The Observer.

SAINT JOHN, APRIL 16, 1850.

The English mail of the 6th inst. per steamship *Hibernia*, now out 10 days, may be soon expected. The mails will now leave England weekly.

On Thursday last, His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor proceeded to the Council Chamber, and gave his assent to about thirty Bills, passed during the present session.

The business of the Session is rapidly drawing to a close, and will probably terminate in the course of ten or twelve days.

We again return our thanks to John Simpson, Esq., Queen's Printer, for a copy of an Oration delivered at the *Encœnia*, in King's College, Fredericton, last June, by Dr. Robb, Professor of Chemistry and Natural History in the College.—Also, for a copy of the "Report on the General Principles to be adopted for the improvement of the Navigation of the River St. John, from the Grand Falls to Fredericton,—by Capt. Bent, Royal Engineers, and Mr. Grant, Civil Engineer."—Both of which, like the preceding Reports, &c., recently received from the Queen's Printer, are all very neatly printed, and creditable to his establishment. The total estimated cost of removing and obviating impediments in the River, in order to improve the navigation and render it safe, from the Grand Falls to Fredericton, is stated at £10,705. The Report is highly interesting.

It is stated that twenty-six miles of the Saint Andrews and Woodstock Railway have been contracted for by persons in Portland, (Me.), and that a thousand men from the States are to be put on it forthwith—the above distance to be completed the ensuing fall. One quarter of the pay, it is said, is to be taken in Stock of the Company.

ELECTRO-BIOLOGY.—Dr. Falvey's exhibitions in this wonderful science continue to attract and interest large audiences at the Mechanics' Institute. His influence over the minds of those who come under his control on the platform, is indeed astonishing, in making them believe anything, no matter how improbable. Dr. F. will lecture and experiment again this evening, and the entertainment will doubtless be an interesting one.

On Saturday night and Sunday last snow fell to the depth of several inches, and the weather continues unusually cold and backward for the season. The usual April rains are much wanted (none having yet fallen this month) to thaw and clear away the remains of the winter accumulations of snow and ice, considerable quantities of which yet remain in the streets, roads, and grounds in and around the City. The ice in the river yet holds strong, without any immediate sign of breaking up.—At this date last year the steamers were performing their trips to and from Fredericton.

It has become our melancholy duty to announce the death of the Honorable HUGH JOHNSTON, who died this morning at half past seven o'clock.—This lamented gentleman arrived in town about twelve days since from Fredericton, where he had been attending to his Legislative duties.—His health has been declining for some months past, and his symptoms, shortly after his arrival in this city, convinced his medical attendants that his disease must soon terminate fatally.—Mr. Johnston was aware of his rapidly approaching dissolution, and although suffering severely from his disease, he was patient and *resigned*.—In the death of Mr. Johnston, New-Brunswick has to deplore the loss of a man, whom, as a Legislator and a Citizen, it can illy afford to spare, and whose honorable and independent services in the House of Assembly and in the Legislative and Executive Councils, gained for him universal esteem, to which he was justly entitled.—We sincerely sympathise with his bereaved family; and although we know that human sympathy is unavailing in such deep affliction, still it must afford them *some consolation*, that his Country mingles its regrets with the tears they shed for a husband and a parent.—*Courier of Saturday.*

Mr. JOHNSTON'S remains were interred this afternoon, at three o'clock, attended by a large number of friends, relatives, and citizens.

Last Thursday evening, the Rev. Mr. McKay delivered the seventh lecture of the course on the Evidences of Christianity, in the Baptist Chapel, Germain-street. The subject was, *The causes that tend to promote modern Infidelity.* The lecture, like all that preceded it, gave general satisfaction.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.

Mr. FOULIS delivered a very interesting and instructive Lecture on Monday evening, 8th instant, before a numerous audience, on the *Chemical Transmutation of Matter.*—The following brief abstract of it has been furnished by a friend, and as it contains some ideas that may be new to many of our readers, we willingly give it a place in our columns.

In reviewing the first transmutations of matter as forming and originating the primary and secondary rocks, the lecturer offered some arguments which seemed to accord with both the Huttonian and Wernerian theories of the earth. As this however was dangerous ground for speculation, he wished to be understood as only offering conjectures which derive some plausibility from certain experimental proofs which he would offer at the close of the lecture. He viewed the subject, "*The Transmutation of Matter,*" from three aspects. First: If the elements of matter were the first work of creation, then their action on each other began, and has ever since been in increasing activity, producing all those changes on the earth's surface, the recognition of which is the proper study of the student of geology, who inquired into the causes of these changes, and the influences which they may have exerted in modifying the external structure of our planet. The first action of many of these elements on each other, would produce intense heat, if we may judge from the present known laws of their combination.—combustion was but the act of transmutation, or a change from a simple to a more complex state, and if the union of oxygen with hydrogen, (which forms all the water of the globe,) was brought about in this way, then with other like causes, resulting from such combinations, the nucleus of our planet might be reduced to a molten mass, and adopting this view of the first transmutations of matter, we might the more easily account for the earth's internal heat, and for the evidences which the primary rocks present, of having had an igneous origin. The same cause, the lecturer thought, would bring about the cooling process, for the vapour of water being the result of the union of two gases undergoing transmutation by combustion, the vapour ascending would in the upper regions of the atmosphere part with its heat, and having suffered condensation would descend as rain, and thus by a succession of such condensations, each one carrying away a portion of heat, the surface of the globe would at last be so cooled, as to fit it for the quiescent reception of the great ocean which was thus formed, and this ocean being first in a heated condition would act more powerfully as a solvent of many of the elementary substances, or on their primary combinations and in the subsequent precipitations of which, we might see the evidences of the origin of the sedimentary or stratified rocks, which after a period began to appear above the surface of the waters. In the second place, Mr. Foulis viewed the action of what he termed the *untangible agents*, Light, Heat, and Electricity, acting on tangible matter by a series of progressive transmutations, preparing the surface of the earth with its atmosphere for the abode of organized beings—for vegetable and animal life. He thought that it had been asserted with every evidence of truth, that the vitality of plants was a chemical process entirely dependent on the sun's rays, which was transmitted by vibratory undulations, and these motions produce as many effects on matter, as there were possible combinations of colour, and the result was an *organized structure.*—When a seed was thrown into the ground and within the influence of certain invisible chemical rays which accompany light, (which the lecturer had endeavoured to explain on a former occasion when the subject of *Actinism* was considered,) and which rays penetrate the ground more abundantly in spring. There if heat and moisture be present, a part of the seed is formed into roots, which by this influence absorbs from the soil, water mixed with carbonic acid; this it decomposes, consolidating the carbon into a growing stem, which stem carrying with it to the surface of the ground a portion of the sugar and mucilage that all seeds contain, is there formed into leaves that enables the plant, by the action of light, to decompose the carbonic acid of the atmosphere, transmuting as food the carbon to form its structure, and exhaling the oxygen which this gas contains, back again to the air. Although the food of plants are in a great measure derived from the decomposition of water and carbonic acid, yet other fixed substances are often necessary for their growth and perfection; vegetable analysis prove that many plants absorb from the soil, the alcalies, phosphates, silica, sulphur, and iron. It is obvious therefore that an individual species will thrive best, on that soil which furnishes most easily the requisites necessary for their peculiar nature.

The lecturer adverted to the quantity of heat set free by the various transmutations which effect consolidation, a circumstance that any one might easily convince himself of at this season of the year, by boring a hole in a growing tree and inserting therein a thermometer, when it would be found that plants, like animals, had a tendency to produce a temperature of their own, independent of external circumstances. From a like cause there must also be an enormous quantity of electricity transmitted to the atmosphere, from the points of the leaves of plants. Hence we may perceive the sublimity of creative wisdom, in so fashioning their leaves, and in instituting that important electrical law, by which this powerful agent is transmitted silently and imperceptibly from points.

Mr. Foulis' concluding remarks were applied to the action of *vital force* and *animal organization.* The first in living vegetables acting only on inorganic matter, which they transmuted into organic substances. While all animals, on the contrary, can only subsist on the parts of organisms, and they in both cases, by what is termed the *functions of nutrition*, or that power which enables existence to assimilate to its own forms of life certain matter with which it comes in contact. This phenomena is to be ascribed to a peculiar cause, different in its manifestation from all others which produce motion, or by transmutation any chemical change of condition. It is to be regarded, in fact, as the action of the principle of life—an independent force in the phenomena of being,—yet opposing, like other forces, a resistance which may be regarded as the measure of its power of action. The examination of the effects of this influence, the lecturer trusted, would be a legitimate inquiry, while he was fully convinced that all true philosophy must deny any advance over the fixed limits of natural science, and must regard all considerations touching the immaterial essence of life, as far beyond the grasp of the human intellect, which can only form conceptions of things that are material. All the explanations that the most intelligent mind can attempt, are but descriptions and comparisons of known phenomena with those whose cause are unknown.

Last evening, Samuel F. Thompson, Esq. gave an interesting lecture on Poetry, as compared with Music, Sculpture, and Painting, to a large and respectable audience.

On Friday evening, Mr. McShane will lecture. Subject: *An inquiry into opinion, and the causes which lend influence to it.*

On Monday evening the 22d inst. the Rev. Mr. Wishart will lecture,—Subject, *Lavater and Gall.* This will be the last Lecture of the *season.*

THE SCRUTINIES.—On Saturday last, the objections raised by J. H. Hartt, Esq., to the return of Alderman Needham, for King's Ward, were heard before the Common Council, when the Board decided in favour of the sitting member.

On Wednesday, the scrutiny between Alderman Bond and Mr. Coagle, for Brooks' Ward, occupied the attention of the Council, when it was decided that Mr. Coagle should take his seat, he having a majority of five votes over Alderman Bond.

The Scrutiny between Alderman Smith, of Queen's Ward, and S. K. Foster, Esq., terminated on Saturday last, by the latter gentleman relinquishing the scrutiny, when Alderman Smith was declared duly elected, by a majority of 53 votes.

The new Board were sworn into office at noon, to day.

Major Edward Boyd, of the 29th Regiment, formerly of the Royal Staff Corps, has been allowed to retire from the service upon full pay, on account of his services. He was employed in the Peninsula from March, 1812, to the end of that war in 1814, and served also with the army of occupation throughout the whole period. He received the war medal and four clasps, for Badajoz, Nivelle, Nive and Toulouse. Major Boyd is son of the late Dr. John Boyd, of the Medical Staff. The mark of favor which has now been shewn him, must be gratifying to his friends, many of whom reside in this Province. —*Courier.*

ST. GEORGE'S SOCIETY.—The election of Office bearers of this Society took place on Monday the 1st instant. The following Gentlemen were elected:

John H. Gray, Esquire, *President;*
H. P. Sturdee, Esquire, *Vice President;*
Mr. J. R. Ruel, *Treasurer;* and
T. E. G. Tisdale, Esquire, *Secretary.*

The Society intend celebrating the anniversary of St. George by dining together at the St. John Hotel, on the 23d inst.

The St. George's Society of Halifax intend celebrating the Anniversary of their Patron Saint by a procession in the morning and dining together on the evening of the 23d instant.

At the annual meeting of the *Orphan Benevolent Society*, held on the 8th instant, the following gentlemen were appointed office-bearers for the present year:—

James Gallagher, Esquire, *President,*
Mr. John Doherty, *Vice-President,*
Mr. P. McCourt, *Treasurer,*
Mr. Wm. Cunningham, *Secretary.*

CANADA.—The prospects of a good Spring trade in Canada are unusually cheering. The weather continued mild, and the navigation of the lakes was open.

The Montreal *Herald* says that the city of Montreal has discharged £7000 of its debt during the past year.

We learn from the *Montreal Pilot* that a state of insubordination exists in the counties of Nicolet and Yamaska. Throughout the two counties named, the cry is—"Down with Municipal Councils and Schools—they are taxing machines!"

QUEBEC.—The Quebec Gazette of the 6th inst. contains a statement of the census of that City for 1850, by which it appears that the population amounts to 37,500—of whom 22,375 are French Canadians.

TORONTO, April 5.—Incessant rains, with a rapid thaw of the snow, for two days, have produced a great freshet in all the rivers in this part of the country, carrying away bridges, mill dams, quantities of timber and other property.

NEWFOUNDLAND.—A petition signed by 150 able bodied men, has been presented to the authorities, praying that they may have work in order to support their families.

A vessel fully equipped, has been fitted out at Bermuda for the prosecution of the Whale Fishery in the vicinity of those Islands.

FAT CATTLE.—Two fat Oxen were exhibited at Charlottetown, P. E. I., on the 27th ult., of the following weight:—One fattened by George Beer, sen., 1387 lbs., 4 years old, and one by John Thorne, 1600 lbs.

LADIES' BAZAAR.—The Bazaar held at the Temperance Hall, on Tuesday last, went off with great *eclat.* A great number of our citizens patronized the efforts of the Ladies in the cause of benevolence. The Hall was thronged throughout the day; and in the evening the pleasure was immeasurably enhanced by the sweet strains of the fine Band of the 97th Regt.—*Novascotian.*

WELL DONE SAPPERS!—The non commissioned officers and privates of the 5th company of the Royal Sappers and Miners, which have been stationed six years and ten months in this garrison, have subscribed the very liberal sum of £7 10s. in aid of the funds of the proposed Centenary Hospital. —*Ib.*

A good deal of interest was created among our City Capitalists, on Tuesday, by the sale of the fine property near the Ordnance, known as Apothecaries Hall. Considering the vary general complaints of hard times, and "ruin and decay," the building sold well. Doctor Avery was the purchaser at £5,310. —*Ib.*

The expedition which Mr. Grinnell, of New York, purposes to send in search of the noble and far famed Sir John Franklin, is now nearly completed, and will soon commence its praiseworthy but perilous undertaking.

There has been shipped to California from Boston since January 1, 1849, to March, 1850, according to the Boston Shipping List, 23,700,000 feet Lumber, 14,300,000 Shingles, 5,000,000 Bricks, a large number of house frames, and building material too numerous to mention. Over seven thousand packages of liquor were also shipped to same date.

Mrs. Webster, accompanied by her daughters, had an interview with Gov. Biggs, at the Adams House on Sunday morning. His Excellency received them with great courtesy. How far their hopes of obtaining a pardon for the condemned criminal were encouraged by what passed at the interview, we have not learned.—*Boston Cour., 9th.*

The report of a medical student having seen Professor Webster standing over and cutting up the dead body of Dr. Parkman, and being sworn to secrecy, &c., is (says the *Boston Times*) totally without foundation.

NEW-BRUNSWICK SOCIETY—*For the Encouragement of Agriculture, Home Manufactures, and Commerce, throughout the Province.*—This Society held its regular quarterly meeting at Fredericton, agreeably to the Constitution, on the evening of the 3d instant, and was principally occupied in hearing the Reports of the Special Committees appointed on the 31st January last. The Report on the best mode of accumulating, preserving, and applying the different kinds of manures—on the raising of turnips, mangold wurtzel, carrots and parsnips,—on the different kinds of seeds for general use,—on the best kinds of fatting cattle and hogs—on household and domestic manufactures, and the kind of factories which might be undertaken in New Brunswick, with success; and on the best modes of imparting and disseminating agricultural and other information to the farming and working classes of the Province, were all received and adopted by the Society. These Reports, which reflect great credit on the ability and industry of their authors, and are calculated to be of immense service to the interests of this Province, the Society resolved to publish without delay. Together with the one previously delivered, on the best Cash markets for beef and pork, and the best modes of making the same marketable—in 1000 copies for distribution to the County Agricultural Societies and otherwise.—*Fredericton Head Quarters.*

At a preceding meeting of the Society, the following Resolutions were adopted:—

Moved by James Brown, Esq., seconded by the Hon. J. W. Weldon.

1st. *Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Society the business of Agriculture in New Brunswick ranks first in the scale of importance, that upon its resources and improvements, the merchant, the mechanic, the manufacturer, and all other members of society, materially depend for subsistence and wealth.

Moved by the Lord Bishop of Fredericton, and seconded by the Hon. the Master of the Rolls.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Society the encouraging and extending the manufacturing interests in every part of New Brunswick, will materially tend to introduce and accumulate capital in the Province; will encourage and draw to our shores and retain many classes of useful labourers; will afford additional markets, and otherwise benefit our farmers, and largely contribute to increase the wealth and raise the character of New Brunswick.

Moved by David S. Kerr, Esq., and seconded by Mr. Editor Hill.

Resolved, That as it is highly desirable to encourage and improve the mercantile interests of this Province, by basing them upon a more sure and prosperous footing than now exists, it is the opinion of this Society, that the advancing of Agriculture and Manufactures in New Brunswick, and thereby introducing additional capital, and producing additional commodities of a permanent and profitable description, available to our merchants for the supply of the different markets, will greatly conduce to the attainment of the desired end.

Moved by the Hon. Harris Hatch, seconded by C. L. Hatheway, Esq.

Resolved, That the resources and productions of this Province have been hitherto much neglected, and all classes should unite in a vigorous effort to make those resources and productions more available and profitable.

Moved by the Hon. Edwin Botsford, seconded by D. S. Kerr, Esq.

Resolved, That this Society is highly gratified with Professor Johnston's account of the Agricultural capabilities of this Province, and its resources, generally, and is cheered with the prospect that the Legislature and the people will unite their efforts to make those capabilities and resources available.

Moved by Andrew Barberie, Esq., seconded by James Taylor, Esq.,

Resolved, That this Society rejoices in the cheering results of superiority in the capabilities of New Brunswick, displayed in the Lecture of Professor Johnston, in his comparison of the general average of Wheat, Barley, Oats, Rye, Potatoes and Turnips, produced in New Brunswick, with the like average of similar articles, yielded in the Canadas and the most productive portion of the United States.

Moved by Mr. J. A. Beckwith, seconded by D. S. Kerr, Esq.

Resolved, That whilst it appears by Professor Johnston's Report, that this Province on an average possesses capabilities equal and even superior to the Canadas or the States, for producing food, viz: Barley, Oats, Rye, and Potatoes, the price of the most of those articles available for the farmer in the New Brunswick Market is, on an average, double the price in similar Home markets, in the Canadas, or the United States.

Moved by Robert Chestnut, Esq., seconded by Mr. William Watts, Sen.

Resolved, That this Society receives with gladness, the views of Professor Johnston, expressed by him at the St. John Institute, whilst dealing with the objection of our winters, that after the best examination and comparison he could make, he was of opinion that there was nothing in the circumstances of this Province so different from those in prosperous countries, especially the Canadas and the North Eastern States, as to diminish the profits of the New Brunswick Farmer in comparison with those in such other countries.

Moved by James Brown, Esq., seconded by Mr. Editor Hogg.

Resolved, That Oats and Barley, which can be produced in New Brunswick, to an extent unsurpassed by any other part of the world, is calculated to be a great staple commodity for food and profit in this Province, and that the increased production of Oats and Barley, the extensive erection of Oat and Barley Mills, and the more extensive and general use of Oat and Barley meal, for family and other uses, should receive every possible encouragement from the people of this Province.

Moved by James Taylor, Esq., seconded by H. J. Hansard, Esq.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this meeting, the interests of Agriculture, Home Manufactures, and Commerce, would be greatly promoted and the utility of this Society much enhanced, by the holding of an annual Show and Fair in some suitable and convenient place in this Province, not of exhibition merely, but for the sale and exchange of every description of the productions of this country.

AN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.—We observe that the State of New York has taken an important step towards the advancement of Agricultural science, in the adoption of a Bill to establish a College and Farm, for instruction in the theory and practise of Agriculture. The studies recommended are:

"Scientific and practical agriculture, chemistry and chemical manipulation, mathematics and mechanics, engineering and practical surveying, geology and mineralogy, botany, horticulture and gardening, veterinary art and anatomy, the breeding, rearing and improvement of farm stock, general farm management, history, law and general science, the higher departments of English education, including composition and declamation, and such other branches of knowledge as they may deem proper.

A farm of six hundred acres is to be attached to the College, and cultivated by the scholars, who are to be practically taught laying out farms and gardens, in various modes; the setting out of plants and trees; grafting, budding, pruning, transplanting and rearing of fruit trees; the different manners of fencing grounds, with the relative advantages and cost of each; the various qualities of forest trees, in reference to fencing and building purposes; the best mode of breeding and feeding stock; the comparative advantage of the various breeds; how to discover defects, and the way to remedy or eradicate them; the proper time to sell produce, and how to put it in market; the manner of keeping farm accounts; and, in short, a full course of instruction as to the management of a farm.

The pupils are to be 256 in number—two from each assembly district—and chosen from the candidates offering, by the Board of Supervision for such districts. The requisites for admission to be, that the candidates are 16 years of age, and well versed in the rudiments of an English education. The annual expense to be $100, which will include tuition, board, washing, fuel and lights. The course of instruction to occupy three years, with two vacations annually, at mid-summer and the depth of winter.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

On Monday Mr. Tibbits rose and asked the Hon. the Attorney General what the intentions of the Government were, with respect to British subjects in the Madawaska settlement, who had occupied their lands for a less period than six years previous to the ratification of the Ashburton Treaty. The Attorney General replied that he had been employed in preparing a Bill on the subject, when he discovered that the Government had already sufficient power to quiet the title of these parties, and that it was the intention of the Government to deal with British subjects on this side of the line, on the same terms as the Americans, under like circumstances, had adopted on the other side. The remainder of the day was occupied in Supply, and several rather warm debates took place, the most interesting of which was on a grant of £150 to explore the country lying between Boiestown, the Grand Falls, and the settlements on the waters of the Restiguouche. The character of this part of the Province is almost entirely unknown. The grant was sustained. A debate also occurred on a resolution to place at the disposal of His Excellency the Lieut. Governor £500 for the purpose of exploring the coal fields in the Province, with a view to ascertain whether there was an under stratum of coal at the Grand Lake. The Resolution was lost.

On Tuesday, a number of Bills were disposed of. The Bill to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to insolvent and confined debtors, elicited a very interesting debate, during which the Hon. the Attorney General avowed himself in favor of abolishing imprisonment for debt. The Bill passed, and the principal amendment is, that a debtor cannot be confined in gaol or on the limits, at the will of the creditor, for a longer period than three months, instead of twelve months, as formerly.

The House of Assembly have *unanimously* granted to Mr. W. G. Lawton the sum of £358 15s. 7d., being the full amount of his claim for supplies furnished for the Alms House establishment at St. John, some time since, and the Grant has since passed the Council by a large majority—8 to 4.

The Legislative Council have passed the new Post Office bill, as sent up from the Assembly, without any amendment. They have also passed a bill to afford relief to the *bona fide* holders of negociable Securities without notice that they were given for a usurious consideration.

THURSDAY, April 11.—After the journals were read this morning, the House went into Committee on the State of the Province. Mr. Wark made a lengthy and (in my opinion) a very able speech.

Mr Brown followed at some length. After which his (Mr Brown's) amendment to Mr. Wark's original resolutions was put. The yeas were three—Mr. Brown, Mr. McLeod and Mr. Woodward.

Mr. Wark's resolution was then put and lost. The yeas were Messrs. Wark, Porter, Dr. Earle, R. D. Wilmot, Connell, Ansley, Ritchie, Botsford, End, Steves and Smith.

Mr. Ritchie then submitted a set of resolutions, of which the first and last passed, the others were negatived.

Dr. Earle moved the following resolution, which was laid on the table:—

Whereas the right of self government in all matters connected with the local affairs of this Province has been conceded to us by Her Most Gracious Majesty, and as the further privilege of Electing the Legislative Council is intended to be granted by Her Majesty's Government to the Colonies in Australia and Southern Africa, as enunciated by Lord John Russell in his Speech in the House of Commons on the 8th day of February last; and whereas Her Majesty's subjects in this Province, from their intelligence, loyalty and attachment to the Mother Country, are justly entitled to the privilege thus generously bestowed by the Imperial Government, upon other Colonies, having a local Legislature—

Therefore Resolved, That it is the opinion of this House the Legislative Council of this Province ought to be elected by the people, under such restrictions as may be most conducive to the public welfare.

Mr. Wark then moved the following resolution, which was also laid on the table:

Resolved, That the Salaries of Public Officers should at all times be subject to such revision by the Legislature as the exigencies of the Province may render necessary, irrespective of the tenure by which such Officers hold their appointments.

The House then adopted and passed a series of resolutions, seven in number, prepared by the Hon. Mr. Partelow, which point out very clearly the real causes of the commercial difficulties under which the Province now labours. Among other measures of relief, these resolutions propose the construction of the Halifax and Quebec railway, and an address to Her Majesty praying efficient aid toward this great national undertaking.

A very lengthy debate took place in the after noon, on a Bill to provide for the inspection of Beef and Pork, put up for exportation in this Province, which bill was negatived on Monday, by a vote of 18 to 12.

FRIDAY, April 12.—Mr. Barbarie introduced a Bill to amend and improve the law for granting Licences for cutting timber in the Province. A lengthy discussion followed, when Hon. Mr. Baillie finally moved that the Bill be postponed for three months—carried.

Mr. Wark's resolution on the subject of salaries was next discussed. The object of the resolution was to test the principle whether we had the right or not, to reduce our salaries, according to the principle of self-government.

The Hon. Attorney General made an excellent speech in favour of retrenchment. He said according to a despatch sent out in 1845, he felt that that House had not the liberty of interfering with the established salaries of the Judges, during their lives; but since reading Lord John Russell's late famous speech, so often quoted, he considered the case to be quite different. If the doctrine enunciated in the speech of Lord John Russell meant that the local Legislature had got the controul in one department, it must have the controul of all.

He felt that by yielding up the controul of their own affairs into the hands of the local Legislatures, was the only means by which England could keep her Colonies; as they (the Colonies) seemed determined not to submit to the dictation of the Colonial Minister in local matters.

[Mr. Wilmot goes on to explain his scheme of reduction of the salaries. He proposes to place the Governor's salary at £1500; the Surveyor General (from £1384) to be reduced to £600, and his office to be a political one. The Hon. Attorney General moved two resolutions, which we subjoin.]

Moved by the Hon. Attorney General—

Resolved, As the opinion of this Committee, that the amount of Surplus of the Civil List, amounting on the 31st of December last to £12 298 7s. 11d., ought to be transferred into the Provincial Treasury, and made at once available for the general purposes of the Province; and that all annual surpluses hereafter arising, ought to be paid over in a like manner from year to year.

[The above Resolution passed after Speeches from Messrs. Ritchie, Woodward, Hannington, Connell, Fisher, and Thompson.]

The second Resolution was as follows—

Resolved, As the opinion of this Committee, that it is expedient that the following reductions should be made in the Salaries now charged upon the Civil List, and that one half of such reductions should take place on the 1st day of January, 1851, and the remainder on the 1st day of January, 1852—viz:

Chief Justice, present salary,	£1096 3 0	
Proposed reduction,	396 3 0	—£700
3 Judges, joint salaries,	2250 0 0	
Proposed reduction,	450 0 0	—1800
Surveyor General, present sal.	1384 12 4	
Proposed reduction,	784 12 4	— 600

Mr. Gilbert moved the following as an amendment to the last resolution.

Resolved, that in the opinion of this Committee, the following scale of salaries should be adopted:

Lieutenant Governor, £1,000; Chief Justice, £600; 3 Puisne Judges, £500 each; Provincial Secretary, £400; Surveyor General, £400; Attorney General, £400; Solicitor General, £200; Auditor General, £200; Receiver General, abolished; Master of the Rolls, £500; Quarter Master General, abolished; Clerk of the Pleas, £250; Treasurer, £500; Governor's Private Secretary, £100. The Provincial grant to the College to be abolished.

The above amendment and foregoing resolution stands over for discussion to-morrow.—*M. News.*

SATURDAY, April 13.—Mr. Carman moved the following Resolution, viz:

Resolved, That an humble address be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to cause the Bond of the Hon. Joseph Cunard and Benjamin Wolhaupter, bearing date the 22d day of July 1844, to be cancelled.

Hon. Mr. Partelow said there were a large number of Government Bonds which were under the consideration of the Executive. He thought the motion made by the Hon. member for Northumberland was rather a summary way of proceeding.—The Bond in question was not entitled to more especial consideration than others. The Government had these matters under consideration and would deal with them in a just and proper manner.

Mr. Carman at considerable length supported the resolution, but it was finally lost.

Mr. J. Earle said as the House seemed to have nothing to do, he would move that the further consideration of the Orange Bill be taken up.

Mr. Barberie said the Bill had already undergone a lengthy discussion. It was late in the Session, and he would therefore move that the further consideration of the Bill be postponed for three months.

Hon. Mr. Hannington seconded the motion, which was put, when the following division took place.—For the motion—His Hon. the Speaker, Hon. Mr. Partelow, Hon. Mr. Hannington, Messrs. Porter, End, Brown, Wark, McLeod, Gilbert, Dr. Earle, Carman, Ritchie, Woodward, Street, Jordan, Vail, Landry, Steves, Reed, Montgomery, and Dr. Thompson—21. Nays—Hon. Mr. Fisher, Messrs. Boyd, Connell, Miles, Hayward, Taylor, J. Earle, Ansley, R. D. Wilmot, Wilson, and Hon. Mr. Baillie—11. Absent—Hon. Attorney General, Cranny, Tibbits, Rankin, Barberie, and Smith. Mr. Botsford was Chairman. The Committee then reported, and during the remainder of the afternoon the House was engaged in making entries on the Supply Book, this being the last day for that portion of the business.

Yesterday, Mr. Woodward moved the following Resolutions—

Resolved, As the opinion of this Committee, that the public expenditure of the Province should be in accordance with the means and resources of the Province; that an extravagant appropriation of money for public officers is not only injurious, as absorbing capital and lessening the amount that might otherwise be devoted to useful purposes; but leads to extravagant modes of living, sets an example injurious to economical and prudent habits, which ought to characterize the inhabitants of a young colony with limited means and resources; and further

Resolved, That the Salaries now borne on the Civil List of this Province are greater than are warranted by the means and resources, and as an example are injurious to the habits and manners of its people. That the following scale is ample and sufficient for the securing of fit and proper persons to fill the various offices with efficiency and to the satisfaction of the country; and that it is the undoubted right of the Legislature to alter the same from time to time as the exigency of the public service may require, viz:—Lieutenant Governor, £1500—Private Secretary, £150—Chief Justice, £700—Justices of Supreme Court, each, £600—Surveyor General, £500—Auditor General, £350—Receiver General (may be dispensed with)—Attorney General, £600—Solicitor General, £300—Provincial Secretary, £600.—*New-Bruns.*

The House then went into Committee of Supply, and passed several grants, among which, was a grant of £50 to each of the four Reporters, which was moved by Dr. Wilson, and passed after some debate. We cannot, as one of the Reporters, omit this opportunity of publicly thanking Mr. Ritchie for defending the Reporters against the indiscriminate, violent, and, we think, unwarranted attacks made upon them by the hon. member for Queen's, Mr. Gilbert.

The House went into Committee of the whole, in further consideration of a Bill to incorporate the New Brunswick Society, for the encouragement of Agriculture, Home Manufactures, and Commerce throughout the Province, which, after a short discussion was agreed to. This Society, under the Bill, will be entitled to get £200 from the Provincial Treasury, when its members have subscribed and paid £100 towards its funds.—*Head Quarters.*

We have been requested by the Clerk of the House of Assembly to correct an error in the Journals, through which the name of Mr. Wilmot is put for that of Dr. Wilson, on the division which took place on Mr. Wark's Ryder or amendment to the Post Office Bill. The Attorney General was not in the House at the time, and the name of Dr. Wilson was accidentally omitted.—[Fred. Reporter.

[FROM LATE AMERICAN PAPERS.]

NEW-YORK, April 5.

The steamship *Cherokee* has just arrived from Chagres, after a very quick passage. She brings one month later news from all parts of the Pacific. The news is highly interesting. She left San Francisco on the evening of March 1st. She brought to Panama 242 passengers and $1,342,602 in freight, principally in gold dust, and at least $1,000,000 for passengers. The mail is the largest ever yet brought from California, consisting of 26,000 letters, and a large quantity of newspapers.

The steamer *Tennessee* had arrived at Panama from New York, and sailed for San Francisco. She made the passage from New York to Panama in 57 days. On the night of the 23d March a very destructive fire occurred at Chagres, by which more than half of the old town was burned and a large amount of property lost. It is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary.

There was on the 9th of March, about one thousand people waiting at Panama to be taken to California.

A Joint Stock Company had been formed at San Francisco, to which $50,000 has been subscribed, and J. O. Larkin was appointed President. The object of the Company was to build four Pacific steamers of 2,000 tons each.

The past winter has been more severe than usual. All the towns and villages were represented to be looking up.

The following are the salaries appointed for the State officers by the General Assembly:—Governor, $10,000; Secretary of State, $7,000; Comptroller of State, $8,000; Treasurer, $8,000; Attorney General, $7,000; Surveyor General, $7,000; Chief Justice and each Associate Justice, $10,000; each District Attorney, $2,000; State Translator, $3,000; Governor's Private Secretary, $1,000.

A letter states as follows:—"The floating population is gradually drawing off, and digging implements are taken up; all preparing for the mines, whence great stories of marvellous luck are wafted with every breath from the gold regions."

A party of 17 wandered off in search of a new pass, a portion of whom perished in the mountains. Among the number were Mr. Baker, formerly a newspaper publisher in Utica, New York; the only one of the party whose name we could learn.

A letter says—"In real prosperity and progress San Francisco presents a remarkable aspect. With money at 10 a 12½ per cent. a month, there is a large and profitable business done, and no failures whatever have been known. Immigration, even at this early season, begins to pour into our midst in a strongly increasing current. The arrivals for the last month—Jan. 29 to Feb. 27—were, American, 1170, of whom 21 were females; foreign, 1031; of whom 127 were females. The number of vessels arrived I do not recollect, but the aggregate tonnage is 28,712 foreign and American."

THE MINES.—The Pacific News says—"A friend of ours, a resident of this city, recently paid a visit to the Georgetown diggings, situated some ten or twelve miles from Sutter's Mill, (the point of the first discovery of gold,) between the South and Middle Forks of the American River. The snow at that time was several feet deep on the hills, and comparatively few were then at work. Those who were operating had first to remove the snow, then the top dirt and stones frequently to the depth of several feet, before coming to the strata of earth on the bed rock, in which gold is always found most abundant. At Georgetown, the richest ravine in the northern mines is located. It is an immense gulf, running through volcanic hills, and about a mile and a half in length, known by the name of Oregon Canon. Only a portion of half to three quarters of a mile has been found to be very rich; but in this portion, those who occupy the ground have for months been literally shovelling out the gold in coarse grains and pieces varying from a dollar to several pounds. Our friend spent a day or two in the camp, on one of which he saw four men take out eight pounds, working but four hours; another party of four, a pound each. This was of daily occurrence in that locality, and the miners were averaging more than half a pound per day each man who worked. But it was only in this particular canon that such results were obtained. Elsewhere in the neighbourhood one or two ounces was considered a fair day's work. It is known that several hundred thousand dollars have been taken out of 'Oregon Canon' alone since the first of October last."

The same paper adds—"There are now about 120,000 inhabitants in California, mostly male adults; it can well sustain a population of millions; and even in the mineral regions, several hundred thousand men could not occupy the whole ground. Those people in the States who are anxiously looking for the 'bursting of the California bubble,' as they are pleased to call the extraordinary (to them) condition of things here, consequent upon an entire and radical change in the standards of value, will be doomed to much disappointment. But a single failure has ever been known to have occurred in San Francisco, which, in a business population of thousands, and transactions of hundreds of millions, cannot well be paralelled elsewhere."

HAWKINS' BAR, Feb 6.—The roads are becoming good and the miners are at work in good earnest extracting the dust—No, not dust, but *lumps*, from the soil. A company of 100 men are engaged in digging a canal, about half a mile in length through which they intend to turn the river, and then work in its old bed—they will be soon repaid for all their labor; not merely *one ounce per day*, but at the least calculation, *three or four, sure.* A short distance above this place a new bar has been discovered which promises to surprise anything on record; there are but few men at work on it as yet, but they are coming in every day and there is room for hundreds more.

There are several companies forming, and doubtless, the whole bed of this river will be turned before another spring, as the bottom is *literally covered* with the precious stuff, and we are bound to have it out.

STOCKTON, Feb. 15.—The information from the mines generally is quite encouraging. Most of those who leave the mines discouraged, are men of no nerve, perseverance or energy. If they do not succeed in striking a rich place, on the first attempt at digging, they abandon the business in disgust and retire to the towns or cities to loaf or starve.

SACRAMENTO CITY, Feb. 19.—There are now lying along the bank of the river, in front of this city, 28 vessels, viz: 16 barks, 8 brigs and 4 schooners. Many of these vessels this winter have been used for the purpose of storage; others for the accommodation of boarders and lodgers; one or two as hospitals.

There are now in this city, in the process of erection, between 40 and 50 buildings.

ENORMOUS LUMP OF CALIFORNIA GOLD.—We were shown, yesterday, the most remarkable and astonishing specimen of the product of the California mines which has ever been discovered in that auriferous region—it being truly a lump of the precious stuff almost passing belief. This valuable boulder is the largest and richest pattern of the "rocks" yet dug out—it being a mixture of pure gold and quartz, weighing 14 lbs. 7 oz., containing *thirteen pounds of gold*, and is estimated worth *thirty five hundred dollars.* It is nearly egg shaped, 8 1-2 inches in length, and 4 by 5 inches in diameter—the precious metal constituting by far the larger proportion of the enormous mass.

This most beautiful and magnificent specimen is truly a wonderful object; and the gentleman who owns it, Mr. R. H. Perkins, of Augusta, Me., now stopping at the Astor House, states that it was found on the North Fork of the American River, at what was called the Auburn Diggings, on the 20th of January last—it being imbedded in a mass of sand and rocks, from which it was dug by a Dutchman, from whom he purchased it.—[N. Y. Globe.

WEALTH FLOWING INTO NEW YORK.—The N. Y. Journal of Commerce of the 6th inst. says,—several millions of value must have arrived from sea yesterday, including probably $2,500,000 in gold from California, by the steamers Cherokee and Empire City. The freight list of the former steamer showed over 1,000,000 dollars in gold, and it was supposed that nearly as much more was brought by the passeng