

Provincial Parliament.

Both branches of the Legislature were opened on Thursday last with the following Speech from His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor:

Mr. President, and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:
Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

You will join with me in the expression of gratitude to the Almighty for the many blessings which have been bestowed on the People of this Province during the past year.

The agricultural crops of the season have been generally abundant; the fisheries have been successful; and, although our trade has exhibited in some degree that depression to which the commerce of the world has been more or less subjected during the same period, we have, I am happy to believe, no reason to fear that the progress of the Province in commercial prosperity has received any permanent check. Above all, our hearts feel thanks are due for our exemption, under Providence, from any recurrence of that disease, by which some portions of the Province were so severely afflicted during the preceding year.

The continued cessation of operations on the Railway Works which have been commenced in the Province, is a subject which, during the recess, engaged my anxious consideration.

On the recommendation of my Council, I directed the Attorney General to proceed to England, charged with a mission, the particulars and result of which are fully set forth in papers which will be laid before you.

You are fully alive to the importance of extending the means of inter-communication between different parts of the Province, and to the effect which may be expected therefrom in promoting immigration and advancing the general prosperity of the community. I am sure the measures which will be submitted to you for the purpose of facilitating and promoting the construction of Railways in the Province will receive your earnest attention.

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

The accounts of income and expenditure for the past year, and estimates presented by the Government, of the probable Revenue and of the necessary expenditure for the current year, will be laid before you.

You will perceive, with regret, that the expenditure of the year 1855 has largely exceeded the Revenue received during the same period. But the amount of Revenue collected is nearly identical with that stated in the estimate which was laid before you at the commencement of last Session. The excess therefore of expenditure over Revenue is not to be attributed to errors in the estimate, or to an unexpected diminution of the Revenue of the year.

The system by which supplies are now granted has obviously failed to secure that equality between the current revenue and the current or ordinary expenditure of the Province which is indispensable to the maintenance of financial order; and it will be for you to consider whether the public interest does not demand that some alteration should be made in this system.

You are aware that in the Mother country the Executive Government is directly responsible for the financial condition of the country; and this responsibility is justly regarded by the Imperial Parliament and by the people, as the main security against financial embarrassment.

The character and present position of the unaided debt of the Province claim your attention. The deposits in the Savings Banks are liable to be withdrawn at call, and I recommend you to consider whether the application of the whole of the money thus deposited to defray the ordinary expenditure of the Province, without making any special provision for meeting the calls of the Depositors, is in accordance with these principles on which the financial affairs of the Province should be conducted.

You will not fail to remember the close connexion which exists between the establishment of a sound financial system, and the power of constructing Public Works calculated to promote the development of the resources of the Province; and I am well assured that, in the consideration of any scheme for the formation of Works of this description, involving the expenditure of capital beyond the annual income of the Province, you will bear in mind the necessity of making full and ample provision for securing, both for the present and for the future, the prompt and regular payment of all calls on the Provincial Treasury.

Mr. President, and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

Experience has indisputably shown that the continued progress in prosperity of a community, as well as their social character and position, materially depends on the encouragement which is afforded in that community to Science and to the cultivation of Literature and Arts.

The Report of the Commission appointed to enquire into King's College is before you. I trust that means may be devised to cure any defects which may exist in our Collegiate system, and to provide for the improvement of the Educational Institutions of the Province; and that we may have the satisfaction of knowing that the full advantages of a good, Academic, as well as Common School education, are offered by the Province without distinction of class or of creed.

I have given directions that the Report of the Commissioners of Public Works should be laid before you. You will now have, for

the first time, the advantage of a synoptical statement of the condition of those extensive Public Works on the construction and maintenance of which a large portion of the Public Revenue is annually expended; and I trust that you will see reason to believe that the establishment of the Board of Works has already given, and that it promises still further to secure, efficiency and economy in this important branch of the Public service.

At the conclusion of the Session last year the efforts of the Allied Armies before Sebastopol, distinguished as those efforts had been by conspicuous gallantry and patient endurance, had not as yet been crowned by success.

Since that period Sebastopol has fallen. When this event became known in this Province, the general feeling of joy and exultation which was loudly proclaimed in every part of the Province, was indeed a sufficient assurance, if any such assurance had been needed, that the loyalty of the people of New Brunswick has not degenerated or grown cold; and it is a source of peculiar gratification to us, that among the friends of the war in the East, the British-North American Provinces only claim a representative in a first distinguished effort.

I leave you to your reflections, with the earnest prayer that Providence will bless them for the promotion of the real and lasting interests of the Province.

COMMUNICATION.

To the Editor of the St. Andrews Standard.
SIR,—May I, through the medium of your respected journal, take the liberty of calling the attention of the rate-payers of the parish of Saint Andrews, to a notice in the issue of the Provincialist of the 12th inst. where it is said by their Secretary Thomas Turner Odell, that the commissioners of the poor-house will receive Tenders till the 31st March next for boarding the paupers for the term of one year—and where they say, that their Secretary Thomas Turner Odell does not bind themselves to accept the lowest Tender! A private individual who has the Dominion of his own property can put what restrictions he pleases upon his contract to let from himself by Tenders. But for the commissioners of the poor-house of Saint Andrews or of the poor-house of any other place or town to reserve to themselves the right of taxing the parish to support the poor, is a certain sum per week is a claim to which they can have no claim. They must accept the lowest Tender; and then exercise their real and bounden duty of obtaining solvent security for the fulfilment of the contract made. Otherwise it would be thus—some says in his Tender I will rent the farm for 20 pounds a year, and board the paupers for 7s. 6d. per week each; another man says in his Tender I will board the paupers for 5s. 6d. per week each and pay 20 pounds a year for the farm. The former is the party who must have the contract say the commissioners through their Secretary Thomas Turner Odell. What is the consequence?—It is this. Say thirty paupers are boarded for one year at 7s. 6d. a week each—the *favourite* Tender, to the one of 5s. 6d. each. This would make a difference of 150 pounds in one year to be taxed on the parish to gratify the commissioners through their Secretary Thomas Turner Odell. Security in the form of 200 pounds is, in all cases, required for the faithful performance of the contract; and if the rate payers are prepared to succumb to such manifest injustice or rather impudence if you will—why truly we may say that we are living in times of rampant fanaticism which the future historian of the little Town of Saint Andrews cannot fail, in passing, to make a note of.

A RATE-PAYER.

St. Andrews 19th Feb. 1856.

Arrival of the Canada.

The Canada arrived at Halifax on Sunday last, with Liverpool dates to the 21st inst.

The London Morning Herald has the following unpleasant announcement:—"We regret to hear that at an interview which Lord Clarendon and Mr. Buchanan had together at the Foreign Office on Tuesday, very angry words passed between them, relative to the Central American question."

Peace Negotiations.—Despatches from the Russian Government completing and confirming its telegraphic announcement of the unconditional acceptance of Austrian proposals were received at Vienna on the 23d; and counters conveyed them to Paris and London; and it is reported that the Congress will meet at Paris Feb. 17th; that very little time will be lost in the discussion and that the whole will be brought to a conclusion by Feb. 25th. Signing preliminaries prior to opening now only awaits arrival of Turkish plenipotentiary.

Prussia refuses to agree to the conditions exacted by the Allies, preliminary to her admission into the peace conference, and that consequently she will be excluded from the conference, but will be invited to sign the final settlement.

Baron Bismarck and Count Ollivier are the Russian Plenipotentiaries, assisted by Messrs. Potho and Featon. Lord Clarendon represents England; Marquis Dazog, Sardinia; Count Buel, Austria; M. Walecki, France; Danil Pachin, Turkey.

Baltic.—Letters arrived 30th, speak of mild weather and resumption more or less a Pillan, Meinel and Gushaven—ice breaking up.

Crimea correspondence from English camp Jan. 18th, reports army healthy—no incidents excepting Russians continue fire from north forts.

Gorischakoff has handed over command to Luder, and issued a most valiant order to his Crimean comrades.

Jan. 9th, Russians made expedition over ice to Kerch, but Gen. Vivian being on the alert they retreated.

Asia Minor.—Gen. Williams was at Tiflis Dec. 14th, handsomely treated, awaiting orders from St. Petersburg as to his destination. We know nothing of Kara, excepting that the town is occupied.

New York, 19th. The steamer Alabama sailed this morning in search of the Pacific. Provisions, clothing, extra spurs, boots, water &c. were taken, to relieve any vessel in distress that may be fallen in with. Permission has been asked of government to send out steam brig Arctic, in search of the Pacific, and to relieve other vessels presumed to be locked in the ice near Newfoundland.

Light House Destroyed.—Norfolk Feb. 11.—The Pungateague Light House was swept away on Saturday night the 2d inst. with 3 men who were stationed there. Nothing has been heard of it.

The Standard.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 30, 1856.

THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH.

Our contemporaries throughout the Province, have been much occupied during the last few days with comments on the Governor's Speech, (which will be found in another column,) with surmises as to the details of the measures, which that Speech foreshadows. It is the intention of the Government to bring forward. We do not care to follow them into the maze of conjectures, nor do we think it worth while, at any time, to devote much space to mere criticisms on the inaugural speech of the Session from the throne. In the present instance this document commonly called the Governor's Speech but which it is well known is always drawn up by his Council, appears to us to be much on a par with the average run of such things; nor do we feel at all astonished, that a Ministry feeling itself so weak and insecure as the present one must necessarily do, should carefully avoid as much as possible, affording any opening to the opposition to throw them out on the address in reply.

Whether the words put into the Governor's mouth on the present occasion, are, or are not explicit and determined on the great questions which engross the public mind, is after all of little moment; and however reluctant the Government may feel in their incapacity frankly and openly to develop the plans which they declare they have matured, those questions themselves must now be considered argued and arranged for no Government will for the future be able to sustain its position in this Province, which is not capable of grappling with them and bringing them to a successful issue.

Of all these, the one of Railroads, even considered by themselves alone, is, without doubt, the most momentous and important, and will engage the most earnest and serious attention; but it should not be forgotten that on the plan, which may be adopted for the purpose of carrying out these undertakings depends in a very great degree the decisions which may be come to with respect to other measures of scarcely inferior interest to the community at large.

The question of taxation and revenue are closely linked with that of Railways, not merely with respect to the necessity of providing the means to meet the interest which will be payable on the loans by which these works are to be built, but also as regards the soundness of the judgment which shall determine which lines will most quickly and surely develop and increase the trade and commerce of the Country and thereby add to its Exchequer, and which should therefore be first begun. With these again the question of the Liquor Law is in near connection, and through them this most obnoxious statute has no small influence on the practicability of carrying on our Railways without fiscal embarrassment.

The days for private influences and local legislation are gone by—the attention of the people is fairly aroused—an enlarged and generous policy will alone meet the necessities of the times—one, devoid of sectional jealousy, ready to adopt those lines which will—not give the greatest advantages to any present influential communities, but which will open up the largest tracts of our forest lands and thereby hold out inducements to immigration; and which moreover present the fewest obstacles in the way of cost, in the number of miles, and in engineering difficulties.

That the road from St. Andrews, now nearly finished for a distance of 30 miles embraces all these points, we most unhesitatingly affirm. Whether it be excluded from, or form part of the measure which the Govern-

ment are about to submit to the House and the Country, we cannot of course as yet know, but this we do know, if it be excluded (or rather perhaps, we should say, if provision be not made in it to give to the Line its just and legal rights,) considering that about £100,000 of British capital are already invested in it—that it will be no more than the country deserves, and we shall expect, that the English Shareholders in the St. Andrews line, should demand the Province Bonds in the London market.

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY.

The Session of the Legislature was opened on Thursday last 14th inst. In another column we have inserted His Excellency's Speech. The New Brunswick characterizes it as—"meagre, vague, and unsatisfactory;" while the Fredericton Reporter invites the attention of its readers to—"a foreshadowing the position and policy of the Government. It contains no ambiguous expressions." We place this State Document before our readers, and commence our usual summary of Legislative proceedings.

On the members returning to the House, the Speaker informed the House of the resignation of the Hon. J. P. Parlow and the Hon. W. J. Ritchie, and the acceptance of a seat in the Council by Mr. Rice, The Hon. Charles Waters and Mr. R. S. Armstrong, having taken the necessary oath, were introduced and took their seats.

The Speaker notified the House of the death of James Taylor Esq., and that he had issued his warrant for an election to fill the vacancy.

Hon. Mr. Street brought in a bill to encourage the destruction of bears and wolves. Mr. End brought in a bill to repeal the Prohibitory Liquor Law. Mr. Tibbitts made a question of it, when the House divided as follows:—

Ayes—End, Johnson, Gray, Kerr, Botsford, McClellan, Landry, Harding, Smith, Street, McNaughton, Macpherson, Montgomery, Cutler, Wilmet, Tilley, Connell, Gilbert, Boyd, Hatheway, Fisher, Sutton.—22. Nays—Tibbitts, Steadman, Lunt, Ferris, McPhelim, Brown, McAdam, Gilmour—8. Mr. Cutler brought in a bill to prevent certain persons from holding seats in the House of Assembly.

Mr. Boyd brought in a bill to regulate the sale of spirituous Liquor. Mr. McPhelim moved that a Contingent Committee be appointed. A Committee was appointed, consisting of Messrs. McPhelim, Wilmet, and Harding.

Mr. Street moved that a Committee be appointed to examine and report upon what sums are required for the Great and By-Roads.

Mr. McPhelim objected. (Motion withdrawn.)

Mr. End moved that a Committee be appointed on the privileges of the House—Committee, Messrs. End, Street, Johnson, Hatheway, and Hayward.

Mr. Harding moved that a Trade Committee be appointed.

Mr. End took occasion to eulogize the Hon. Mr. Parlow, for many years Chairman of the Trade Committee. He had left the impress of his talents on the Journals, which was an honor to him, &c.

Mr. McNaughton read address in reply to the Speech. On motion of Mr. Harding it was made the order of the day for Monday.

Mr. Kerr moved that 1,000 copies of the Journals be printed. Mr. Boyd moved an amendment, that 1,500 be ordered. Amendment carried.

On motion of the Hon. Col. Hayward, resolved that the House wear mourning a week for Messrs. Taylor and English.

Friday 15th. The House was principally occupied with routine business this morning. Several committees were appointed. Mr. Street moved the usual Road Committee. Considerable discussion arose, as it was thought that the Great Roads should be under the control of the Board of Works. The Resolution was finally carried to refer By-Roads only to a Committee.

Mr. Hatheway laid on the table a series of Resolutions to transfer the Initiation of the Money Votes from the Assembly to the Executive, and gave notice that he should move them at an early day.

Several bills and Petitions were presented. Reports of Executive resignations are utterly groundless.

Monday 18th. Mr. Gray laid on the table an amendment to the Address involving a vote of no confidence,—if carried Government will dissolve the House immediately. House went into consideration of Governor's Speech. Mr. Gray moved his amendment, and spoke an hour and a half. The Attorney General is to reply on Tuesday. Not much excitement.

The Petition from this County for the repeal of the Prohibitory Liquor Law, has been forwarded to Mr. Boyd for presentation. It is signed by 984 electors of the County; and shows a large majority in favor of repeal. The requisition to the four County Members to vote for a repeal of the Law is signed by 918 electors—and yet Messrs. Brown, Gillmor, and McAdam voted against the repeal brought in on the first day of the Session by Mr. End. We admit their consistency.

Sons of Temperance, but have they not acted contrary to the expressed wishes of a large majority of their constituents?

Communications emitted this week, will be published in our next number.

The Courier has of late found fault with the irregularity of the receipt of the Western Mail. The cause of the irregularity does not arise at St. Andrews, we know, nor is it owing to crossing the ferry.

The Mails between St. Andrews and Robbinston have never missed crossing and recrossing a single trip for many years; but we regret to say, the Mails from the Westward have not arrived at Robbinston with their usual regularity this winter, owing, no doubt, to the large quantity of snow which has fallen, which has even stopped the travel on some of the railroads. When travelling is good, the Mail from Boston generally arrives here in forty-four hours, and is usually dispatched within an hour for St. John.

New York Flour Market, Feb. 14.—Common grades are lower and dull. Common to extra state, \$7.37 to \$7.75. Canadian \$7.75 to \$10. Market closed steady and heavy for inferior.

Schools.—Unprecedented instances of the Cure of this Complaint—This is, perhaps, the greatest scourge of which the human family are subject, and at the same time the most difficult of cure, inasmuch as it is dependent on the power of the medicine prescribed, and its instantaneous effects upon the parts affected. The only infallible remedy for the cure of this most distressing of ailments with which we are acquainted is, Holloway's Ointment and Pills; they quickly eradicate all venereal diseases; but there is, perhaps, no class of disorders which so readily yields to the treatment of these mighty medicines. They get like a charm, and not only astonish the patient, but the faculty themselves, rendering them unprepared in the history of medical science.

Big D.

On the 14th inst. at the residence of her father, L. Donaldson, Esq., Sophia Wallace, wife of Admiral John Townsend Colfax, in the 40th year of her age.

Notice to the Public.

THE MAILS FOR ENGLAND will close at this Office on Sunday 24th at 9 A.M. via Halifax. Tuesday 26th, at 6 A.M. via New York, per U.S. Steamer, 1 day, 20 hrs. via New York per British packet, and 2 days 4th March via New York, per U.S. packet. The Postage for the United Kingdom via Halifax, is 7d single rate, via New York via British Packet 10d, and via United States Steamer is 5d, pre-payment optional.

By Order, G. F. CAMPBELL, P.M.

Post Office, St. Andrews, Feb. 10, 1856.

COTTAGE TO LET.

From 1st May next, THE premises called "SUMMER HILL," at present in the occupation of the subscriber, containing a well finished Cottage and Out Houses, with an excellent Garden, which yields a variety of Fruit—For particulars, apply to Dr. C. W. McSTAY.

Feb. 13, 1856.

To Let,

From 1st May next, THAT pleasantly situated COTTAGE at the upper end of Queen Street, at present occupied by J. GAYNE, Esq.

ALSO—THE HOUSE in King Street, occupied by Mr. POLLEYS, adjoining the Record Office. Apply to J. W. STREET, Feb. 9th, 1856.

Poor-House and Farm.

THE Commissioners of the Poor-House will receive Tenders at the Office of their Secretary, until the 31st March next, at twelve o'clock, for BOARDING THE PAUPERS for one year, from 15th April.

The person tendering to say for what sum per week each he will board the Paupers, he taking the Farm at a Rent of £20 per annum and signing a lease similar to the one under which the Farm is now let. The person whose tender is accepted, will have to give sufficient security in the sum of £200, for the faithful performance of his Contract.

The Commissioners do not bind themselves to accept the lowest tender.

By Order of the Commissioners, THOS. TURNER ODELL, Secretary.

St. Andrews, 12th Feb. 1856.

NOTICE.

THE Commissioners of the Poor are prepared to BIND OUT a number of Poor Children, who are receiving Parish aid, to any suitable persons who may require them.

By Order of the Commissioners, THOS. TURNER ODELL, Secretary.

St. Andrews, 12th Feb. 1856.

FOR SALE BY PRIVATE CONTRACT.

THE HOUSE, Lands and Premises, recently occupied by George W. King, at the Bellingham, St. Patrick, Apply to R. M. ANDREWS, St. Andrews, Dec. 1.