PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

REVENUE BILL.—On Tuesday, 9th March, the House went into committee of Ways and Means, when a debate of a rather novel nature arose on a resolution introduced by Mr. Partelow, the substance of which was to pledge the House to the passage of the last year's Revenue Bill without any alteration, and to secure the passage of a Bill to repeal all the Imperial Acts now in force imposing duties on articles imported into this Province. To this resolution Mr. R. D. Wilmot moved, as an amendment, a resolution which was intended to test the feelings of the House on the subject of Protection Duties. This movement placed the friends of Protection in an awkward position, from which they could not escape during the debate of yesterday, although the House did not adjourn until nearly six o'clock.

On Wednesday, the House again went into Committee of Ways and Means, and agreed to Mr. Partelow's Resolution, to adopt the Revenue Bill of last year, by a large majority. Mr. R. D. Wilmot's Resolution of yesterday, respecting the principle of protective duties, was also carried by a large majority. After the House resumed, Mr. Partelow moved a Resolution, expressing the opinion of the Committee respecting the Revenue Bill; also another pledging the House to the passing of an Act to repeal all the Imperial duties now levied on articles imported into this Province.

The Bill to incorporate the Fredericton Gas Light Company was committed on Wednesday, and passed the Committee without amendments and without opposition.—*Head Quarters.*

The following sketch of the debate on the Revenue Bill is from the *Fredericton Reporter* :—

The House went into a Committee of Ways and Means to raise a Revenue; and the old principle of *Protection*, and the new one of *Free Trade*, underwent a long discussion.

Mr. Partelow in introducing the subject, said he hoped the old Revenue Bill would be passed without opposition for the present year. This arrangement would, he said, give the House time for acquiring such information as could only be obtained in a correspondence with Her Majesty's Government, on the subject of the British Possessions' Bill. We understood the Hon. Member to say, that at present the sum of £4550 was paid for the support of the Provincial Custom House establishment; which sum might be reduced to half the amount, by collecting the duties at the Treasurer's office. Next year the House would be quite unfettered, and able to discriminate the best and wisest methods of dealing with inter-Colonial duties, and also taxing the produce of foreigners. (Here the Hon. Member moved that the present Revenue Bill be continued during the ensuing year.) To this Mr. R. D. Wilmot moved as an Amendment the following :—

"Whereas it is by the application of the labour and industry of the productive classes of this Province to the natural resources of the Country, that the wealth, well-being and comfort of the people is to be insured; therefore

"*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that in enacting a Revenue Bill by which the Trade of the Province will be regulated, the principle of protection to home industry irrespective of Revenue, should be recognized, by levying duties on those productions and manufactures of Foreign Countries, which the people of this Province are incapable of producing and manufacturing themselves, making a just discrimination between raw materials and manufactured articles, and as a general rule, admitting raw material duty free."

Mr. Boyd declared that there was nothing in the Act of '46 to prevent the removal of duties off Superfine Flour; and if the House now came to a determination to remove those highly injurious duties, he would willingly give his vote for the re-enactment of the old Bill. As to protective duties, and all that sort of thing, he had long since come to the conclusion that it was all humbug.

His Honor the Speaker briefly observed that no new Bill could be enacted without a suspending clause. Here His Honor read the law, which he observed was so pointed that it was impossible to mistake it.

Mr. Woodward agreed in his views with the Hon. Member from St. John, (Mr. Partelow.) The old Bill was the best which could under present circumstances be adopted, and the House might follow the example of Nova Scotia, where they had not said a word about protective duties, and embody so much of the Imperial Act as might be required—the said law to go into operation so soon as Her Majesty's consent shall be obtained.

Mr. Hannington thought that under the present circumstances, the House could not do better than re-enact the present law; for its provisions were well known in the Country, and if now thrown open, the Bill which would supersede it, must labour under the difficulty of being a dead letter prior to its receiving the Royal assent. He was willing to agree with the amendment moved by the hon. member from St. John, (Mr. R. D. Wilmot,) but he feared its effect would be to injure the original Resolution, and he would be sorry to see it lost. The Country, he maintained, did not suffer from the amount of Imperial duties, for they all find their way into the Revenue, and from thence appear visible in the making of Roads and Bridges, and the support of Education. It was however in Supply that our duties were fixed, for if certain sums were there granted, it was only reasonable to suppose that they must be provided for in Ways and Means. He (Mr. H.) would not oppose the removal of the inter Colonial duties, if the people of the other Provinces would meet us fairly and put our trade on an equal footing with their own.

Mr. Gilbert was in favour of the amendment, although he said it was in vain to legislate while such a disposition existed to neglect the Agricultural interests of the Country. The great object should be to lay a tax upon dead meats. The farmers at present had lands and other means for raising the best crops, but all was of no use while they had no market. Unfortunately the other interests had gained a preponderance over the Agricultural, and he feared if not speedily assisted, the Farmers must remain "hewers of wood and drawers of water" all their lives. (Here we understood the Hon. member to say that by some new process, Pork might be raised by making a hog of 7 months old weigh over 200lbs. and a market for this meat, say at 3d. per pound, was all he would ask for.)

Dr. Thompson said there was a duty of 7s. 6d. per barrel on American Meats, and he thought that was in all conscience enough. With regard to the Resolution, he thought it best to pass it, for he was afraid of touching the Revenue Bill, lest he should injure some body. With regard to the duty on Flour, he thought it could not for one year be any great hardship, as it amounts only to 2s. 6d. and is returned to the Country in the shape of Revenue.

Mr. Wark was of opinion that it was too late in the Session to enter on the abstract questions of Free Trade and Protection. The better plan would be to pass the old Bill, to repeal the Imperial Act, and if allowed by the Queen, a general Bill might then be introduced. With regard to the complaints made by the Hon. Member from Queen's, the cause why American Meats were preferred to the Colonial, arose from the fact that they were better put up, and more profitable, and consequently the Lumberers would trade where they could make the best bargains.

Mr. L. A. Wilmot said there was another reason why the Lumberers did not take the Farmer's Pork; the merchants made double profits on that imported from the States—an Import and Export profit. How was it that the Lumberer would go to a certain store and pay £5 for his Pork, while in another he could purchase it for £4? did it not arise from the fact that he received credit in one place, while in the other he has to pay ready money? Merchants and Lumberers, aye and Lawyers too, knew this to be true, and some of them at least, knew it to their cost. An honourable member (Mr. Boyd) had denounced all Protection as *humbug*,—but if he believed his own exposition of the law of nature to be true, why not throw down at once all domestic as well as Commercial Protection, and have a community of goods subject to the demands of all? Let houses be thrown open, let fences be levelled, let all men help themselves to whatever they desired, for if Protection was a "relic of barbarism" and a "humbug," then this was of course the free trade law of nature, and it was only right to accede to it! He would grant his opponents the virtue of sincerity in their opposition—but he pitied their ignorance—while they in return perhaps pitied him. ["We do," by Mr. Brown.] He (Mr. W.) had looked at the Report of the Finance Committee, but he saw it was entirely based upon false premises. Would they say that Report expressed the state of our finances? ["No" by Mr. Brown, "its an estimate for the future."] Well if it was an estimate, it left the House in the dark, for it did not even tell the balance on hand at the present day. Well might the gentlemen composing this dark lanthern Committee sing the old song

"When shall we three meet again."

(Here several contradictions were given, and Mr. Wilmot proceeded.) He looked for truth but he found error. The House gave without rule or method, and then turned round and taxed the people to support their reckless conduct, and unprincipled grants. Where was the learned member from Gloucester, who in allusion to the initiation of Grants used to talk of our rights, and how our "great forefathers" bled to obtain them? Was it not well known that at the period when the House had assumed the initiation of those Grants, that the Legislative Council was also a part of the Executive, and that consequently the initiation rested with the Government? It was now a notorious fact that with all the Executive Members in the House, and the Finance Committee along with them, their collected wisdom could not declare within £3000 of what is required, or £10,000 of what is to be given. Here the learned member continued his speech by animadverting on the principles of Free Trade, as maintained by his opponents, and declaring himself in favour of protecting the Trade of the Colonies from Foreign importations, although he would advocate a Free Trade throughout the extent of the British Dominions.

Mr. Brown after some preliminary observations declared himself not convinced of the value of protection, by the arguments of his learned opponent. For instance it had been said, "protect the Tanner," but on whom did the misfortune fall? why to be sure on the Shoemaker, who would have to pay the more for his leather. "Oh! but protect the Shoemaker too." Very well, do so, but on whom will the cost come at last, for the Shoemaker must of course raise the price of his Shoes? where will it come? most certainly on the consumer who has to pay the advance, and who can get no protection from any quarter whatever.—And this is what is by the learned member for York, called *protection!* Most certainly that learned member was out of his element when he strayed into the system of political economy. Did it, he would ask, require any nice calculations to prove that if a man expend more labour in making an article than he would do in earning the price of it, that he will prefer adopting the latter course to the former? (We hastily sum up Mr. Brown's concluding observations by stating he argued, that Mr. Wilmot had to a great extent answered his own objections to Free Trade; inasmuch as he acknowledged that he was in favour of that system throughout the whole British Dominions.)

Mr. Connell said the learned member (Mr. Wilmot) might be a good Lawyer, but he knew little of the interests of the Lumberer and Merchant. He would ask what difference could possibly exist between crediting the Pork raised here, and that which is imported? The only difference lay in the circumstance that the New-Brunswick Pork—although better than the American—was all put up; and that it could not be procured in summer, when it was frequently required by the parties. At this stage of the debate we were called away for a while, and when we returned, Mr. Carman was concluding a Speech, which we understand was a pretty long one, in favour of Free Trade. Dr. Earle having previously spoken in favour of protection. The difficulty which now presented itself was, how those members, who were in favour of moderate protection, could vote in favour of the principle, as involved in Mr. R. D. Wilmot's amendment, because however friendly they felt to the abstract principle, they could not adopt it in the shape of an amendment, as it would then throw open the whole Revenue Bill, which for reasons already stated in the Speeches, they were anxious to retain for the present year.

Mr. R. D. Wilmot said he felt anxious on a point so important, to bring the House to a decided expression of opinion, and he refused to withdraw the amendment, whereupon on a motion of Mr. Ritchie, which underwent a new discussion, the House amidst some confusion reported progress, it being then approaching to 6 o'clock.

On Thursday, Mr. Woodward introduced a Bill against extra-judicial Oaths, when Mr. Ritchie, in Amendment, submitted the following Resolution:

"Whereas it is necessary that a Revenue should be raised to provide for making and repairing Roads and Bridges, educating the people, developing the resources and meeting the other enquiries of the Country; and whereas "it is by the application of the labor and industry of the Productive classes of this Province, to the natural resources of the country, that the wealth, well-being and comfort of the people are to be insured:" therefore

Resolved, That in framing a Revenue Bill in a new Country like this, such a just and fair discrimination should be introduced as will while it encourages the productions and manufactures of this Province, secure the advancement of the general interests of the Country at large, and not enrich the few to the injury of the many, but confer the largest amount of benefit on the number of people, thereby increasing the real wealth and elevating to its just and proper standing the true character of this Province.

This, after a pretty long discussion in which little new was elicited, was carried.

Yeas—Messrs. Rankin, Hannington, Fisher, Baillie, Thompson, Miles, Hazen, Brown, Street, Barberie, Boyd, Carman, Read, Ritchie, Cranny, End, Partelow, Wark, Smith, Jordan, Wilson, Steeves, Tibbetts, Porter, Botsford, Connell, Woodward, Landry, L. A. Wilmot—29.

Nays—Messrs. Earle, R. D. Wilmot, Gilbert, Vail, McLeod—5.

Mr. End then asked the Chair whether the Bill which had been laid aside to sustain the Resolution, could again be taken up in Committee; to which his Honor the Speaker answered, that prior to his becoming Speaker, and also since, such violations of rule had frequently occurred; but he left the case with the House, giving it as his opinion that the practice was not Parliamentary.—The Bill was then taken up, and after some debate was postponed three months.

The House next went into Supply, and several grants were disposed of.

On the Hon. Mr. Hazen moving the usual grant for the Indians of the County of York, Mr. L. A. Wilmot rose and said, that he would resist the appropriation until he knew how the Executive were going to apply it. The present usage experienced by these unfortunate people, was a disgrace to humanity, and also to the physician, Dr. Toldervy, who had been appointed by the Governor as their Doctor. His (Mr. Wilmot's) father had frequently applied to Dr. Toldervy, at a time when some of the Indians lay dead, and others dying, on the opposite Bank of the River; but beyond one visit, the Doctor could not be persuaded to go, and he then gave them some oil and left them to die!—Dr. Hartt had then been applied to, but he declined on grounds of professional etiquette, to visit them more than once. This he (Mr. W.) was prepared to prove. They were left to die without help, and being found in these circumstances, some of the neighbors were forced as far as possible to relieve them.

Mr. End regretted that those charges had been brought, as the party accused could not be present to defend himself; and he also regretted that the hon. member had not lodged his complaint with the Executive at the time. Several others declared their opinions, when Mr. Hazen said he would withdraw the motion, until the extraordinary charge which had been made should receive investigation. In this opinion Mr. J. A. Street concurred, and the motion was accordingly withdrawn.—*Fredericton Reporter.*

SUPPLY.—£50 to improve the Public Wharf at the foot of Regent Street, in Fredericton.

£500 for the purpose of encouraging the erection of Oat Mills in proper situations throughout the Province; no greater sum than £25 to be appropriated to the owner of any one Mill and Kiln: the said Bounty not to be paid until it shall be certified to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor or Administrator of the Government for the time being, by the Court of General Sessions of the Peace of the County within which such Oat Mill and Kiln may be situate, for which such Bounty is claimed, that the same have been established at a convenient place for the accommodation of the inhabitants of the County, and are actually in operation, and in every respect properly fitted for the manufacture of Oat Meal: provided that no Mill or Kiln which may have received any previous Bounty, by virtue of any Law or Resolution heretofore made, shall be entitled to the Bounty given by this resolution.

The Committee of Trade have recommended a grant of £500 from the Light House fund, to be applied towards the erection of a Breakwater at Dipper Harbor, if, after a proper survey, it be ascertained that such erection will be attended with beneficial results to Trade.

With respect to the petition of the Chamber of Commerce, relative to the heavy burdens now existing on tonnage, by the tax for supporting Light Houses, the committee of Trade report, that they cannot recommend its prayer.

On Monday, 8th March, on motion of Mr. R. D. Wilmot, Resolved, that an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to direct the Coroner of the City and County of Saint John forthwith to make up and forward to the Provincial Secretary, for the information of this House, a return of the number of violent or other deaths, upon which Inquests have been held, in the said City and County, from the year 1840 to the year 1846, both inclusive; the Verdict returned by the Coroner's Jury in each case; and the number of such deaths in each year, respectively.—Ordered, That Mr. R. D. Wilmot, Mr. Jordan, and Mr. Connell, be a committee to wait upon his Excellency with the Address.

THE WAR WITH MEXICO.

On the Army Bill being under consideration recently in the United States Senate, Mr. Corwin, of Ohio, delivered the following Speech against the war:—

Mr. President, if the history of our race has established any truth, it is but a confirmation of what is written, "the way of the transgressor is hard." Inordinate ambition, wantoning in power, and spurning the humble maxims of justice, has, ever has, and ever will end in ruin. Strength cannot always trample upon weakness—the humble shall be exalted—the bowed down will at length be lifted up. It is by faith in the law of strict justice and the practice of its precepts, that nations alone can be saved. All the annals of the human race, sacred and profane, are written over with this great truth in characters of living light. It is my fear, my fixed belief, that in this invasion, this war with Mexico, we have forgotten this vital truth. Why is it that we have been drawn into this whirlpool of war? How clear and strong was the light that shone upon the path of duty a year ago? The last disturbing question with England was settled—our power extended its peaceful sway from the Atlantic to the Pacific; from the Alleghanies we looked out upon Europe, and from the tops of the Stony Mountains we could descry the shores of Asia; a rich commerce with all the nations of Europe poured wealth and abundance into our lap on the Atlantic side, while an unoccupied commerce of three hundred millions of Asiatics waited on the Pacific for our enterprise to come and possess it. One hundred millions of dollars will be wasted in this fruitless war. Had this money of the people been expended in making a rail road from your Northern Lakes to the Pacific, as one of your citizens has begged of you in vain, you would have made a highway for the world between Asia and Europe. Your capital would then be within thirty or forty days' travel of any and every point on the map of the civilized world. Through this great artery of trade you would have carried through the heart of your own country the teas of China and the spices of India to the markets of England and France. Why, why, Mr. President, did we abandon the enterprises of peace, and betake ourselves to the barbarous achievements of war? Why did we "forsake *this* fair and fertile field, to batten on that moor?"

But, Mr. President, if further acquisition of territory is to be the result either of conquest or treaty, then I scarcely know which should be preferred—eternal war with Mexico, or the hazard of internal commotion at home—which last I fear *may* come if another province is to be added to our territory. There is one topic connected with this subject which I tremble when I approach, and yet I cannot forbear to notice it. It meets you in every step you take, it threatens you which way soever you go in the prosecution of this war.

I allude to the question of slavery. Opposition to its further extension, it must be evious to every one, is a deeply-rooted determination with men of all parties in what we call the non-slaveholding States. New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio, three of the most powerful, have already sent their legislative instructions here—so it will be, I doubt not, in all the rest. It is in vain now to speculate about the reasons for this. Gentlemen of the South may call it prejudice, passion, hypocrisy, fanaticism. I shall not dispute with them now on that point. The great fact that it is so, and not otherwise, is what it concerns us to know. You nor I cannot alter or change this opinion if we would. These people only say, we will not, cannot consent that you shall carry slavery where it does not already exist. They do not seek to disturb you in that institution, as it exists in your States. Enjoy it if you will, and as you will. This is their language, their determination. How is it in the South? Can it be expected that they should expend in common, their blood and their treasure, in the acquisition of immense territory, and then willingly forego the right to carry thither their slaves, and inhabit the conquered country if they please to do so? Sir, I know the feelings and opinions of the South too well to calculate on this. Nay, I believe they would even contend to any extremity for the mere *right*, had they no wish to exert it. I believe (and I confess I tremble when the conviction presses upon me) that there is equal obstinacy on both sides of this fearful question.

"If, then, we persist in war, which, if it terminate in any thing short of a mere wanton waste of blood as well as money, must end (as this bill proposes) in the acquisition of territory, to which at once this controversy must attach, this bill would seem to be nothing less than a bill to produce internal commotion. Should we prosecute this war another moment, or expend one dollar in the purchase or conquest of a single acre of Mexican land, the North and the South are brought into collision on a point where neither will yield. Who can foresee or foretell the result? Who so bold or reckless as to look such a conflict in the face unmoved? I do not envy the heart of him who can realize the possibility of such a conflict without emotions too painful to be endured. Why, then, shall we, the Representatives of the sovereign States of this Union, the chosen guardians of this confederated Republic, why should we precipitate this fearful struggle, by continuing a war, the results of which must be to force us at once upon it? Sir, rightly understood, *this* treason, treason to the Union, treason to the dearest interests, the loftiest aspirations, the most cherished hopes of our constituents. It is a crime to risk the possibility of such a contest. It is a crime of such infernal hue that every other in the catalogue of iniquity, when compared with it, whitens into virtue.

Oh, Mr. President, it does seem to me, if hell itself could yawn and vomit up the fiends that inhabit its penal abodes, commissioned to disturb the harmony of this world, and dash the fairest prospect of happiness that ever allured the hopes of men, the first step in the consummation of this diabolical purpose would be, to light up the fires of internal war, and plunge the sister States of this Union into the bottomless gulf of civil strife. We stand already on the crumbling brink of that gulf—we see the bloody eddies whirling and boiling before us—shall we not pause before it be too late? How plain, again, is here the path, I may add, the only way of duty, of prudence, of true patriotism. Let us abandon all idea of acquiring further territory, and by consequence cease at once to prosecute this war. Let us call home our armies, and bring them at once within our own acknowledged limits. Show Mexico that you are sincere when you say you desire nothing by conquest. She has learned that she cannot encounter you in war, and, if she had not, she is two weak to disturb you here. Tender her peace, and, my life on it, she will then accept it. But whether she shall or not, you will have peace without her consent. It is your invasion that has made war, your retreat will restore peace. Let us, then, close forever the approaches of internal feud, and so return to the ancient concord and the old ways of national prosperity and permanent glory. Let us here, in this temple consecrated to the Union, perform a solemn lustration; let us wash Mexican blood from our hands, and on these altars, in the presence of that image of the Father of his Country, that looks down upon us, swear to preserve honorable peace with all the world, and eternal brotherhood with each other.

FROM THE SEAT OF WAR.

WASHINGTON, March 8.—By the schooner Delta, at New Orleans on the 1st instant, we have news from Tampico to the 20th ultimo.

General Scott arrived at Tampico on the 19th, where it was reported that Vera Cruz had been evacuated by order of Santa Ana, and the enemy's troops marched to the interior.

Mr. Lumsden writes to the Picayune from Tampico, 18th ult., that he has seen a letter from a Mexican officer to a friend, dated San Luis the 9th, which states that Santa Ana was to march on Saltillo preparatory to attacking Monterey.

General Urrea, with 5000 troops, at Victoria, was to attack Matamoras, and both expeditions must prove successful.

The writer of this letter is Santa Ana's private secretary, and he says that they shall give the Yankees hot work in the north, while General Scott is marching on Vera Cruz.

It is pretty certain that Santa Ana is now at Saltillo, and it is even reported that he had engaged in a conflict with General Taylor, but the latter is not believed to at Tampico.

General Scott has issued orders to punish all crimes committed by Mexicans or Americans, not provided for by the army clause, after trial before a military commission, according to the laws of the United States.

The propeller Washington arrived at New Orleans 20th Feb., from Brazos 23d.

General Butler came passenger. He is suffering so much from hi wounds that he is disabled for active service.

Gen. Taylor, with Bragg's and Thomas's batteries, and the 2d Mississippi regiment, arrived at Saltillo on the 2d February, had taken a position at Aqua Nueva. All the troops were to go there on the 10th, except a few to remain in town.

There is little doubt but that General Minon will give General Taylor considerable trouble. It is stated that General Taylor wants light troops very much.

A letter from Brazos, dated 22d Feb., says that Taylor was busy making water tanks, and collecting a large train of wagons and pack mules. The enemy had apparently left that part of the country, for parts unknown—supposed towards Vera Cruz.

Gen. Worth's division had all embarked except the dragoons and light batteries.

Gen. Worth would sail in a day or two in the Edith.

SANTA ANA'S ADDRESS TO HIS ARMY.

Companions in Arms! The operations of the enemy demand that we should move precipitately upon his principal line, and we go to execute it. The independence, the honor and the destiny of the nation depend at this moment on your decision.

Soldiers! the entire world observes us, and will expect our acts to be as heroic as they are necessary. Privations of all kinds surround us, in consequence of the neglect shown towards us for more than a month by those who should provide your pay and provisions.

The Mexican soldier is well known for his frugality and his patience under suffering—never wanting magazines in marches across deserts—and always counting upon the resources of the enemy to provide for his wants.

To-day we shall undertake a march over a desert country, without succor or provisions. But be assured that we shall immediately be provided from those of the enemy, and with them you will be sufficiently reimbursed.

My friends—we go to open the campaign. What days of glory await us! What a flattering future for our country! How satisfactory, when we contemplate that we have saved its independence. How the world will admire us! How the nation will bless us! And when in the bosoms of our families we shall relate the risks and fatigues which we have endured, the combats with and triumphs over a daring and presumptuous enemy; and hereafter, when telling our children that we have saved our country a second time, the jubilee will be complete, and these sacrifices will then appear to us as nothing.

Soldiers! hurry forth in defence of your country. The cause we sustain is a holy one; never have we struggled with more justice, because we fight for the land of our forefathers and of our children, the honor and religion of our wives and children! What sacrifice, then, can be too great for objects so dear? Let our motto be, "CONQUER OR DIE!" Let us swear before the great Eternal, that we will not wait an instant in purging our soil of the stranger who has dared to profane it with his presence. No treaty, nothing which may not be heroic and proud.

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANA.

Head-quarters, San Luis Potosi, Jan. 27, 1847.

THE OBSERVER.

ST. JOHN, TUESDAY, MARCH 16, 1847.

LEGISLATIVE.—On Friday afternoon last, His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor proceeded to the Council Chamber, and having commanded the attendance of the House of Assembly, gave his assent to a number of Bills that had passed both Houses.

Same day, in the Assembly, Mr. Fisher laid on the table the following Resolutions, relative to the construction of the Executive Council, and the duties expected from that body:—

Resolved, As the opinion of this House, that while it fully recognizes the accountability of the Executive Council to the Assembly, it will expect that henceforth the Provincial Administration will from time to time prepare and bring before the Legislature such measures as may be required, for the developement of the Provincial resources and the general advancement of the public interests.

Resolved, As the opinion of this House, that in order to ensure a successful administration, the Executive Council should be so constructed as to combine the talent and experience necessary for the efficient performance of the important duties required of them, and so also as to obviate the necessity of any organization of antagonist political parties in the Province.

It is stated that the discussion on these resolutions was appointed to take place to-day, and that a warm and animated debate was anticipated.

☞ The Revenue Law at present in operation in this Province, is to be continued, without alteration, till the 1st of April, 1848.

Irish and Scotch Sufferers.—The subscriptions in Gloucester County, for the relief of the destitute Highlanders, amounted last week to upwards of £100, and the lists were still open at Bathurst.

A lumbering party of seventeen persons at a camp on the North West Branch of the Miramichi River, have subscribed the liberal sum of £21 for the destitute Irish.

At Woodstock subscriptions are also being raised for the sufferers.

In Yarmouth, N.S. £100 has been raised for the sufferers in Ireland and Scotland.

NEWFOUNDLAND.—The mail brig Sandwich arrived at Halifax on Friday last, bringing St. John's papers to the 2d inst. In many parts of the Colony the people are stated to be suffering dreadfully from the want of food, and would starve were it not for the relief administered by the public authorities.

An Election riot occurred at Pinette Mills, Prince Edward Island, on the 1st inst. One man named Malcolm McKinnon was killed, and two others named Taylor and McLeod, were so much injured that they are reported to have since died.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—Last evening, P. Stubs, Esq., delivered his fourth lecture on Railways. He was assisted on the occasion by Mr. Pratt and Mr. J. G. Melick. The lecture, besides touching upon the advantages to commerce and travelling, which have resulted from Railways, embraced a consideration of inclined planes and turn-tables. The principles of the high and low pressure steam engines were also lucidly explained. Of the latter, a beautiful sectional model, lately imported from Boston for the Institute, was exhibited for the first time. From this model, as the Lecturer said, more can be learned about the engine in a few minutes, than from a months' reading of the best works on the subject. With the experiments, which were chiefly performed by Mr. Pratt and Mr. Melick, the audience, which crowded the Hall, seemed to be highly delighted.—The Model, to which we have alluded, and which was greatly admired, as it has been in all the lecture rooms in the United States where it has been introduced, is we understand the contrivance of Mr. Joseph M. Wightman, whose ingenuity in the contrivance and improvement of philosophical apparatus, has frequently obtained the premiums at the Mechanics' Fair, held annually in Boston.

Next Monday evening, Mr. Foulis will lecture on *Voltaic Electricity* and *Electro-Magnetism*. The lecture will embrace a description of the *Electric Telegraph*.

The inhabitants of Woodstock are taking measures for the establishment of a Mechanics' Institute at that place.—The Rev. Mr. Temple, Wesleyan Minister, hed delivered one or two lectures on Astronomy.

☞ The proprietors of the Steamer *New Brunswick*, residing in Fredericton, have presented Captain ROBERT WYLIE, the late popular Commander of that Boat, with the handsome sum of £50, as a testimonial of their approbation of his conduct while in their employ. The testimonial was accompanied with the following Resolution:—

"*Resolved unanimously*, That whereas in consequence of the intended winding up of the affairs of the Company, the Services of Captain Wylie will not be required by them for the ensuing year, the sum of Fifty Pounds be presented to that Gentleman, together with the thanks and good wishes of the Stockholders, as a slight testimonial of the high sense the Company entertain of the fidelity, zeal and urbanity, with which he has discharged the duties of his office, and which have for so many years secured to him not only the entire confidence of his employers, but also an universal popularity among the travelling public."

"*Further Resolved*, That a Copy of the above Resolution, enclosing the sum named therein, be forwarded to Captain Wylie, forthwith, by the Secretary."

Extract from the Minutes. W. M'BEATH,

To Captain R. Wylie. *Secretary.*

To the foregoing Capt. Wylie returned a very feeling and appropriate answer.—Capt. W. is to command the splendid new Boat now building at the Yard of Messrs. Irvine, at Courtenay Bay, owned by Messrs. Thomas Barlow & Co., and others.

The Nova Scotia House of Assembly has taken all the duty off Flour for the next four months, on account of the existing scarcity. The duty on Crushed Sugars has been fixed at 10s. per cwt, and on Refined at 14s.

Reported Loss of the Mail Steamer Tweed and Sixty Lives.—An arrival at New Orleans from Campeachy, brought a report of the loss of the Royal Mail steamer Tweed on the 12th February, N. E. of Cardenas. Sixty persons are said to have been drowned. An expedition was sent from Campeachy to her assistance.—The report requires confirmation.

It is currently reported that matters will be so arranged between the Executive and the Master of the Rolls, that no delay of justice can take place in the Court of Marriage and Divorce; and that the Master of the Rolls has preferred his charges before the Home Government.

We hope that this is the case;—the Master of the Rolls is a sound lawyer, and we have no doubt that the British Government will take proper measures to support the dignity of the Courts of Justice, and, by so doing, protect and preserve the rights of the Crown and the liberties of the subject.—*Courier.*

CULTIVATION OF HEMP.—The House of Assembly having passed a Bill for giving a bounty on the cultivation of Hemp in this Province, we trust such exertions will be made by our farmers and others as will give the article a fair trial.—*Ib.*

The Committee of the Magnetic Telegraph at Quebec, are pursuing their inquiries with much assiduity. We learn from the *Journal de Quebec* that they have pronounced in favour of the route by Metis, and the Kempt road, to Campbelton (Bay Chaleur): thence to Dalhousie, Bathurst, Miramichi and Peticodiac, (from which place a branch line will be laid down to St. John and Fredericton); and thence by the post road to Halifax. It is also thought that the Rail road will take the same route. We think it is high time that our citizens were up and doing, if they wish to secure a full share of the benefits to be derived from Railway communication. The people of St Andrews are "going ahead" with their line, which is to connect that town with Woodstock, and when completed will withdraw the trade of the upper Country from St. John, if we do not prove ourselves as active as our neighbours. The subject is one of vast importance to the commerce of our City, and no time is to be lost.—*New Bruns.*

ACCIDENT BY FIRE.—A most distressing case of this kind took place, at Beaver Harbour, on the forenoon of Tuesday, the 2d inst., in the total destruction of the dwelling house of Mr. William Dickson, with all its contents. Mr. Dickson was in the woods at the time the accident happened. Some sparks from the chimney catching in the shingles, caused all the mischief. Mrs. Dickson, who has long been in a dying state and confined to her bed, with two daughters and a boy, were the only inmates at the time the fire broke out, and their care being necessarily diverted to the rescue and safe keeping of their aged and helpless parent, they had no time to think of saving any property. Mr. D. has long been known and esteemed as one of the most exemplary and useful men in the parish. We are, therefore, happy to learn that it is the intention of a few benevolent individuals to set a foot a subscription to aid him in repairing a loss, which, at his time of life,—60 years of age,—must press very severely.—*Charlotte Gazette.*

NOVA SCOTIA.—It is proposed in the House of Assembly to have no restrictive duties whatever between the British North American Colonies. We should like to ask why there should not be free trade with the *whole British Dominions?* Why cannot the mighty Empire of which we form a part, be united as firmly and compactly as the United States of America?—*Halifax Post.*

HINT FOR TEMPERANCE MEN.—It was stated in the House of Assembly yesterday, that the Revenue last year arising from Spirituous Liquors amounted to £24,000!—being one-fourth of the gross revenue of the Province. This is an enemy for the Temperance armies of our country to march forward and encounter.—*Ib.*

POISON PARTRIDGES.—Several of our citizens have been poisoned by eating partridges, which at this season of the year are unfit for use.—We learn that the physicians have declared that some cases are very dangerous.—*Ib.*

FRAUDS IN PICKLED FISH.—The catch of Mackerel on the shores of Nova Scotia and Cape Breton, last year, is computed by well informed persons to have amounted to 150,000 barrels, at least, of which there have been exported about 60,000 barrels to the West Indies, and 40,000 to the United States. In a recent shipment of mackerel from this port to the United States, a considerable portion of alewives was found intermixed on overhauling the barrels.—We were previously aware that the Pickled Fish of Nova Scotia bore a bad character in the States, from the detection of stones and sea weed in the barrels. When thus deceived, the shipper must submit to the consequent loss and mortification in silence, for Tom, Dick, and Harry, the individuals who cured and put the fish in his hands, care not a fig about what may be *said* of their trickery, and their indigence is pretty safe protection against a prosecution.—*Halifax Recorder.*

NEW YORK TRINITY CHURCH.—A number of the Clergy of the Episcopal Church, it is said, intend testing the right of Trinity Church, N. Y., to hold exclusive control over the vast real estate which was bequeathed to it before the American Revolution.

The Pope has nominated a Bishop for Oregon. He is to be accompanied by several priests.

MONTREAL, March 2.—*Disgraceful Riots at the Municipal Elections.*—What we predicted a few days ago came to pass yesterday; a large number of men, apparently strangers, armed with axe handles and other weapons of a similar nature, paraded our streets for the purpose of destroying the franchise of peaceable citizens. We know not whether the authorities will be able to show that they took any steps to prevent this open and shameless outrage. Whatever steps were taken, however, were clearly inadequate to the emergency, and a mob, in consequence, ruled the city. We are unable, after the confusion of the day, to give any very reliable account of the particulars of the ruffianly conduct which prevented many men from exercising their right of voting. Nor do we choose on the authority of rumours to give all the statements we have heard respecting parties generally considered respectable, who are said to have taken part in the acts of violence so degrading to this metropolis of Canada.—Notwithstanding the usual stories of dead and dying men, we have reason to believe that less personal injury was inflicted than on previous occasions. But these things are never ascertained with much certainty till after the tumult has passed away. It is said that much damage was done to property, in the shape of window glass, especially in some parts of St. Paul street. A number of individuals were, as usual, arrested; and there, we suppose, their punishment will cease.—[Herald.

We have given the versions of the Montreal papers relating to the acts of violence committed at the Municipal Elections on the 1st instant. There is a lamentable state of mind, which is owing, in a great measure, to the falsehoods, abuse and appeals to national origin and even religious distinctions and prejudices, which have been resorted to for many years past. The evil consequences have been felt throughout the Province; but as they have not always reached the most guilty, they are not likely to reform.—[Neilson's Quebec Gazette.

AUDACIOUS ROBBERY IN CANADA.—A man from New York named Ludlow was recently robbed of a large amount of money in the following manner:—He was travelling on foot near Longueuil on the Ottawa, when he was overtaken by three men in a sleigh drawn by a single horse. The men offered him a ride, which he accepted. When they had proceeded a little way, the men conversed in French for a while after which one of them offered to sell Ludlow the horse, but he alleged that he had only $10 about him. The villains then presented pistols and other weapons to his breast and demanded his money, which Ludlow was forced to deliver to the amount of over $1000. His life was only spared on condition of a solemn oath not to divulge the facts for 24 hours. The robbers then turned him out of the sleigh and drove off.

The English brig of war Ferret lately captured on the coast of Africa, a Brazilian vessel of 119 tons, with 550 human beings, slaves, on board.

In Milwaukie land district, in Wisconsin, 700,000 acres of land have been sold within twelve months, leaving but 500,000 subject to entry.

The amount of duties collected on the goods imported into Boston last year in the British Mail steamers, was $1,054,731. The value of the goods and specie brought was $4,445,000.

At Philadelphia, Freights to St. John were 5s. for flour, and 20d. asked for grain. No engagements at these rates.

The American Peace Society offer a reward of *five hundred dollars*, for the best "Review of the present War with Mexico." The essays are to be presented four months after the termination of the war; are not to be more than 250 duodecimo pages in length; and are not to reflect upon any political party.

THE NEW COMET, discovered by Mr. George P. Bond, will, from present appearances, soon become visible to the naked eye; indeed, we have heard that it was thought to be so last evening. At the Cambridge Observatory, on Saturday, through the five feet Equatorial, it presented an irregular figure, without a definite nucleus, but with a long trail, streaming off across the field of the telescope. Last evening, at 7h. 24 1-2m. the Right Ascension of the Comet was 23h. 43m. 38.5. sec. Declination North, 45° 25' 14.4". Daily increase R. A. about 3m. 5 sec., do. decrease of Dec. 1° 11'.—*Boston Traveller, 9th March.*

[From the New Brunswicker of this morning.]

Very Important from the Seat of War!

Engagement between Generals Taylor and Santa Anna!

By the arrival of the sch'r Flora, in two days from Boston, papers of Friday last, containing the following news of a battle between the Mexicans and American forces, were received at the News Room. The account appears to be rather vague, but no doubt there has been a fight, the full particulars of which we shall soon receive.

The following important intelligence from the Seat of War, we find in the New Orleans Delta of the 2d inst.

CAMP WATSON, Feb. 17, 4 o'clock, P. M.

After closing mine of this morning, I proceeded to the encampment, and had not dismounted from my horse before I was asked by a thousand persons whether I had the particulars of the fight between Gen. Taylor and Gen. Santa Anna, at Monterey. I did not know what to make of it for a while, but at last succeeded in obtaining enough items to show that Gen. Taylor had again met the enemy. As soon as I heard this, I repaired to the quarters of Gen. Twiggs, and he stated to me that three Mexicans had arrived this morning from Victoria, who said the forces of the Americans, after retreating from Saltillo, had made a stand at Monterey, and given fight to the Mexicans under Santa Anna.

The conflict is said to have been long and severe, and the loss great on both sides; but says the Mexicans, Santa Anna ultimately gave way, having sustained a heavy loss in killed and wounded—among the latter was Gen. Arista.—At this moment I have little time for comment. Ever since I have been advised of the