a coterie of lapstone politicians, as had been asserted. He had not consulted his constituents with reference to bringing it in; but even had he committed sin in doing so, he felt satisfied a remedy would be found in the pardon that would be granted him by the Committee.

The hon. Speaker said the hon. member for Westmorland had committed no sin in the course he had pursued; and he believed he was acting in accordance with his own deliberate opinion.—For his own part His Honor said, he was in favour of short parliaments; he did not make up his mind however, in consequence of any thing he had heard during debate; but owing to the strong arguments that had been adduced in favour of the measure, in the House of Commons, upon a motion to repeal the present existing law upon the subject; and upon these arguments he had arrived at a conclusion in favour of quadrennial parliaments; and he was still of the same opinion.—He was aware he did not vote in accordance with the sentiments of his constituents; as he knew they were not favourable to the measure. There had been no communication as was the case in other colonies; and therefore they were unacquainted with the desire of government with reference to the subject. He said he should not go over the arguments that had been urged. If the people do not desire the measure, and had not so expressed themselves, it was because they had never taken it into consideration. He would however, vote for the Bill, if there should be an equal division; because it would have a tendency to preserve the purity of the House of Assembly. That was what he understood the introducer of the Bill to say; and he considered that gentleman to have been harshly treated with regard to the observation he had made. His Honor said he would admit that popular pressure would have an injurious effect; and mentioned an instance that occurred some years since, when owing to some improvement that was introduced in the revenue Bill, a great ferment was created, and the supporters of the measure were for a time extremely obnoxious. The subject he said, created much observation in the newspapers; and if the House had then been dissolved, he stood no chance of being re-elected.—But after the lapse of a year, the measure was found to be so salutary, that it had since been carried further. If petitions should be presented in favour of the proposed alteration, he felt satisfied its adoption could do no harm; particularly if it would satisfy the people and they should wish it. In the present case he said, if the committee should divide equally, he would vote for the Bill. It was true strong arguments had been urged against the measure; but if hon. gentlemen would examine the debates which took place in the House of Commons, they would find powerful arguments in favour of it. He concluded by saying he should make no further remark. If the Bill should pass, it would be necessary to make some improvement in the present law, and to adopt the British principle of registering votes, that the election might be decided in one day.

Mr. Taylor said as he was instructed, he should vote in favour of four years; but he thought another Bill should be introduced making the necessary amendments in the present law.

Capt. Owen was merely desirous of recording his opinion. He thought the measure one of an entirely speculative nature; which would be dangerous in practice; and should therefore oppose it.

The motion was then put for postponing the further consideration of the Bill for three months, when the House divided as follows: *Yeas*—Hon'bles. Messrs. Johnston and Weldon, and Messrs. H. T. Partelow, M'Almon, Wilson, Allen, Partelow, J. M. Wilmot, End, Woodward, Freeze, Gilbert, L. A. Wilmot, M'Leod, Owen, Brown, Rankin, Hayward, Street—19. *Nays*—Messrs. Palmer, Jordan, Taylor, Connell, Fisher, Hill, Hanington, Boyd—8.

Wednesday, 24th Feb.

Mr. Woodward, from the Finance Committee, submitted their report, as follows:—

"The Committee appointed to take into consideration all matters relating to the Finances of the Province, Report—

"That on examining the Public Accounts and other Documents, they find the Financial State of the Province to be as follows, viz:—

Amount due from the Nova Scotia and New Brunswick Land Company, (which the Committee of this House recommended they should be allowed one and two years for the payment of,) about	£20,000	0	0
In the hands of the Agent of the Crown Colonies, £9,800 in 3 per cent. Consols, say	10,000	0	0
Reported due by the late Surveyor General by the Commissioners on the Accounts of that Department,	3,203	0	0
Due on Land and Timber, per Accounts of the Crown Land Office, to 31st December, 1840,	59,586	19	2
Bonds and Cash, balances in the hands of the Treasurer and Deputies to 31st December last,	45,859	4	9
Bonds and claims in the hands of the Attorney General, not before enumerated,	1,077	10	6
	£139,726	14	5

"This amount of assets is only in part available. The amount due on Land and Timber will come into the Receiver General's hands as paid by the Crown Debtors, and will not probably increase the receipts of that department more than last year. The amount due from the Nova Scotia and New Brunswick Land Company will be available, (if the recommendation of the Report of the Select Committee be agreed to,) half in October, 1841, and the other half in October, 1842. The sum in the hands of the Agent for the Crown Colonies, the Committee presume is at present available; as also the balances in the hands of the Treasurer and his Deputies, as the Bonds fall due, (except the Bridge and Water Companies,) making nearly £56,000, to meet the amount due by the Province 31st December last, say £66,317 18 9—including £10,000 to the Saving's Bank, (the interest only on which will probably be required,)—£36,368 10 8 due Bank of New Brunswick, unpaid Warrants and Approprietions, £19,949 8 1.

"The Salaries and allowances on the Civil List, with the amount granted in Supply for the services of last year, exclusive of the Custom House Establishment, the Marine Hospital expenses, the expenses of the in-door establishment of the Crown Land Office, and the allowance for the collection and protection of the Casual and territorial Revenue, amounted to about £143,000, which was appropriated as follows, viz:—

SALARIES.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor,	£4,035	2	5
Chief Justice,	1,096	3	0
Three Judges of the Supreme Court, besides fees and travelling charges,	2,250	0	0
Provincial Secretary, besides about £400 for fees, which amount is absorbed in paying Clerks,	1,599	11	0
Surveyor General,	600	0	0
Master of the Rolls,	800	0	0
Province Treasurer,	750	0	0
Auditor General,	346	0	0
Receiver General,	343	0	0
Attorney General, beside fees,	734	12	0
Solicitor General,	280	15	4
Private Secretary,	230	15	4
Presbyterian Minister, St. John,	57	13	8
Mr. Lockwood, late Surveyor General,	173	1	4
Clerk of the Crown in Supreme Court,	100	0	0
Emigrant Agent,	115	7	8
Deputy Treasurers and others, for the collection and protection of the Revenue,	3,698	6	0
Total for Salaries for 1840,	£17,208	1	11

EDUCATION.

King's College,	£2,222	2	4
Grammar Schools,	1,150	0	0
Madras Schools,	618	6	0
Baptist Seminary,	500	0	0
Parish Schools,	9,000	0	0
Total for Education, 1840,	£13,490	8	4

ROADS AND CONVEYANCES.

Great Roads, including grant of £3000 to the Burnt District, St. John,	£28,232	0	0
Roads lately explored,	9,400	0	0
Bye Roads,	16,325	0	0
Stage Coaches,	1,160	0	0
Couriers, Steam Boats, Packets and Ferries,	1,117	0	0
Total Road Service, &c. 1840,	£56,232	0	0

Expenses of the Legislature for the two Sessions,	£12,371	19	3
Public Buildings in various parts of the Province in 1840,	7,292	0	0
Return Duties on Goods destroyed by Fire,	4,267	0	0
Light Houses, Bay of Fundy,	3,579	1	11
Gulph of St. Lawrence,	850	0	0
Charitable purposes,	3,423	0	0
Other Services not enumerated,	24,286	10	6
Say Salaries,	£17,208	1	11
Education,	13,490	8	4
Roads, &c,	56,232	0	0
Legislature,	12,371	19	3
Public Buildings,	7,292	0	0
Return Duties,	4,267	0	0
Light Houses,	4,429	0	0
Charity,	3,423	0	0
Other Services,	24,286	10	6
Expenditure for 1840,	£143,000	0	0
Expenditure and Appropriations for the year 1840, about	£143,000	0	0
Gross income of the year ending 31st December, 1840, from collections at Treasury and receipts at said Office from the Custom House, £81,331 11 10			
Amount received at Treasury from Receiver General, £18,539 17 10	99,871	9	8
	£43,128	10	4

Shewing an over expenditure and appropriation of last year, amounting as above to £43,128 10 4.

"The Committee hope the sum, loaned to the Disputed Territory Fund, of 1,500*l.* will be paid back into the Province Chest as soon as Funds are collected from that source, as they note by a Memorandum of the Attorney General, that the Government have claims on individuals for large amounts due that Fund, not included in the amount of assets before enumerated.

"They would recommend that the amounts now, and that may hereafter come into the hands of the Agent of the Crown Colonies, should be drawn for as soon as possible.

"The Committee cannot refrain from bringing under the notice of the House, the amount of Surplus in the hands of the Executive Government, from the appropriation of £14,500 for the Civil List, amounting at the end of the year 1840 to £2,900 6 4. This sum, in the view of the Committee, was intended by the Home Government, agreeably to Lord Glenelg's Despatch of the 31st August, 1836, to be annually expended in services of general utility, and when it is considered that appropriations must be at present made to a greater amount than the Ordinary Revenues, it would by highly gratifying to see that sum devoted to the payment of some services, now defrayed out of those Revenues, as the Salaries of the Master of the Rolls, the travelling expenses of the Judges on the Circuits, Provincial contingencies, &c., thereby leaving an increased amount available for Education, Roads, &c.

"The Committee beg respectfully to observe, that the appropriations of the last two Sessions have been unusually large, but when it is considered that the Province was involved in a perplexing and expensive difficulty with the State of Maine, and also subjected at the same time to the loss by Fire of a large portion of the City of Saint John, with the expenses of an extra Legislative Session, and other unavoidable charges connected with that unfortunate event, it is certainly a matter of high satisfaction that the Province is still unembarrassed, and that the resources have hitherto been such as to meet all those heavy expenses.

In conclusion, your Committee recommended the continuance of the liberal appropriations for the Internal Improvement of the Country, and for the Education of Youth; the House exercising at the same time, the strictest economy in all the other branches of the public service. All of which is respectfully submitted.

I. WOODWARD,
CHARLES FISHER,
JAMES BROWN, Junior.

Ordered, That the Report be accepted.

Thursday, 25th Feb.

Mr. Woodward, from the Committee appointed on the 13th day of February instant, to take under consideration the subject of Salaries to certain Public Officers, submitted their Report, as follows:—

"The Committee appointed to inquire into the amount of Salaries received by the principal Public Officers of the Province, and to prepare such a scale of Salaries for the said Officers, as in their opinion will be just, as well to the Public as to the incumbents themselves, and also inquire what fees of Public Officers receiving Salaries ought to be abolished, and what retained and paid into the Treasury of the Province for public uses, and report to this House on the several matters of this Resolution by Bill or otherwise, Report:

"That they have attended to that duty, and in offering their opinion to the House upon the several Salaries chargeable on the Civil List, and otherwise payable out of the Revenues of the Province, your Committee propose no alteration of fixed Salaries, except on the death or removal from Office of any of the present incumbents.

"Your Committee have also had under their consideration the large amount of fees paid to several Public Officers. Those fees might in the early settlement of the Province have been barely adequate to compensate the Officers to whom they were payable, for the duties they were required to perform, but the great increase of population, wealth and business in the Province, have subsequently swelled the amount of fees, payable to several Public officers, far beyond what may be considered an adequate compensation for the services they are called upon to perform, and out of all proportion to the fixed salaries of other Officers, or to the income of persons employed in the most lucrative branches of business, or deriving their income from arduous professional duties. These remarks apply more particularly to the Clerk of the Pleas in the Supreme Court, and to the Provincial Secretary.

"The Committee recommend that the fee paid by persons applying under the Act Wm. 4th, to solemnize Marriage, and also the fee paid by Schoolmasters on obtaining a licence to teach, be abolished.

"Your Committee are of opinion, that the office of Receiver General, on the death or the occurrence of a vacancy in that situation, should be dispensed with, and the duties of that officer transferred to the Crown Land Office, under proper restrictions and regulations; such a change would effect a saving to the Public, and under the control of the Surveyor General, with proper guards, the funds might be perfectly safe.

"With regard to the office of the Secretary of the Province, your committee are of opinion, that the internal arrangement of that Office, as far as relates to the allowance of Clerks, should be under the control of the Governor and Executive Council, in the same manner as the indoor establishment of the Crown Land Office.

"Your Committee are also of opinion, that the fees of the Judges and Clerks of the Pleas of the Supreme Court should be commuted for a fixed annual allowance to those individuals respectively;

"And also recommend the following Scale of Salaries to be applicable immediately to the office of Surveyor General, and to the other offices respectively, on the occurrence of a vacancy:

The Chief Justice, in lieu of all fees, per annum	£1000	0	0
Three Puisne Judges, in lieu of all fees and travelling charges, £900 each,	2,700	0	0
Provincial Secretary,	600	0	0
Surveyor General,	600	0	0
Receiver General, (if necessary)	300	0	0
Auditor General, ditto	300	0	0
Private Secretary to the Governor,	200	0	0
Attorney General, including commutation for fees,	600	0	0
Solicitor General,	240	0	0
Treasurer of the Province,	600	0	0

"The Committee for the purpose of carrying into immediate effect so much of this Report as is presently practicable, have prepared a Bill, which with this Report, they respectfully submit to the consideration of the House.

I. WOODWARD,
GEORGE S. HILL,
CHARLES FISHER.

Ordered, That the Report be accepted.

Saturday, 27th February.

On motion of Mr. Street, *Resolved*, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to appoint three or more fit persons as Commissioners to revise, and if necessary make a new Ordinance of Fees in the Supreme Court, of the Crown Plea and Exchequer side thereof; and also, to take into consideration the propriety of introducing into the Supreme Court in this Province the new Rules of Pleading in Civil Actions, at present in force in England, so far as the same may be applicable to this Country, and to report the result of their doings to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, for the purpose of being laid before the Legislative Council and House of Assembly at the next Session of the Legislature.

Monday, 1st March.

Mr. Woodward, from the Committee appointed on the 20th day of February last, to take into consideration all matters relating to the Trade of the Province, submitted their report, as follows:—

"That they have had under their consideration, the letters of the Collector of Her Majesty's Customs and of the Provincial Treasurer at Saint John, on the subject of Illicit Trade, submitted to the House by Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor on the 24 February, instant, and a letter from the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Customs, London, to the Lords Commisioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, of the 25th September last, on the subject of the Coasting Trade between this Province and Nova Scotia; and also of the Petition of L. Donaldson, Esquire, Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce at Saint John, and on their behalf, praying that a reduction may take place in the duties on all kinds of Spirits; that more efficient means may be taken to provide for the protection of the Revenue; and that certain duties may be taken off Beer and Leather when imported from Nova Scotia.

"Your Committee in considering the first subject referred to them, the letters of the Collector and Treasurer at Saint John, with regard to the Contraband and Illicit Trade, and also the Petition of the Chamber of Commerce of Saint John, on the same subject, are of opinion, that the most desirable and effectual way to prevent Illicit Trade, is to so lay duties as not to make them a premium for smuggling, which your Committee believe the present rate of duties on Liquors tends much to encourage; and would recommend that a reduction be made in those duties in the Revenue Bill for this year, and more assimilated to those in Nova Scotia, by which they think an increased amount would be collected, and the Illicit Trade, at least in part, done away with. With respect to the providing a Revenue Cutter, your Committee are of opinion, that an effective Vessel, properly manned, would be in a measure productive of protection to the Revenue, and would also be of great service to the Trade of the Country in the winter season, by being enabled to relieve ships that may be short handed, or in any way in want of assistance; a service that has heretofore been rendered to the Trade of the Bay of Fundy frequently by the Revenue Cutters of the United States Service, for which service the Trade is under compliment to the different Officers in Command of cutters that have rendered such assistance, particularly to Commander Nones of the Cutter "Alert," who has rendered valuable assistance to eight British Vessels at different times, which have come to the knowledge of your Committee; and they regret that they are at a loss to shew their sense of the service in a more effectual way than they are now doing by thus noticing it in this Report. It is however highly gratifying to your committee to observe the friendly feeling that exists, and has been acted on, by Officers of the United States Service, on that part of the frontier of that Country in the Bay of Fundy.

"On the subject of the letters of the Commissioners of the Customs, London, relating to the Coasting Trade between this Province and Nova Scotia, the Committee are of opinion, that it is desirable that the Trade between the two Provinces, in articles of the growth and manufacture of the Provinces and the produce of the British Fisheries, should be relieved of the trouble and loss of time of entering and clearing at the Treasury Offices and Custom Houses on these short voyages. The Committee therefore recommend that so much of the Act for the collection of the Revenue, as makes it imperative on all Vessels to report at the Treasury, so far as the same relates to vessels going coastways between the two Provinces, should be repealed; and that no duties should be laid on articles, the produce, growth and manufacture of Nova Scotia, for the purpose of removing the difficulty that now prevents the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Customs from authorizing the different Collectors of Customs to allow of the general *transire* between Nova Scotia and New-Brunswick. All which is respectfully submitted.

"I. WOODWARD,
ALEX. RANKIN,
J. M. WILMOT,
HENRY T. PARTELOW.

Ordered, That the Report be accepted.

Tuesday, 2d March.

The Honorable Mr. Johnston, Chairman of the Committee on Roads, submitted a further Report, as follows:—

"The Committee Report: That they have had under their consideration the subject of Great Roads, as also the expediency of making certain Special Grants, connected with the Road Service, and now recommend that the sum of £33,480, be granted, and that the said sum be apportioned as follows:—

To improve the Road from the Grand Falls to the Little Falls of the Madawaska, and to build a Bridge at the Grand Falls; £1,500, the amount due from the Disputed Territory Fund, being included therein,	£5,000
From Saint John to Nova Scotia Line,	2,500
Saint John to Andrews,	1,200
To the Corporation of the City of Saint John, to assist in building Piers and Landing Places on the Eastern and Western sides of the Harbour, for the Steam Ferry Boat,	1,200
From Fredericton to Saint John, via Nerepis,	1,000
From Nerepis to Gagetown,	200
Dorchester to Shediac,	150
Shediac to Bend of Petticodiac,	120
Richibucto to Chatham,	500
Newcastle to Bathurst,	800
Bathurst to Campbelltown,	2,000
Fredericton to Woodstock,	4,000
Woodstock to the Arestook,	600
To open a new line of Road between the Arestook and the Grand Falls,	700
From Fredericton to the Finger Board,	500
Head of Bellisle to Saint John,	400
Fredericton to Newcastle,	3,000
Fredericton to Saint Andrews,	2,000
Salisbury to Hopewell,	600
Shediac to Richibucto,	400
Woodstock to Houlton,	200
Waweig to Saint Stephen,	60
Hammond River to Hopewell,	200
Loch Lomond to Sussex Vale,	500
Oromocto to Gagetown,	150
Towards widening the Mill Bridge and for the improvement of the Road to Indian Town,	500
From Bend of Petitcodiac to the Head of Richibucto,	200
From Fredericton to Bend of Petticodiac,	3,000
Red Rock to Nerepis,	100
Oak Bay to Bridge at Eel River,	750
Bridge at Brockway's, Magaguadavic, to the lower Bridge on the Saint Croix,	200
Grand Lake to Richibucto River,	750
	£33,480

Ordered, That the Report be accepted; and on motion of the Honorable Mr. Johnston, further ordered, That the said Report be referred to the Committee of Supply.

Wednesday, 3d March.

The Honorable Mr. Johnston, by command of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, delivered the following Message:—

"J. HARVEY, *Lt. Governor.*

"The Lieutenant Governor lays before the House, a Copy of a Despatch from the Secretary of State on the subject of the erection of a Barrack at Woodstock, together with a Report from the Surveyor General, by which it will appear that Land suitable for the purpose cannot be obtained, except by purchase. The Lieutenant Governor therefore recommends that provision be made for this object, being one of acknowledged importance to the interests of the Province.

"J. H."

Downing Street, 1st February, 1841.

SIR,—Her Majesty's Government have under their consideration the propriety of erecting at Woodstock, New-Brunswick, the Barrack recommended by Sir Colin Campbell in May, 1840, for the accommodation of a Military force to protect the line of communication between that Province and Canada.

A question has arisen as to the mode of obtaining the Land which will be required for its site.

If there is no Military Reserve at the place, which can be made available for the purpose, I apprehend that under the existing Law of New Brunswick, the land can only be obtained by purchase in the ordinary way, or by a Special Grant of the Legislature.

It is very desirable that no time should be lost in executing the work, when decided on; and I have therefore to desire that you will make immediate inquiry into the subject. If you should find that the land can not be procured, excepting by purchase at the Crown Sales, I have to instruct you to apply, on behalf of the Crown, to the Provincial Legislature for the necessary grant.

The Land should be conveyed to the Ordnance by the Colonial Government, free of all charge, before any building is commenced. I have the honor, &c.

(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

Sir JOHN HARVEY, &c. &c. &c.

Crown Land Office, February 25, 1841.

SIR,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your Communication of this date, enclosing a Despatch from the Secretary of State, on the subject of a Barrack proposed to be erected at Woodstock; and inquiring whether there is any Military Reservation there, or if not, where, and upon what terms, Land sufficient and suitable for the purpose can be procured.

In reply, I have the honor to report, for the information of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, that there are no other Military Reservations in the County of Carleton, than those at Presqu Isle and the Grand Falls. The Land in Woodstock and its vicinity, to the distance of upwards of six miles around it, has already been granted by the Crown many years ago, and is now all private property, and unless purchased for Government, in the ordinary way, can only be reserved by Her Majesty in the manner pointed out by law.

Having no information in this Department, as to the extent or situation of the site proposed for the intended Barrack, it is not in my power, therefore, to report as to the terms upon which the Land required for that purpose can be obtained.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed) JOHN S. SAUNDERS, S.G.

The Honorable WILLIAM F. ODELL.

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY.

A Bill to commute the Judges fees, and to abolish those on license to Schoolmasters and Clergymen authorised to solemnize marriage, was passed on Saturday. The salary of the Clerk of the Supreme Court was fixed by Bill at £500, and the present incumbent is to receive an additional £500 in lieu of fees. Those taken by the Secretary of the Province over and above £1600, which he receives, exclusive of clerk's hire and other expenses, were abolished by this Bill. It came out in debate, that 1600 judgments were signed last year, which at an average of £10 each, was a loss to the country of £16,000.

The Legislative Council having proposed amendments to the Bill in relation to the 5th section of the Civil List Act, which contemplates the paying for lands by instalment; another was passed in the House on Thursday, fixing the upset price of land at two shillings an acre for actual settlement.

Various sums have passed in the Committee of Supply during the week; and also the Bye Road appropriations for several of the counties.

Yesterday the House went into committee on the report relative to the College question, when some startling facts were stated by Mr. Wilmot; among others it appears that in return for the sum of £38,000 which that establishment has cost the Province, there have been educated three students in theology, who have taken orders, and but twenty-seven others who have taken degrees within the last twelve years.

Upon motion of Mr. Wilmot an address to the Lieut. Governor was voted, requesting him to lay the substance of the resolutions which passed the House before the College Council, in order that their opinion might be obtained. The first of these limits the number of that Council to 13, of which the Chancellor and the Speakers of the Legislative Council and Assembly and one of the Professors are to be members; the rest to be appointed by the Chancellor, but to be laymen,—no clergyman to have a seat at the Board. This last proposition was carried by a vast majority. The test proposed is the same as at Oxford and Edinburgh; or a declaration that the student believes in the Trinity and the Divine authenticity of the Scriptures. From the tenor of Lord John Russell's despatch, it appears the representations of the Assembly have been met in a liberal spirit; and although His Lordship suggests that the House should proceed by address, yet it is obvious that if prompt and effectual measures are to be adopted, the Legislature must proceed in the affair by Bill.

Late in the afternoon, Mr. Fisher's Bill for vacating the seats of members in certain cases, was again taken up and passed. A motion to exempt Executive Councillors from its operation was carried; but all other persons receiving office of profit or emolument, who may hereafter be appointed, are to vacate their seats.—*Fredericton Sentinel.*

It would appear from the debate which we have reported to-day, that the revenue is at present not quite sufficient for the appropriations; and it is argued that either a debt must be incurred to carry out the improvements of the Province and meet the necessary expenditures, or the duties must be increased on importation. There can be no doubt, but the former is the preferable measure. Increase of taxation cramps exertion; and it is unfair to make the present generation pay for those improvements of which posterity must mainly reap the advantage.—A duty on tea, however, would not be objectionable. It is in too frequent use throughout the Province; and coffee which may be raised in the British Islands to any extent, ought to be substituted for that article.—*Ib.*

SUMMARY.

House of Lords, Feb. 1.—Lord Shaftsbury brought up the report of the committee to whom it was referred to consider the proceedings in the case of the Earl of Cardigan. The substance was, that Tuesday, the 16th day of February, be fixed for the trial of his Lordship at the bar of the House, and that all the Judges be summoned to attend. The report was agreed to.

Lord John Russell has accepted an invitation to dine with the New Zealand Company, in the City, on Saturday the 13th of February, on the occasion of a royal charter being conferred on the Company.

There have been several great floods in England occasioned by an unusual quantity of snow, which had fallen and suddenly thawed, carrying away many houses, mills, and destroying much property, attended with loss of life.

Portugal.—Notwithstanding all the efforts of the revolutionary opposition, the act to give effect to the convention for the navigation of the Douro, and thereby end the quarrel with Spain, passed the Chamber of Deputies on the 15th Jan. and on the 17th was sent up to the Senate.

Russia.—A letter from Moscow states, that the British expedition against China had given a very unfavourable turn to the trade between China and Russia. The quantity of tea sent to Moscow diminished from 100,000 chests, the amount of last year, to 40 000, as the Chinese can now only send their goods by land. The export of Russian goods to China, chiefly cloth, had also greatly diminished.

DESTRUCTION OF THE SHIPPING IN THE WEAR.—We last week gave the particulars of the tremendous destruction which took place amongst the shipping in the Wear, at Sunderland, in consequence of the ice being unable to make its way through so narrow a channel. The shipowners applied themselves vigorously to the rescue of their property, and with the aid of steam-boats, which had luckily taken timely shelter in the Wearmouth Dock, by half-past four on Tuesday afternoon a passage was effected, and the ice went away to sea, but unfortunately carrying along with it a large quantity of most valuable timber,—as we have heard about 250 loads. The names of about 160 vessels have been collected as having received more or less injury, but this is far short of the actual number. It is now stated that the amount of the damage will be more than the highest sum we named last week, viz, £80,000. The following ships were picked up at sea;—Era, of Rochester, which drove out of the harbour with no hands on board; the Jean of Sunderland, with three boys, and captain of a French vessel on board; the Gamma, of Sunderland; the Young of Sunderland; and the Beatitude, of London. The Wear Commissioners' valuable steamer, the Utility, is almost a wreck; and the steam-tugs Safety, Hare, Earl of Durham, George and Ann, and Neptune, are either sunk, wrecked or missing. About thirty keels are sunk or destroyed, and almost all the harbour boats and other small crafts have disappeared from the river. Had it not been for the shelter of the North Dock, in which twenty-five valuable ships, and about half that number of steamers took refuge, the loss to the port must have been fearfully augmented. Two individuals lost their lives. Respecting other persons missing, no authentic information has been received.—*Tyne Mercury.*

THE NAVY.—In comparing the list of the ships in commission at the present period with the list of those in active service last January, we find the strength of the navy at sea is increased by three three-deckers, two eighty-fours, three fifties, five sloops of war, and seven first-class steamers, forming an addition to our defence of 794 guns and 6,300 men; the whole of which are in addition to any estimate proposed to parliament, and is an expense which the pressure of the times has compelled the government to incur, and under a full reliance on the emergency of the case justifying them in asking for the necessary supplies. The number of seamen, marines, and boys now employed, exceeds 43,000.—[Hampshire Telegraph.

THE NEW HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.—About 170 masons are daily engaged at the New Houses of Parliament, and there are about one hundred other workmen in full occupation. The works are progressing rapidly. The average height of all the walls is now about 15 feet, and they already present a striking appearance when viewed from the river. Mr. Barry, the architest, pays, it is said, the closest attention to all the works, which are, for the most part, executed under his personal superintendence.—[London Courier.

THE ARCHIMEDES SCREW.—The Liverpool Standard has devoted considerable space to a clear and circumstantial account of this important invention. "We have much satisfaction," says the Standard, "In stating that the government have at length decided on adopting it into the navy." We are not aware what grounds there may be for such a rumour, but we believe that measures have already been taken on the Continent for the construction of several steamers on the principle of the Archimedes. In Bremen a company has been formed for the construction of several large steamers propelled by the screw, and as soon as the vessels are ready, they are intended to run regularly between that city and New York.

LOSS OF THE FAIRY.—Nobly has the public responded to the praiseworthy exertions of Captain Hornby, C. B., of her Majesty's Dockyard, Woolwich, to alleviate the loss which the widows of the purser and ship's company of her Majesty's ship Fairy have experienced—the amount already collected being now upwards of £800. Amongst the most recent subscribers is her Majesty the Queen Dowager, for the handsome sum of £100., which has been received here. Further subscriptions also continue to be received, affording sufficent proof that appeals of this nature to the British public are never made in vain. It is, perhaps, not generally known, that the Fairy was employed for several years in the provident, but perilous duty of surveying the dangerous shoals of the North Sea, in order to insure safety to other ships. She had just completed her annual task, and in two days more would have been welcomed to Woolwich by friends, wives and children. But Providence willed it otherwise, and 18 widows, with their numerous fartherless infants, are left to mourn this sad catastrophe.—[Hampshire Telegraph.

MERTHYR-TYDVIL.—The Iron Trade.—This important trade has been in a most depressed state, during the greater portion of the past year, which depression continued to its very close. The new year has, however opened with a sudden and decided improvement. The demand is brisk, and large sales have been already made at an advance of 5s. to 10s. per ton, the present quotationr of Welsh bars on shipment being £7 10s. per ton.—[Monmouth Merlin.

NEW ZEALAND.—Launch.—On Tuesday last, the launch of a new ship, built expressly for this colony, took place at Port-Glasgow, and as she gently glided towards her destined element, up went the burgee, which displayed the appropriate name "Clydeside." She went off in gallant style, and was immediately brought into the adjoining harbour. She was built by Mr. Mathieson, (who has already visited that quarter of the globe) who, along with several friends intends now to take up his final abode there. We understand the Clydeside proceeds from Glasgow, direct, to her port of destination.

A great aggregate meeting of Irish Reformers, ostensibly to oppose Lord Stanley's Registration Bill, was held in Dublin, on Friday 15th Jan. The requisition for calling the meeting was signed by 44 Peers, 19 Baronets, 60 Deputy-Lieutenants, 380 Magistrates, 300 Protestant and Roman Catholic Clergymen, 300 landed proprietors, and 400 merchants and members of the learned professions. At the head of the list stood the names of the Duke of Devonshire, Earl Fitzwilliam, and Lord Milton.

At the adjourned meeting of the Repeal Association in Dublin, on the 9th, the Secretary presented an account of receipts and expenditure. The total receipts from the commencement of the Association, 15th April 1840, to 31st December, were 2,688*l.* 5*s.* 10*d.*; the expenditure 2,569*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.*; leaving a balance in hand of 118*l.* 17*s.* 7*d.* The amounts received from the provinces in Ireland exhibit a marked difference in the extension of the Repeal agitation: the gross amount from Leinster is 1,949*l.*, Munster 256*l.*, Connaught 104*l.*, and from Ulster only two guineas.

Mr. O'Connell made a public entry into Mullingar on Thursday week. The *Pilot* states that he was met by upwards of 50,000 persons. In the evening, Mr. O'Connell was entertained by 400 gentleman at a public dinner.

The Munster Repeal meeting was held in Cork on Monday. The numbers assembled are estimated at 150,000; Mr. O'Connell, in his speech, called them "hundreds of thousands." The people dispersed quietly. In the evening, O'Connell figured again at a public dinner.

For Sale or to Let.

THE Subscriber's HOUSE in Queen's square.—Possession given 1st of May next.

March 2—6w WM. HOWARD.

THE OBSERVER.

ST. JOHN, TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 1841.

The United States mail last evening brought nothing of importance. The steam ship *President* had not arrived at New York up to Tuesday last, being then out 20 days, provided she left Liverpool on the day appointed, 10th of February.—A large steam ship, supposed to be the President, was seen on Monday the 1st inst. by a vessel arrived at Halifax from Matanzas, in lat. 42 32, long. 65 56, steering to the westward.

The Royal Mail steam ship *Columbia* arrived at Halifax at 12 o'clock on Thursday, 44 hours from Boston. She left the latter port at 3 o'clock on the afternoon of Tuesday the 2d inst. having been detained, as stated in a Boston paper, repairing some defects in her machinery.—The Columbia left Halifax on Thursday afternoon, for Liverpool, with 36 passengers, among whom were Mrs. Snodgrass, (lady of the late Colonel Snodgrass,) and child; and E. Barlow, Esq. of this city. She takes, says the Halifax Recorder, "an immense mail to England. Ten thousand letters and a large number of newspapers and packages, besides despatches from the Canadian Government, have been sent by her from Boston, and from our post office she has taken seven large sacks full of Canadian Correspondence, forwarded hither overland, and 4200 letters and 6000 papers."

Some of the New York papers a few days ago set in motion a rumour that Mr. Fox, British Minister at Washington, had demanded either the liberation of Mr. M'Leod from the Lockport jail, or his passports. It proved to be like many preceding American rumours, merely a hoax. It is not improbable, however, that such demand may be made after the arrival of the next steamer from England. Official intelligence of the whole affair could not have reached London when the mail steamer Britannia left. The subjoined paragraphs are from a late New-York paper:—

There was a rumour in this city yesterday, got up, doubtless, by some persons interested in throwing the community into periodical fits of excitement, that the British consul, James Buchanan, Esq., had received an intimation from the British minister at Washington, that he had demanded of our government the release of M'Leod, or his passports. It is almost needless to say that there is not the slightest truth in this rumor. We have seen Mr. Buchanan. He has received no such intimation.—*New York Mercury, Feb. 28.*

We hope there is truth in the rumor that a special commission is to be sent out to England headed by Clay, for the speedy and final settlement of all matters in dispute. This is the proper course to pursue. There will be no War.—*Ib.*

We beg to refer our agricultural readers to the advertisement of Mr. Nugent of Halifax, who purposes publishing a monthly Magazine, to be called the "*Colonial Farmer*," which is to be devoted exclusively to the Agricultural interests of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island. The subject being one of the highest importance to these Colonies, and which should interest all who desire their permanent welfare, we hope the publication may meet with a bountiful support. Several talented gentlemen are engaged to contribute to the work, among whom we learn is Dr. Gesner, our Provincial Geologist.

Efforts, we learn, are also making to get up a periodical in this City, to be devoted to the dissemination of *Agricultural, Horticultural*, and *Botanical* information, and that application has been made to the Legislature for pecuniary assistance to effect its establishment. We trust that the required aid may be obtained, and that the work may meet with extensive patronage throughout this and the Sister Colonies, as there cannot be too much sound knowledge circulated on these hitherto neglected subjects. The work we understand will be under the management of competent editors.

The Halifax Post states that an Agricultural paper is about being started at Windsor by Mr. Small.

The Pictou *Mechanic & Farmer*, published for about three years past, is also a very useful paper.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—On Wednesday evening, Mr. R. K. Addison delivered an interesting Lecture on *Organic Education*, and acquitted himself much to the satisfaction of a large and attentive audience.

On Friday evening, Mr. Paterson lectured on *Equilibrium and Motion*, which he explained with much clearness, and proved his scientific acquirements to be of a very superior order. He illustrated his lecture with several interesting experiments. A large and respectable audience appeared to be much pleased with the evening's entertainment.

Last evening, Mr. Paterson gave the third of his course on *Natural Philosophy*.—subject, *Gravity*. Much interesting and instructive matter was adduced, and the lecture interspersed with several experiments. The subject of the next lecture is *Mechanical Powers*.

The Nova Scotia House of Assembly has appropriated £22,000 for the roads and bridges of that Province for the present year; £6000 of which is for the great roads lying between Halifax, Pictou and Annapolis.

In this Province £33,480 is to be appropriated for Great Roads and certain special grants connected with the road service; and £15,675 for Bye Roads.

Catholic Temperance Society.—This excellent society, under the management of the Rev. Mr. Dunphy, continues to increase in numbers. The pledge was administered to 125 postulants