

The Provincial Wesleyan.

General at Halifax, dated Dec. 31, 1853, has thereupon been pleased, by and with the advice of his Council, to approve and establish the following Rates of Postage, to take effect upon the first day of March next.

Printed Circulars, Prices Current, Handbills, and other printed matters of a descriptive nature, not exceeding 100 copies, to be sent by post, to any place within the same, as well as through Nova Scotia, at the rate of the *Provincial* per ounce pre-payment being optional, except when such printed matter is addressed to the United States, in which case the postage must be pre-paid.

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3rd. Letters posted in any town within the Province for delivery in the same town, shall be liable to a Rate of *One Penny* for every half ounce, according to the Provincial Scale of Rating Letters.

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5th. We would assure our friends who complain of not having received some recent numbers of the paper, that the same are not in our hands, but have been correctly mailed. We have sent copies of the number we have on hand, regretting we cannot supply all of the dates said to be missing. Perhaps the parcels may yet reach their proper destination.

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the British North American Colonies on just principles—while calculated to perpetuate the connection with the Parent State—will tend to their advancement and prosperity, to increase their strength and elevate their position.

Resolved.—That a humble Address be presented to the Queen, praying Her Majesty's gracious consideration of the subject, and the adoption of measures for bringing it under the attention of the Government and Legislatures of Her North American Provinces, and for effecting the Union of Her Majesty's Loyal Colonies, in a way satisfactory to themselves, and adapted to secure their harmony, and bring into exercise their consolidated strength.

Resolved.—That His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, by Address, be respectfully requested to transmit, with his favourable recommendation, the Address of this House to the Queen, to be laid at the foot of the Throne, and that His Excellency, when the Queen's sanction shall be obtained, will use his influence, to promote the object, by correspondence with the Imperial and Colonial Governments, and in such other ways as His Excellency may judge expedient.

Resolved.—That these resolutions be conveyed to the Legislative Council, with the request of this House that they would give this important subject their attention, and unite with the House in such manner as may best be suited for its mature consideration and ultimate adoption by the several Provinces.

On Friday, 24th, the Hon. Provincial Secretary followed. The main ground of his speech was a preference for Colonial Representation in the Imperial Parliament; instead of a Union of these Colonies.

General Intelligence.

Bermuda.

DEPARTURE OF HIS EXCELLENCY GOVERNOR ELLIOT—SWEARING IN OF HIS HONORABLE COUNSELLORS AS ACTING GOVERNOR.—The allied to departure of His Excellency Governor Elliot from these Islands to the new Government of the Island of Trinidad, in our last, was delayed—first by unfavorable weather, and later by the slight indisposition of His Excellency—until yesterday. His Excellency embarked on board the *Diplome* at about noon, and that fine little vessel immediately got under way, and sailed for the North Sea.—The several Forts saluting His Excellency's flag as the *Diplome* passed towards the Eastern passage, and the "Farewell" Signal flying at each post. We again wish His Excellency a speedy and pleasant passage, and to that health and every blessing may fall to the lot of his and his family's enjoyment.

His Honor Colonel Montgomery Williams, R.E., being the Senior Military Officer in these Islands, was sworn in as Acting Governor in the afternoon, at the Council Chamber, by His Honor the President of the Council.

The new and general committee of persons present both civil and military.

After the ceremony of swearing in, His Honor the Acting Governor directed the issuing of the Proclamation requiring vessels, coming directly or circuitously from the Island of St. Thomas where Cholera prevails to be placed *Quarantined*—*Bermuda Register*, Feb. 14th.

JAMAICA COPPER ORE.—We were yesterday favored with the perusal of a Letter received by a Gentleman now on a visit to these Islands, from his Correspondent in New York showing the result of a shipment of Copper Ore from the Portland Mines in the Island of Jamaica. It was smelted at Boston and yielded 24 per cent of the Copper. The ore itself realized \$124 per ton.

This was from one of the many mine lately discovered, in that Island, within the last 12 months. Recent reports on the best information show that Copper very generally abounds in Jamaica, and in consequence of its indifference to English Copper, the development of the wealth of that Island, the Proprietors of many of the richest mines appear disposed to deal with this new article of commerce, with the Americans alone.

In London there is a hospital which receives persons only who have suffered with Cholera. 400 patients admitted last year only 15 died.

Mrs. E. C. Judson, widow of the late Dr. Judson, missionary to Burnham, is feared in the last stage of consumption. Her physicians have but little hope of her recovery.

The English Emigration Commissioners have made preparations to send 3,000 women from the Shetland Islands to Van Dieman's land.

Last year there were conveyed between the United Kingdom and America, by the British and American mail steamers, 4,600,000 letters, and 1,300,000 newspapers.

The Senate of Georgia has passed a bill to punish the keeping of fairs, or other gambling tables and establishments, with imprisonment in the penitentiary from one to five years.

They punish people queerly in China. For robbing a pedlar, a gentleman was lately put into a mortar (annon) and fired against a stone wall.

From Van Dieman's Land advices we learn that a subscription list of £20,000 is filed as a reward to any one who will discover an attractive gold field to compete with Victoria.

The Builder strongly recommends the universal use of iron in preparing all manuscripts intended to convey information to future ages, so that they may remain legible.

It is said that one of the most distinguished physicians of New England ascribes the fearful increase of cases of paralysis to the use of stoves in close rooms, particularly in sleeping apartments.

The soil of Siberia at the close of the summer is still frozen for fifty yards beneath the surface, and the dead that have lain in their coffins for one hundred and fifty years, have been taken up unchanged in the last.

A student of Latin, being confined to his room by sickness, was called upon by a friend, "What, John," said the visitor, "are you doing?" "Yes," answered John, "I am writing."

A pistol has just been invented by a citizen of Alton, Ill., which will prime itself and fire 36 times in succession, and so powerful is its discharge, that it will drive a ball through an inch plank at the distance of 100 yards.

A smart shock of an earthquake had been felt at San Juan del Rio, in Queretaro, but is not reported to have caused any damage.

The Sig. of Mexico has introduced of Asiatic immigrants into Mexico, as a means of providing against such invasions as that of Walker.

Land is enormously dear in Melbourne. Building sites, in good situations, bring from £400 to £500 per foot frontage, and from eighty to ninety feet back wards; this is a piece of ground 80 by 90 feet would cost from £22,000 to £24,000. Good meadows are still to be seen in good ways in Melbourne; joiners get 30s per day, sawyers 25s per day.

The number of inhabitants in the Province of North America, according to the last census, was 3,602,692. The value of exports £5,720,000. The number of tons of shipping built, 116,279. The U.S. built the same year 292,218 tons. The aggregate tonnage of American vessels owned and registered in the Province exceeds half a million. England and the United States only exceed this.

Lieutenant Aubrey, in his journey last summer across the country, from the Pacific shore to the Rio Grande, encountered many rattlesnakes of an uncommonly large size, and differing from the ordinary species in the fact that their tails were covered for a distance of some six inches from the point, with alternate white and black rings of hair or bristles, about a quarter of an inch in length.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 12.—The steamship Texas has arrived at this port with advices from Mexico to the 4th ult.

Among her passengers is ex President Calles. The Steamship Europa arrived at New York on Saturday.

No change in Eastern affairs. Another attempt at arbitration on the part of France and England with Russia at the end of the week.

Fighting still continued on the Danube, but without any great results. A large Russian force was still assembling for an attack on Kufala.

England and France continuing armaments on an extensive scale. The Cuban Steamers, it is said, will not at present be employed to convey troops to Constantinople.

Wheat had declined 1s per barrel. Flour had declined 4s per barrel. Corn also declined in price. No change in provisions.

Consols, 91 1/4; advance on previous advices 1/2 cent.

The annual meeting of the Wesleyan Missionary Society was held on Monday evening in the Wesleyan Church of this city. The speakers were the Rev. Messrs. Churchill, Johnson, Brooks, Sparrow, Caswell, and Hennigar. The Hon. Judge Nutt presided. The speeches delivered were of a highly eloquent and intellectual, as well as religious order. The collection amounted to £11.—*Frederick Reporter*, 17th ult.

On Tuesday evening Henry Fisher, Esq., delivered his extempore address on "The World—past, present and future," in the Temperance Hall. There was a fine audience, and judging from the frequent rounds of applause with which he was greeted, the Lecture gave much satisfaction.

On the course of his speaking, it was of course impossible to comprehend such a vast subject; but the Lecturer seized upon a large number of great events in the history of the world, and most graphically and so eloquently described their rise and progress, their consummation, and general effect upon the future well-being of mankind. In the latter part of the lecture, Mr. F. addressed himself particularly to the past history, present state, and future prospects of New Brunswick.—*Id.*

MECHANIC'S INSTITUTE.—According to the announcement in our last, the Rev. Mr. Conroy should have occupied the platform last evening. But circumstances occurred which impelled him, with much regret, to write to the President of the Institute that he could not fulfil his engagements. The members of the Institute and the friends of Mr. Conroy's government will be glad, however, to learn that, Providence concurring he will give two lectures next season. "Forgive me this once," he says in the conclusion of his letter, "and if I am spared, I'll endeavor to give, if I can, two lectures instead of one I should have given."—*St. John, N.B. Paper*.

AMERICAN INVENTIONS.—The American papers report two great inventions. The first is a machine for excavating rock formations, consists of a number of rotating steel disks, worked by steam, which seize and crush the hardest rocks with irresistible power, weighs 75 tons; it is easily worked by four men. The other machine is described as a mechanical "nail," enabling persons to go to the bottom of the sea or of rivers, and remain there to perform any work needed, such as laying foundations, exploring, gathering treasure, &c. Several gentlemen, among them, Mr. Robert Walker, who has been in the service of the U.S. Navy, remaining there half an hour, and making observations at pleasure. The description furnished by the papers is unintelligible; but the principle of the invention appears to be the use of compressed air, or whose expansion, regulated at will, the vessel floats, and the arrangement of valves and cords is as usual in connection with the apparatus.

EARTHQUAKE AT MARIPOSA.—On the 3d of January a shock of an earthquake was very sensibly felt at Mariposa. It occurred about 10 o'clock, writes a correspondent of the *Stockton Republican*, "and caused much excitement among us here. It was felt in the north, and seemed to travel northward, or up the bed of the creek. The first shock and prolonged rumbling lasted about twelve seconds, and was decidedly the loudest and most perfect specimen of an earthquake ever known in that vicinity."—*Sacramento Paper*.

The Rev. James Caghey, the popular Methodist Minister, who has been preaching in our city for some months past, will deliver a public lecture on Temperance in the Wesleyan Church this evening. Dr. James Douglas has consented to take the chair.—*Quebec Chronicle*, 17th ult.

A person in England, lately rummaging among his family documents, found written on the back of an old deed some words indicating that a pot of gold was buried in a certain place in the garden. It was at first regarded as a hoax, but on digging in the spot, an iron pot came to light, containing fifteen thousand guineas, and a scrap of parchment much decayed, on which was written: "The devil shall have it sooner than Cronwell."

The Methodists have four churches in Minnesota, and two missionaries among the Indians.—The Presbyterians have 6 members and 2 missions. The Calvinistic Baptists have three churches, the Free Will Baptists one, and the Episcopalians hold service at two places.

The yellow fever is raging fearfully among the shipping at Port au Prince.

Provincial Secretary's Office.

Halifax, February 21, 1854.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, in Council, has been pleased to make the following appointments:

To be Registrar of Deeds for the County of Colchester—James K. Bell, Esquire, in the place of George Dill, Esquire, deceased.

To be Justices of the Peace: In the County of Colchester—Charles Tucker, Esquire, and John McKay, Esquire.

In the County of Halifax—Westcott Loyalton, Esquire, late a Captain in H. M. Royal Newfoundland Veterans.

In the County of Pictou—George McKenzie, Esquire.

To be a Commissioner for taking Affidavits to hold to Bail and Recognizance of Bail, and for the relief of Insolvent Debtors, in the County of Colchester—Charles Tucker, Esquire.

To be Members of the Boards of Commissioners of Schools: For the County of Colchester—the Rev'd Messrs. William McCulloch, and Alexander L. Wyllie, and Francis R. Parker, Esquire.

For Parrsborough—the Rev. Robert E. Crane.

For the City of Halifax—the Rev. Matthew Richey, D.D.

For the County of Cape Breton—the Rev. Richard J. Uniacke, A. B. the Rev. Alexander M. Desbarres, and the Rev. John Cunyan.

At a Council held at Government House, the 21st day of February 1854.

PRESENT—His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, &c. &c. &c. His Excellency having had under consideration a representation made by the Postmaster

Latest from Europe.

(By Telegraph to Merchants' News Room.)

FEBRUARY 27.

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