

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THURSDAY, MARCH 3.

Hon. Colonel Hatch rose to ask a question. If the report proved true, that the Executive were, at the suggestion of the Law Commission, to abolish the Court of Common Pleas altogether, he could see no necessity for the passing of the Bill to regulate the time of holding the Court of Common Pleas in the County of Westmorland. While up he would remark that it was singular enough, that, notwithstanding the promises made in the opening speech in relation to the Government measures, and more particularly the Report of the Law Commissioners; not one of these measures had yet been introduced, although plenty of time had elapsed for the purpose since the commencement of the Session. The report should be before their honours for consideration; but instead of such being the case, here they were entertaining a question on the Province, with not a thing to do, on the twelfth day of the Session.

Hon. Mr. Chandler thought the hon. member should have stated his grievances when the President was in the Chair, and not when the House went in committee as at present, upon a bill to which his speech had not the slightest reference. That hon. member must have wished to exhibit himself in a speech, as he had done on a former occasion, when he had spoken quite out of order on the Address, which had been passed previous to his arrival in Fredericton. The Government were quite prepared to answer the question which he had proposed, but not at such a time as the present, when such a course could only create disorder, and more particularly when censured by an old member who ought to be better acquainted with parliamentary usages. He was not aware of any design to abolish the Court of Common Pleas, although he believed that Court was not so efficient as it might be in some sections of the Province, while in others they had good lawyers among them. In one instance an individual who had succeeded in upsetting the legal judgment of the Chief Justice!

Hon. Mr. Brown supposed, that if the Court of Common Pleas were to be abolished, there would be no necessity for the introduction of the present Bill. When his hon. friend, (Col. Hatch), had spoken in reference to the clause in the Address, he had hoped that the hon. member of the Government would have answered him, as he (Hon. Mr. B.) was tired of the silence hitherto preserved by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Chandler observed, that under no circumstances would the General Sessions of the Peace be abolished, even though the Inferior Court of Common Pleas were dispensed with.

Hon. Colonel Hatch replied, that the hon. member of the Government, who was quite familiar with its whole machinery, nevertheless chose for a long time to keep all his knowledge to himself, until some chance observation raised his indignation. It was natural for him (Col. Hatch) to put a question on the subject of the Common Pleas; nor should it be thought amiss if he questioned the Government members in relation to their policy, when it was reflected that the House was so long in session, and not one of their measures yet introduced. The country would be and by put the same question. He had certainly enquired what was meant by the words "ample concessions," but he had received no answer.

Hon. Mr. Hazen was surprised at the course adopted by the hon. and gallant Colonel. It did not, after all, savor much of the spirit of gallantry. The Government had already, in the speech, informed that the Law Commission would submit a Report in the present session; and he would ask where was the candour—the gallantry—in accusing the commissioners of remissness, when the Hon. Solicitor General, who belonged to the Commission, and who could explain and vindicate its proceedings, was not present? Let the hon. and gallant member put his question when the Law Commissioner was present, and he would soon have his answer; but in introducing his remarks when that hon. member was absent, and when the committee were engaged on a bill for altering the term of holding the Court of Common Pleas in Westmorland, he had acted most strangely. The assumption from what he said could only be that the commissioners were engaged in pocketing the money, and that their business was neglected.

Hon. Mr. Hatch disclaimed the idea of being personal. When he spoke of the expense incurred by delay, he meant the expense of the session, not of the commissioners.

Hon. Mr. Chandler said there was much in the excited manner in which the hon. gentleman had spoken, to indicate anything else than the dignified bearing of a member of the hon. Body. Hon. members might be forgiven enough in their remarks, but when they told the Government that they must give such and such information, and that the country must know their delinquencies, it was departing from the object which might be better gained by the means of a courteous and dignified manner. Had the Hon. Solicitor General been present, he could have stated that the Law Commissioners had worked harder at their task and done more for the country in the last year than that hon. member had done in the whole course of his life. Such had been the labour and anxiety which those gentlemen had to encounter in prosecuting their most arduous duty, that he (Hon. Mr. Chandler) had at one time feared that they would not have been able to forward a report to the present

session, but he was now happy to say that the expected report would be furnished in a few days. He however hoped that his hon. friend would not again assume such a menacing attitude; and that after he had cooled down he would regret having done so, as unworthy the conduct of a statesman.

The Bill was agreed to.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

MARCH 8.

The House has been principally occupied in receiving petitions. Several relative to the Mining Company.

Those relative to Road Grants, including the Road to the Suspension Bridge, were referred by the House, but referred to the Road Committee.

The Attorney General announced that Hon. John Montgomery was yesterday sworn a Member of the Executive Council.

The Secretary Committee is working hard. Boyd's majority of 15 is wholly reduced. Fitzgerald has now a majority, and it is increasing fast.

Mr. Hamilton brought in report of the Committee on the Fisheries—laid on the table.

Mr. Patelew brought in a Bill to incorporate certain bodies connected with the Wesleyan Church.

Mr. Porter, a Bill to incorporate the Saint Croix Bridge Company, and a Bill better securing the Navigation of the St. Croix.

The time for receiving petitions is extended to Saturday.

The Speaker is very weak, but has decided not to resign.

Mr. English brought in a Bill for the election of the Sheriff of Carleton County. Not received because not read before the Sessions.

Mr. Macpherson gave notice of a question respecting the disposal of Wild Lands, lately laid off in the County of Kent.

March 11th.

A petition was presented to day from St. John, by the Provincial Secretary, for the suspension of the Liquor Law, and a petition for the repeal of the Tepeal of the law was also presented by Mr. Porter, from Charlotte County. The Provincial Secretary gave notice that he would move for the House to take action on these petitions at an early day.

The Attorney General laid a despatch before the House, relating to Railway matters.

Mr. Patelew laid before the House, the Treasurer's and Receiver General's accounts. He promised next week, an account showing the financial state of the Province, now being prepared by himself.

Dr. Thomson brought in a Bill further to facilitate the erection of a Railroad from St. Andrews to Quebec.

March 12.

Petitions are pouring in; among those presented to-day are the petitions of Messrs. Sturdee, Parks and Thargar, for the repeal or suspension of the Liquor law, or compensation for their stock.

A petition from Barney O'Toole for the appointment of Paul Laurent and leave to publish his Poems.

Also petitions against the repeal of the Liquor law, on the Mining question, &c.

The Report of the Board of Education, on School petitions, was laid before the House by Mr. Patelew.

Mr. Hayward brought in a Bill to revive and continue the Act relating to bounties on Bears and Wolves.

Several bills were introduced. Mr. Smith one to reduce the fees of Registry.

Mr. Thomson one to incorporate the Chamcook Branch Railway and Dock Company.

Mr. Kerr one relating to a lock-up house, and local bills.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT NEW ORLEANS.

NEW ORLEANS, March 21.

A most destructive fire has occurred here. It broke out on Wednesday, P. M., in the upper part of the Alabama Cotton Press.

The flames spread rapidly and gained tremendous headway before the engines arrived. The fire destroyed nearly all the contents of the press, and a large quantity of cotton piled in the stores. The cotton destroyed is valued at one million of dollars, mostly insured.

A bill was on Saturday last reported to the New York Assembly to regulate the hours of labor on the public works, and in all manufacturing, and at all mechanical trades. It provides for ten hours labor on six days of the week, prohibits children under ten years from working in any manufactory, and children under fourteen years from working more than eight hours.

This act shall not apply to those engaged in agriculture, in manufacturing lumber, or to those engaged in the domestic affairs of household work.

FROM AUSTRALIA.—By the way of the Cape of Good Hope, we have dates from Australia to Nov. 17, which though not so late as the accounts by the way of Panama, contain many interesting details.

The amount of gold brought into Melbourne for the week ending Nov. 11, was 99,357 ounces; exports 162,601 ounces.

Flour was £44 a £16 per ton and it was expected would soon be higher.

New gold diggings have been discovered of apparently unequalled wealth. The rush to the various diggings was enormous, and while some parties were very fortunate, others met with no luck at all. At the Spring Creek Diggings, some individuals had dug up £200 and £300 in fourteen days.

On the 16th of November thirteen ships arrived at Melbourne from London, with passengers and cargoes.

A Melbourne paper, speaking of the arrival of the American ship Revenue, from New York, with a cargo of "nations," says:

"The Americans appear to have no idea that South Australia and Van Diemen's Land will supply all our wants, and they have not at present any idea of supplying flour to this Colony."

At Melbourne half an acre of land had been sold at the rate of about \$50,000 an acre.

The influenza was so general at Sydney that at one place, out of 500 inhabitants only about 25 were out of their beds.

At the diggings provisions, especially flour, had risen rapidly, as had also brandy, and are quoted at extravagant rates. It is thought that the price of flour would soon be higher at Melbourne in consequence.

At Melbourne butter was 1s 8d; cheese 1s 9d; pork £5 10s per barrel; coffee 1s 1d per pound; vinegar 1s 6d; sugar 23s 4d. Revolvers £6 each.

On the 10th, the price of gold at Melbourne advanced three pence.

NEW YORK, MARCH 9.

FROM WEST INDIES.

Advices from Port au Prince of about 18th ult. state that the fever had almost disappeared from that place.

Advices from Mayaguez of the 18th ult. by sch. Ontario, state that the yellow fever was prevailing to an alarming extent at that place.

THE MISSING GIRL.—Yesterday morning Miss Hannah Carleton arrived at the house of her guardian, Mr. Joseph Carter, High street, Charleston, where she is now residing. She arrived in this city on Saturday evening, from Philadelphia, accompanied by her mother. Hannah seemed much pleased on reaching Mr. Carter's house, and yesterday afternoon attended church with his family, at the First Baptist Society in Lawrence street. She entirely exonerates the R. V. Mr. Linden, the Catholic priest of Charleston, from all charges of religious oppression to wards her. She has not changed her Protestant belief.—Boston Post.

THE STANDARD.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 1853.

SEVEN DAYS LATER FROM ENGLAND.

The steamship Africa arrived at New York at 3 1/2 o'clock on Sunday afternoon. She was detained at Liverpool in consequence of a terrific storm, which prevented her mails getting on board. She brought 58 passengers and \$17,000 in specie.

MARKETS.—A Liverpool Circular of the 25th says: The Cotton market is quiet, and in the absence of speculative enquiry, has declined 1d.

Breadstuffs are dull. Wheat declined 2d. per 70 lbs. and Flour 6d. per brl. Indian Corn nominally the same as last week.

TIMBER.—The arrivals of timber at Liverpool in January are 500 tons less than last year. Two cargoes St. John Spruce Deals sold at 29 17s. to 29 18s. 3d.

ST. ANDREWS & QUEBEC RAILROAD.—Last week we had the opportunity of a general inspection of the works being in the course of construction upon the St. Andrews & Quebec Railroad; and we must candidly admit that our anticipations, regardless of such inspection, have not been premature. Much to our gratification, being deeply interested in the progressive development of the line, we were highly pleased with the apparent progress made, and felt satisfied, beyond all doubt, that the Contractors have pushed the execution of the works in a manner that would lead the most disinterested in railroad construction to believe, that the present season of the year, unfavorable as it generally is to the execution of public works in this country, has been rendered in as advantageous a manner as the most sanguine could reasonably expect.

The line is now being worked to a distance of 25 miles from our town, and taking into consideration the impediments and disadvantages arising from successive frosts and snow storms, there are already no less than 20 miles reduced to grade level, ready for ballasting and superstructure. Our readers will, perhaps, better understand us when we inform them, that the line is being worked up to where it crosses the old Fredericton road, situate beyond Geo. Wilson's farm; and that the works throughout are subtle to eight or ten in number, of what is termed on the plea of experience, "old tried hands," of English sub-contractors, who, we learn, have previously, for many years past, been employed by the firm, to whom the present works are worthily entrusted. These men, although engaged on such works in this Western hemisphere, are "quite at home" in their daily occupation, and give undeniable evidence of their capability to execute such, with as much satisfaction as we understand they have hitherto done in the Mother country, fully entitling them here to an equal amount of con-

ference, in which they must naturally share with their anxious and energetic employers.

Further, we cannot but with equal candour admit, that the progress of the works, which is manifest to the most inexperienced eye, on inspection, such as we have made, is sufficient to entitle the Contractors, Messrs. Jas. Sykes & Co., to the fullest confidence of all parties interested, relative to the speedy execution, and finally, the praiseworthy termination of their contract.

But whatever need of praise, well earned, we may feel here inclined to attach to the operations of Sykes & Co., and personally to Mr. KING, their worthy, zealous, and indefatigable representative, we cannot in justice to another gentleman intimately connected with, and equally deserving of our present notice of the progressive and rapid development of our Railroad works here, and not without some small degree of interest, year; even of pardonable pride on our part, omit the mention of A. L. LIGHT, Esquire, Engineer-in-Chief, to whose professional experience and impartial judgment the works on the Saint Andrews & Quebec Railroad have been carried so far to such a successful issue.

The men referred to in the St. John Times of the 10th inst. as having "arrived in the ship Middleton and employed to work on the Railroad," have arrived here, and were sent out by Messrs. Sykes & Co. to work on the St. Andrews & Quebec Railroad! A number of men also arrived here from England via Boston, a few days since, and more are expected to follow shortly.

NEW BRIDGE.—We learn that the Commissioners have reported in favor of a New Bridge between St. Stephen and Calais.

We observe by a published debate in the Legislative Council, that the Hon. Col. Hatch has been "hauling the Government over the coals," for their not having brought their measures before the Legislature ere this. We trust the Col. will keep a sharp look out he will be supported by the voice of the country.

The Hon. Col. Hatch will please accept our thanks, for a copy of the Chief Superintendent's Report on the Parish Schools of New Brunswick, for part of the year 1852. The Report occupies 72 pages, and is "got up" in the usual neat and correct manner of the Royal Gazette Office, where it was printed.

We have received a copy of the Report made by the Committee appointed to take into consideration the paragraph of His Excellency's Speech, at the opening of the Session, relative to the Fisheries and Reciprocal Trade, but are unable to publish it this week.

THE REFORMER.—We have received the prospectus of a Weekly Paper entitled "The Reformer," which will be shortly published at Woodstock, devoted to the Agricultural, Educational, and Commercial interests of the Province. The name of its Publisher and Editor are not given in the Prospectus.

The "Ameriky letter" will be published in our next.

THE POST OFFICE.—We perceive that a petition has been presented to the House of Assembly, and referred to the Post Office Committee, from the Clerks employed in the General Post Office, praying for an increase of salary. We cordially concur in the prayer of this petition; firmly believing that up public servants are so ill remunerated, in proportion to the labour and responsibility of their duties, as those employed in the service of the Provincial Post Office. We always considered the recent reduction of the salary of the Postmaster General, at a time when the onerous duties of his office were greatly increased, as a piece of very false economy and injustice; and in the same light we view the present inadequate compensation to his Clerks; whose labours are much greater than they were when the Establishment was under the supervision of the British Government, while their pay is considerably less. We hope the Committee will see the justice of the petition, and grant the clerks something like a fair remuneration.—Chronicle.

RISE OF SALARIES.—The United States Senate has agreed to a number of amendments in the Appropriation bills, among which was one fixing \$8000 as the salary of the Vice President and of each of the Cabinet officers; another grants an addition of \$6000 to the present salaries of each of five Foreign Ministers; and a third provides for the appointment of an Assistant Secretary of State at a salary of \$3000. All these amendments were adopted without opposition.

SERIOUS ACCIDENT.

A lady was seriously injured by the falling of a beam from a building on Great St. James street yesterday. It is thought she will recover.

SAVED FROM DROWNING BY A DOG.—On Thursday, 24th ult. a boy six years old, son of A. L. Singer, proprietor of the Health House, Schooley's Mountain, while sliding on a fish pond, a short distance from the house, fell in. His faithful dog sat by him and tried to pull him out, and in doing so pulled his hand and moustache off. When life was nearly extinct, a boy who was riding by saw the dog sitting on the ice by a lost. The dog commenced barking as soon as the boy came in sight, and attracted his attention, so that he gave the alarm at the shore, a few rods from the pond, when immediate assistance was received. The men had to secure the dog, as he would not let them touch the child, who though to all appearances dead, was in the course of a few hours restored to animation.—Boston pap.

Corporation Expenses of New York City.—The recent report of Mr. Flag, Comptroller of New York City, says:—The whole estimated annual expenditure of the city government (\$5,171,802.79) is only \$740,197.21 less than the aggregate annual expenditures, for the support of the Government, of the thirty-one states of this Union, including half a million for California.

The Evening Post, in commenting on this report, says: Such is one of the startling statements which Mr. Flag makes in a report on our city government, submitted to the Common Council last evening.

The expenses of governing this little island, scarce eight miles square, and occupied by only about half a million of people, is nearly equal to those of the thirty-one states of the Union covering a territory of more than 3,000,000 square miles, and occupied by more than twenty three millions of people.

DEATHS.

On Friday morning, the 4th inst., of Spasmodic Asthma and Whooping Cough, Watson, youngest son of J. H. Whitlock Esq., aged 1 year and 9 months.



NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Instructions to Postmasters and Way Office Keepers.

HER Majesty's Government have concluded a new Contract with the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, for the conveyance of Mails, by packet, via Southampton, to Gibraltar, Malta, Egypt, Suez, India and China, twice in every month, instead of once, as heretofore; and Mails for these places, will, in future, be despatched from Southampton, on the 4th and 20th of each month; and from London, via MARSEILLES, on the 8th and 24th of each month.

The Company have also undertaken to provide a Packet to convey Mails, once in two months (in connection with the India Mails of the 4th of the month, via Southampton, and of the 8th, via MARSEILLES), between Singapore and Sydney, New South Wales, calling at Batavia, King George's Sound, Adelaide, and Port Phillip, thus forming alternately with the direct Packets, via the Cape of Good Hope, a regular monthly communication between the United Kingdom and the Australian Colonies.

The Rates of Postage on correspondence for Ceylon, India, China, and Australia, when forwarded via Southampton, will be 2s. sterling, or 2s. 6d. currency, per single letter, not exceeding half an ounce in weight, which must be paid in advance; but all letters for the above places, specially addressed to be forwarded via MARSEILLES, will be liable to a rate of 2s. 10d. sterling, or 2s. 6d. currency, per single letter, weighing under a quarter of an ounce, which must also be paid in advance.

Newspapers will be transmitted free.

J. HOWE, Postmaster General. General Post Office, St. John, N. B., March 5, 1853.

NEW STORE.

Mr. C. E. O. HATHEWAY, HAVING fitted up a Store in the new building owned by Mr. J. Milligan, adjoining the West end of Mr. D. Clark's store, will be pleased to furnish his old Customers and the Public generally, with—

FLOUR, MEAL, CORN.

All the articles usually found in a Grocery Store.

On as good terms as at any other establishment. March 14, 1853.

MEETING OF COURTS.

The Courts of General Sessions of the Peace, and Common Pleas for the County of Charlotte, will sit at the Court House in St. Andrews on Tuesday the 12th day of April next at 12 o'clock.

The Courts of Oyer and Terminer and General Jail Delivery and Nisi Prius for the said County, will be held at the Court House in St. Andrews, on Tuesday the 26th day of April next, at 12 o'clock.

At which time and place all Magistrates, Coroners and Constables of said County, and all persons required to be at these Courts are hereby Publicly Notified to give their attendance.

By Order of Her Majesty's Justices, THOS. JONES, Sheriff of Charlotte.

St. Andrews, March 15, 1853.

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