAIR'S GROCERY.

Chatham, April 3rd, '78. 4118

SALMON ANGLING.

DEPARTMENT OF MARINE & FISHERIES,
FISHERIES BRANCH,
OTTAWA, 15th March, 1878.

WRITTEN OFFERS will be received to 1st May next, for the SALMON ANGLING PRIVILEGES of the following rivers:—

Natashquan (*North Shore*).
Kegashka do
Washecootai do
Mingan do
Manitou do
Romaine do
Corneille do
Agwanus do
Calumet do
St. Margaret do
Trout do
Escoumains do
Portneuf do
Malbaie (*near Perce*).
Little Pabos do
Nouvelle (*opposite Dalhousie*)
Magdalen (*South Shore*).
Jupiter (*Anticosti Island*)
Salmon do

Rent per annum to be stated: payable in advance.
Leases to run for from *one* to *five* years.
Lessees to employ guardians at private cost.

By Order,
W. F. WHITCHER,
Commissioner of Fisheries.

4111

NOTICE.

THE Subscriber having purchased the Commodious business premises, known as the LOUDOUN property, and latterly as the ARGYLE HOUSE, will remove into the same on the arrival of the

SPRING GOODS

about the beginning of April.

In the meantime, the

STOCK

on hand at my present place of business will be sold at such prices as will please every purchaser, and thereby effect the double purpose of increasing our CASH and largely lessening the amount of GOODS at time of removal.

GENUINE BARGIANS

are therefore offered.

WM. MURRAY.

Chatham, Feb. 7th, 1878.

N. B.—Parties indebted will please take notice that unless their Accounts are paid or settled before the 1st of March, they will on that date be handed to an Attorney for collection.

WM. MURRAY.

NEW DRESS GOODS & WINCEYS.

A LARGE STOCK! AND GOOD GOODS!

THERE is not a CHEAPER or BETTER assorted stock of

STAPLE and FANCY

DRY GOODS

in Miramichi than that to be had at the

PEOPLE'S HOUSE

NEWCASTLE,

and if you want to lay your money out to the best advantage, you had better call and examine.

—ALSO—

Boots, Rubbers & Overshoes, Groceries and Wines, Glass and Hardware.

JAMES BROWN.

Nov. 8th, '77.

New FURS, for LADIES and GENTS. Sets, MUFFS & CAPS.

New JACKETS and OVERCOATS for MEN and BOYS.

NEW SHAWLS, MANTLES AND CLOTHS.

SEEDS. SEEDS.

FRESH

Garden and Field Seeds.

OUR SEEDS ARE WARRANTED FRESH AND GOOD.

Patent Medicines, &c.,

Just received, a fresh supply of Fellow's Syrup, Sanford's Catarrh Cure, Robinson's Emulsion, Green's August Flower, Campbell's Quinine Wine, Wilson's Tonic Elixir, Gray's Specific, Phosfozone, Stoughton Bitters, Shoshonees Remedy, Tasteless Cod Liver Oil, Elixir of Beef, Iron and Wine, Leeming's Essence (for lameness in horses), Guarana powder (for sick hedache), Aniline Dyes in Magenta, Scarlet, Purple, Crimson, Green, Blue, Violet, Yellow, Orange and Bismark Brown.

J. PALLEN & SON,
DRUGGISTS.

Physicians' prescriptions carefully and accurately compounded.

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE.

ALL that valuable and eligible Property situated in the Western end of the Town of Chatham, and known as the residence of the late George Kerr, Esquire.

There is a two storey house with frost-proof Cellar, Barns, Coach House, Wood Sheds, and every convenience for a first class residence, a never failing supply of water to Barns and House by pipes. The Garden and grounds are in excellent order.

There are about three acres of cultivated land in connection with the above which will be sold separately if desired.

The whole for disposal at private sale till the first day of June next.

For further particulars apply at the office of John Ellis in Chatham, or to the subscriber

FRANCIS J. LETSON.

Chatham, 20th March, '78.

First-Class Residence TO LET.

TO be let from the 1st of MAY next, that first-class residence on King Street, Chatham, at present occupied by Mr. Wm. H. Niddrie.

The House is fitted up with gas, has water in the kitchen, and has a frost proof cellar. There is also a good Barn on the premises.

Apply on the premises to Mr. Wm. H. Niddrie

tf. GEO. ROBINSON.

Assessors' Notice.

THE Assessors of Rates for the Parish of Chatham having received the Warrants ordering an assessment on the said parish of the following sums, viz:—

On the Parish of Chatham for County contingencies, ...	709 33
On the Parish of Chatham for County School Fund, ...	1898 18
On the Parish of Chatham for Alms House	533 75
On the Middle District of Parish for Pound	23 42
On the Fire District of Parish for Firewards	2135 00
On the Police District " " Police,	800 00
Total, ...	6099 68

Hereby request all persons liable to be rated in said Parish to bring into the Assessors within thirty days from date true statements of their property and income liable to be assessed.

They also give notice that their valuation list when completed will be posted at the Post Office, Middle District, Chatham.

RICHARD HOCKEN,
THOS. CRIMMEN,
RICHARD CARMAN, } Assessors.

Chatham, March 11th, 1878.

MIRAMICHI FOUNDRY,

Chatham, N. B.,

JAS. W. FRASER - - Proprietor.

—MANUFACTURER OF—

Steam Engines & Boilers, Gang and Rotary Saw Mills, Gang Edgers, Shingle Mills & General Machinery.

Sole Manufacturer of Pond's Wisconsin

PATENT ROTARY SAW CARRIAGE.

THIS invention pronounced the "*Ne Plus-ultra*" of Saw Mills is destined to sweep all rivals from the field. Interlocking hook and lever dogs are used by which the logs are DOGGED and CANTED automatically. The Head blocks are fitted with sliding racks which move forward and back and by this means a long sweeping log can be sprung straight, and tapering logs can be cut to the *greatest possible advantage*. When one log is sawed the Head Blocks are run back by friction ready to receive another log as the carriage is returning. The whole of this work is performed by a man who rides on the carriage. This mill has shown itself in ACTUAL COMPETITION capable of rivaling one of the best gangs in New Brunswick, averaging 35 M Per Day, and cutting ready for edging a LOG PER MINUTE, with ease.

The right to manufacture and sell this mill in the Dominion of Canada has been purchased by the Subscriber.

Any further information may be had by communicating with me, or my Salesman, Mr. G. C. CARLYLE, will wait on responsible parties desiring information, with model and plans of said mill.

JAS. W. FRASER.

Chatham, March 20th, '78.