Secular Department.

NEWS BY THE ENGLISH MAIL.

From Willmer & Smith's European Times.

If the success of the Budget, with which Mr. Gladstone astonished the House of Commons on the evening of yesterday week, is to be inferred from the tone of the press, which is usually held to represent public opinion, it is popular in the extreme, and must succeed in the assembly in which it was developed. All the principal papers in the nation, metropolitan and provincial, are strongly in its favor, and even the newspapers which reflect Conservative sentiments, give it a feeble opposition.

The proceedings in Parliament this week exhibit a considerable amount of industry, and the real business of the session may be said to have earnestly commenced. That annual bore, the Maynooth Grant, was discussed on Tuesday evening, and the proposition of Mr. Spooner was rejected by a majority of 58, the numbers being 186 to 128. One of the Irish members caused a good deal of amusement by stating that the speech of the mover reminded him of a saying of O'Connell, that the greatest enemy of religion was a pious fool.

A very important announcement has been made during the last day or two, to the effect that Lord Elgin is again to proceed to China, in his character of Plenipotentiary, for the purpose of effecting, if possible, a pacific solution of the difficulty before ulterior measures are resorted to. We hope that the Chinese authorities, now that the door for negociation is again opened, will avail themselves of the opportunity which presents itself of avoiding a further effusion of blood, and it is probable that wiser counsels may prevail, seeing that Lord Elgin will be supported by a naval and military force which can effectually crush any power which the Chinese may oppose to it.

It seems to be settled that the second daughter of Queen Victoria, the Princess Alice, is to have as husband the young Prince of Orange. The marriage is to take place on the anniversary of the Queen's birthday, on the 24th of May next. This intelligence comes to us from Brussels, to which city the young couple are to pay a visit after their union.

The Savoyards do not relish the idea of being transferred to France. If they are to be detached from Italy, they desire annexation to Switzerland. An address, signed by a considerable number of persons in Albertville, is very strong in the expression of its sympathy with Victor Emmanual and his dynasty. They say, for instance, to the King of Sardinia,—"Sire, you are a Savoyard. By separating yourself from us you would destroy the traditions of your family; you would break to pieces eight centuries of popular attachment to the most loyal of monarchies; it would be necessary to remove from the sacred flag of Italian independence the white cross of Savoy Remain, then, at the head of this good people, whose name you bear, and who deem it a glory to have given Italy a Saviour and a King who is an honest man." This is very affectionate and loyal, but the necessities of statecraft are sometimes superior to sentiment. In grasping his newly-acquired territory in Central Italy, which the Piedmontese Monarch owes to his French protector, Victor-Emmanual finds himself in the position of the Irishman and his blanket, who found it necessary to shorten the covertet in one direction in order to increase its breadth in another. It may be readily conceived that the Great Powers of Europe, England included, will look on the annexation with no friendly eye, but the King and the Emperor evidently understand each other, and the latter, who seems determined to have his *quid* for the *quo*, will not be deterred from carrying out his purpose by the clamor of cabinets and diplomatists. Lord John Russell's explanation confirms this view.

Spain appears bent upon discharging her pecuniary obligations to other countries, and the time she has seized for doing so is not a little strange—the very time when she is at war with Morocco. Mr. Gladstone, in his budget speech, startled the House of Commons by declaring that he had received acceptances from the Spanish Government to the extent of £500,000 in liquidation of an old account, and we now learn from the United States that the Madrid authorities are disposed to settle the claims which the Federal Government have against them. But it may possibly be found that Spain may require *all* her superfluous wealth before the termination of her struggle with the Moors.

We are told of warlike preparations going forward with great activity in St. Peterburg,—that the army and navy are to be reinforced,—that a general recruitment has been resolved on,—and that some event of magnitude will speedily transpire. What can this mean? The tendency of recent events is pacific. There appears to be no belligerent feeling in France, where, if anywhere, we might look for an indication of martial collisions On the contrary, a recent letter from Paris contains this highly satisfactory passage: "The Emperor has proposed a very considerable naval disarmament in France and England. He engages to disarm provided England will do so. The suggestion will be submitted to Parliament." This is realizing the old saying that we must go from home to hear news about ourselves.—*Feb.* 16.

The defeat of Lord Ebury's motion for a revision of the Book of Common Prayer does not appear to have damped the ardour of those who are striving for that end. It seems that a revised Prayer Book is in process of compilation by those who have commenced this movement, and we see it stated in a pamphlet that this work when completed, "will show how comprehensive the national Church of England and Ireland is, when properly represented in its formularies" Our townsman Mr. M'Neile, having been requested to sign the declaration against any alteration in the Book of Common Prayer, declined, and accompanied his refusal by a letter assigning his reasons. His argument is this,—that as the peace and unity of the church are objects of paramount importance, and as these objects can only be attained by a revision of the Prayer Book, he is in favor of that object. He says, "Practices not sanctioned by the Book of Common Prayer have been introduced into the Church Episcopal remonstrances, not having the force of law, have been disregarded. The Courts of Law have been appealed to. Unseemly exhibitions of popular feeling have been provoked; and, instead of a state of unity and peace calling for forbearance, the Church of England presents an aspect of alteration demanding friendly interference."

The Papal question is giving uneasiness to the Emperor of the French, and it is said that he exhibits symptoms of backing out of his original policy. He thinks, probably, that he cannot afford to make enemies at one and at the same time of two such powerful influences as the French clergy and the French protectionists. "A feeling is abroad," says a recent letter from Paris, "that the Emperor is very desirous of coming to an arrangement with the pope, such as would satisfy 'modern men,' and avert the total separation of the Romagna. The circular of M. Thouvenel led some people to think that a scheme of the kind was in contemplation; and it is now said that a Vicariate and a lay Government would, to a certain extent, appease the discontent. The clerical party, however, will not admit that the Pope will or can consent to any compromise whatever—that not only will he not give up the Romagna, but will not be persuaded into anything even like reasonable reform under compulsion; while it is pretty certain that the Romagnols themselves will not listen to anything short of a total separation and annexation to Piedmont. The matter is extremely complicated all admit, and the Emperor himself is as much puzzled as any one." The writer adds, that the Emperor is most desirous of having something satisfactory to announce about Rome in his speech at the opening of the Chambers on the first of March. According to another letter from Paris, the chances of another war in spring are becoming every day stronger.

Austria has at length replied that she cannot accept the English proposals on the Italian question. These she contends, will alter the European equilibrium established in 1815, and she declares that for the present she will not endeavor to undo by force of arms what she cannot prevent. If Louis Napoleon is going into the field in the spring, as some of the quidnuncs in Paris assert, who is he going against? Count Walewski, we are told, will shortly leave the French capital for Vienna, and on an extraordinary mission, too. What can there be to justify such a step!

The little kingdom of Belgium, under a system of free trade, has been advancing rapidly in prosperity during the last twenty five years. In the Belgium Senate the other day, the Duke de Brabant, eldest son of King Leopold, gave an interesting sketch of what free trade has done. "If," he said, "from various causes certain markets near us, and of easy access, may become less accessible, others are open to us, further off, it is true, but much more extensive, and which in a few years will be easily accessible to those who take the trouble to secure a footing there." The Prince alluded to China, where the Belgian Government has been endeavoring to effect a treaty as favorable as those which may be made with England and France.

THE EMPEROR AND THE POPE.

The Paris correspondent of the *Times* reports that Rome still holds out or reverts to her proposal of last summer to grant reforms, provided the Romagna be first restored and the integrity of all the States guaranteed. This implies armed intervention; it implies that France shall take the place of Austria, and this France will not do.

FRANCE AND THE LEGATIONS.

PARIS, Feb. 17.—The *Moniteur* publishes a circular dated Feb. 12, from M. Thouvenel to the French Ambassador at Rome. In it he examines the causes of the present state of affairs in the Legations, and states to whom belongs the responsibility for the evil. He endeavors to show that, from the day the Austrians evacuated the Romagna, the accomplished facts were unavoidable. The inhabitants then found themselves masters. France, however, continued to watch for the maintenance of public order in Rome; to her, therefore, the insurrection cannot be imputed. The Emperor's counsel to the Pope on the 14th of July last was neglected, and every opportunity for reconciliating the Legations allowed to pass away. The question now is, not only to restore the Legations to the Pope, but to maintain them in his possession without a fresh occupation. The occupation has been condemned by the lesson of the past; such a policy is to-day impossible, therefore, the moment had really arrived for a different combination. When the Emperor stated its necessity to the Pope, an absolute resolution to refuse to recognise the real nature of the present state of affairs would end in insurmountable difficulties; on the contrary, the return of the Pope, to the ground of the temporal interests, which alone are at stake, would bring about, however late, changes favourable in his cause.—[Copy of a despatch left with Cardinal Antonelli.]

SPAIN AND MOROCCO.

MADRID, Feb. 15.—Marshal O'Donnell has received eleven delegates sent by Muley Abbas to ask on what conditions peace would be established. Marshal O'Donnell has replied that the Queen alone has the right to fix the conditions of peace. He has, however, sent a messenger to Madrid on the subject Marshal O'Donnell is actively engaged in forwarding the war preparations, and in reconnoitering the country surrounding Tetuan. The public spirit is warlike. The Queen has presided at a Council of Ministers, the result of which is not yet known. Their Majesties have left for Aranjuez.

British and For. American News.

United States.

An important "strike" has lately taken place among the shoemakers of Massachusetts. It first broke out in the shoe manufacturing town of Lynn, and spread to other adjacent towns. In Lynn, the excitement was great, and the authorities were compelled to send to Boston for a police force, to preserve the peace. The females employed in the shoe business also took part in this strike, and the movement appears to be still extending to other towns. This strike has already produced an effect in the boot and shoe trade.

THE ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC TELEGRAPH PROJECT.—*Washington*, Feb. 26—The Senate Committee, having the subject in charge, have, we understand, reported unanimously in favor of the Atlantic and Pacific Telegraph bill as amended by Mr. Gwin. This bill authorizes the Postmaster General to contract with certain parties for the use of the government, a line of telegraph, from some point on the Mississippi River to San Francisco, with connecting branches to various prominent points. The contract was limited to ten years, and the bonus offered by the government is $50,000 per annum during that period, together with the free use of any unappropriated public land that may be required, and the privilege of buying, at $1.25 per acre, such portions of said land as may be necessary for the purposes of the company. In return for these very liberal grants, the Company will be expected to accord to the United States at all times a priority in the use of their lines. It is stipulated that the work shall be completed within the compass of two years from the 31st of next July.

Canada.

QUEBEC, Feb. 28.—Parliament opened at 3o'clock to-day, with the usual ceremonies. The Governor's speech announced that a reply has been received from the Queen to an invitation of the last session, stating that the Prince of Wales may be expected to visit Canada the coming summer; refers to the satisfactory arrangements for the transmission of the European and Canadian mails by the Canadian steamers; speaks of the settlement of the boundary line between Upper and Lower Canada; congratulates Parliament on the consolidated statutes of Canada; calls attention to the law of debtor and creditor, and to the present system of currency and banking rates, with a view to further legislation; also to the administration of the Crown lands; congratulates the House on having surmounted all financial difficulties; says papers will be laid before the House with reference to the consolidation of the public debt, and the recent success of the Minister of Finance in attaining this object; says commercial depression has diminished credit, but impresses on the government the necessity of strict economy; asks that the requisite provisions be made for the public service; finds a subject of congratulation in the bountiful harvest of last season, and the present signs of a revival of commerce; trusts that the marks of returning prosperity may continue to increase, and law and order be maintained; and rejoices that few subjects of a broad and important character remain requiring immediate legislation.

THE INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY.—We are gratified to learn that the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce have taken up, very spiritedly, the subject of this railway, with the view of urging upon the Government, and the Imperial Parliament, the necessity of aid to the undertaking, on various national grounds.

The Protestant.

SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 1860.

SUMMARY.

The R. M. steamship *America* arrived at Halifax on the night of Sunday last, bringing Liverpool dates to the 28th ult. The English Mail was received here on Wednesday morning. The news is not very important.

The following is the result of the Elections in Nova Scotia, on Tuesday the 6th inst.—the first mentioned in each district being the Government candidate:—

South Colchester—Archibald 1155, Marshall 962; majority for Archibald, 220.

Eastern Halifax—Annand 1875, Fairbanks, 962; majority for Annand, 913.

North Hants—Howe 1052, Johnston jun. 556; majority for Howe, 476.

The weather of late has been remarkably mild for the season. Since the first of the present month, we have had no severe frost; and at present there is every appearance of an early Spring. We understand that several horses have been lost through the ice on the Hillsborough during the present week.

We have to acknowledge from the agent, the *London Quarterly Review* for January. Its contents are—1. The Three Colonies of Australia; 2. Cotton Spinning Machines and their Inventors; 3. China and the War; 4. The Roman Wall; 5. Religious Revivals; 6. Life and Works of Cowper; 7. Reform Schemes. The article on "Religious Revivals" is well worthy of a careful perusal; it is quite a different production from the article which lately appeared in the *Westminster Review* on the same subject.

Mr. Donald Gordon, student, of Cascumpec, arrived in the ice-boat yesterday at Cape Traverse, on his return home from Nova Scotia.

We are gratified to hear that Mr. Francis Dyer Beer, of this City, who has been for some time past a student in the Medical College, Harvard University, Massachusetts, graduated with honor at the close of the winter term, and received his Diploma of Surgeon and Medical Doctor. Mr. Beer had previously studied for four years with the Hon. Dr. Johnson, of this City, and is the third son of George Beer, Esq., one of our City Representatives. We wish him a successful and prosperous career.—*Id.*

The Schr. *Mary*, James Collett, Master, belonging to this Island, which vessel left Halifax, bound to this Island, in December last, was wrecked off Cape Jack Shoals, on the 27th of that month, and all hands perished. The Master has left a wife and five children. A seaman named James Malone has also left a wife and five children. The other hand was named George Rabble, of Tryon, a single man.—*Ibid.*

New Brunswick papers state that "Spencer Wood," the residence of Sir E. Head, the Gov. General of Canada, was totally destroyed by Fire on the 28th ult.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—A soldier was drowned last Saturday evening in attempting to cross the North West Arm to Melville Island. The night was somewhat dark, the ice rotten and the man too incautious. He was late, and tried by a "short cut" to make up for lost time. The ice gave way and he went down to rise no more. His body was recovered on Sabbath morning.—*Presbyterian Witness.*

FOURTEEN MEN KILLED BY THE FALLING WALLS IN CINCINNATI.—*Cincinnati, March 6.*—Fifteen men were at work on St. Xavier Church yesterday, when the walls fell, thirteen of whom were crushed to death, and the fourteenth mortally wounded—The other one escaped uninjured.

THE STEAMER HUNGARIAN—says the Boston Transcript—was the finest boat of the Canadian Steam Company, and her loss will be particularly disastrous to that line. We hear from Portland that her cargo was one of the most valuable she ever brought, as it included the spring goods of the large merchants of Canada. Its estimated value was upwards of a million dollars.

The usual crew of the steamer consisted of upwards of a hundred persons, besides the principal officers. She had accomodations for about 150 passengers of the first class, and twice that number in the steerage. It is not probable she had anything like a full complement of passengers at this season.

The company has six other steamers, the North Briton, Anglo Saxon, Bohemian, North American, Nova Scotia, and Canadian.

Young Men's Christian Association and Literary Institute.

On Thursday evening last, Mr. James Moore delivered an eloquent and instructive lecture before the Association, on "Fiji and the Fijians." The audience was numerous and highly respectable. The lecturer drew a graphic picture of the barbarous condition of the Fijians, when first visited by the missionaries; and showed that the Gospel there had converted the most bloodthirsty cannibals into exemplary christians. He related some heroic actions performed by missionaries' wives on these islands, and showed that women are helpmates in the missionary, as well as in every other work.

The lecturer, in our opinion, made a very unnecessary remark when he compared the superstitions of the Fijians to those of the people of Ireland, and the Glens of the Highlands. It is well known that the lower classes of every country are more or less superstitious, but we cannot see why the Highland Glens should be singled out as the abode of superstition, when they are famous in history as the retreat of God's people in times of persecution, and are at this day the home of many of the pious and the brave.

After the conclusion of the lecture, the Chairman, Capt. Hancock, R. N., appealed to the missionary spirit of the young, and held up to them the noble example of Rev. G. N. Gordon, a native of this Island, who is now in Erumanga, preaching the Gospel to the murderers of the celebrated John Williams. The Rev. Mr. Hall also offered some remarks, and commented on the wonderful things which God had wrought on the Island of Aneiteum chiefly through the instrumentality of the Rev. John Geddie, formerly of Cavendish, who has been laboring there for a number of years.

Next Thursday evening, Mr. J. T. Leeming will lecture before the Association on "The Microscope."

ANNUAL GRAIN SHOW.

The Grain Show, and Annual Meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society were held in the Temperance Hall, Charlottetown, on Wednesday, the 7th March, 1860. At the Show, there was exhibited, for competition, about 40 sacks of grain, all of very good quality. The prizes were awarded as follows, viz.:—

Best Wheat, Edward Woolner, Rustico, per Winchester bushel,	63lbs 12oz	£1	10	0
Second do., John Dewar, Lot 48,	63lbs 12oz,	1	0	0
Best Barley, two-rowed, E. Woolner,	57lbs 4oz,	1	10	0
Second do., John Cameron, Augustine Cove,	56lbs 12oz,	1	0	0
Best Barley, 4-rowed, John M'Gregor, sen., Lot 48,	54lbs 8oz,	1	10	0
Second do., John M'Gregor, jun., Lot 48,	52lbs 4oz,	1	0	0
Best Oats, John M'Gregor, jun., Lot 48,	43lb s. 0oz.,	1	10	0
Second do., Leonard Wood, Lot 48,	42lbs. 8oz.,	1	0	0
Best Clover Seed, Wm. Lea, Tryon,		1	10	0
Second do., John Bryenton, Brackley Point Road,		1	0	0

JOHN WILLIAMS, ISAAC THOMPSON, ALEX. MCKINLAY, } Judges.

The Annual Report was then read, and also an Account of the Seeds, Implements, &c., in the Store, and the General Account up to 31st Dec., 1859. After which, the following gentlemen were chosen the Officers and Committee for the ensuing year:—

THOMAS PETHICK, Esq., President.

Judge Peters, 1st Vice do.; Wm. Douse, Esq., 2d Vice, do.

Committee—Henry Longworth, Benj. Wright, James Robertson, Charles Kennedy, Thomas Dodd, John W. Johnson, Cornelius Higgins, Robert Mutch, Stephen Boyyer, Charles Hazzard, Alex. McKinlay, Alex. Laird, jun., Ralph Brecken, Ewen McMillan.

JAMES D HAZZARD, Sec'y & Treasurer.

[For the Protestant.

Mr. Editor;

About six months ago, you gratified the ambition of the best and most diligent pupils attending the Elliot River School, by publishing in your journal the names of the first and second best in the several classes as decided from the "Marking Book." This had a powerful influence for good on the scholars, and they again join me in respectfully soliciting a similar favor. Having found the "Marking Book" so efficient an instrument for securing good order and inciting to diligence, the state of the several classes has been registered semi-weekly during the last six months, instead of bi-weekly as formerly. Some of the pupils have been prevented from attending school during nearly the whole of the last six months by sickness and by death, which causes some names not to appear in this Report, which otherwise would.

On Friday, the 16th ult., the school was visited and examined by the School Inspector, assisted by the Teacher, the Trustees, the parents, and others, but that day's work is not taken into this estimate.

A. A. MACKENZIE.

West River, 6th March, 1860.

Scripture Reading—Robert Boyle, John Hyde, Duncan Hyde, equal 1st; Richard Drake, John Boyle, equal 2d.

1st Spelling—Mary Hyde, Isaac Crosby, equal 1st; Elizabeth Crosby, Duncan Patterson, Euphemia McNeill, equal 2d.

2d Spelling—J. and D. Hyde, equal 1st; R. Boyle, Elizabeth Hyde, equal 2d.

3d Books—J. Boyle, 1st; E. Hyde, 2d.

4th do.—R. Boyle, 1st; D. and J. Hyde, equal 2d.

5th do.—James Crosby, 1st; John McKinnon, 2d.

1st Arithmetic—Jas. and J. Crosby, equal 1st; Albert Hyde, D. Patterson equal 2d.

2d Arithmetic—E. Crosby, 1st; D. and J. Hyde, equal 2d

3d do.—E. Hyde, 1st; Hannah Drake, Charles Patterson, equal 2d.

1st Geography—D. Patterson, Isaac Crosby, equal 1st; J. McKinnon, A. Hyde, equal 2d.

2d Geography—Geo. Boyle, Jessie Patterson, equal 1st; D. and J. Hyde, equal 2d.

1st English Grammar—J. McKinnon, Jas. Crosby, equal 1st; J. Crosby, A. Hyde, M. Hyde, equal 2d.

2d do.—J. and D. Hyde, J. Patterson, equal 1st; R. Boyle, M. McEachern, equal 2d.

1st Dictation—Jas. Crosby, M. Hyde, equal 1st; A. Hyde, E. and J. Crosby, J. McKinnon, equal 2d.

2d do.—Mary McEachern, 1st; J. Hyde, Ellen McEachern, equal 2d.

Writing (Girls' Class.)—M. and Anna Hyde, equal 1st; E. Crosby, J. Patterson, equal 2d.

Do. (Boys' Class.)—J. McKinnon, Jas. Crosby, A. Hyde, J. Crosby, all equal 1st; D. Patterson, R. Boyle, J. Hyde, Chas. Patterson, equal 2d.

1st General Information—A. Hyde, James Crosby, equal 1st; J. Crosby 2d.

2d do.—Richard Drake, 1st; R. and G. Boyle, equal 2d.

3d do.—Terence Boyles, 1st; J. Boyle, 2d.

1st Recitation—James Crosby, 1st; A. Hyde, J. Crosby, equal 2d.

2d do.—R. Boyle, 1st; J. Patterson, J. Hyde, equal 2d.

3d do.—E. Hyde, 1st; J. Boyle, 2d.

1st Composition—A. Hyde, M. Hyde, James Crosby, equal 1st; E. McNeill, 2d.

2d do.—D. Patterson, 1st; D. and J. Hyde, equal 2d.

Latin Grammar and Exercises—James Crosby, 1st.

Exchange Rooms, Charlottetown,

MARCH 16, 2 P. M.

The *Circassian* arrived at St. John's, Nwfld., last evening, with dates from Liverpool to 1st March, and brings out 100 passengers. Experienced head winds, with moderate weather. Met with no ice.

Lord John Russell introduced his Reform Bill into House of Commons—it extends the franchise to £10 occupancies in Counties, and £5 in the Boroughs—twenty-five of the smallest Boroughs are to have one, instead of two members, and seats thus gained are to be distributed between the most populous Counties and Boroughs. Ireland and Scotland get two additional members each, and corresponding reduction in the franchise—present representation not to be disturbed. Liberal Journals not satisfied with the measure.

Budget has made further progress—all Gladstone's recommendations thus far carried.

Atlantic Telegraph Company have adopted the Director's report, and agreed to raise £20,000 to attempt to resuscitate Cable, or recover as much as possible.

Steamer *Nimrod* was wrecked on passage from Liverpool to Cork—all on board, about fifty, were drowned.

French Legislature opened on 1st instant. Emperor's Speech promises every effort for maintenance of peace—rejoices at amicable relations with all the European powers; and hopes for speedy peace with Cochin China, and just chastisement of perfidy of Chinese. Hopes that Italian affairs are approaching a settlement, and has advised King of Sardinia that Tuscany must not be annexed, but that the wishes of other Italian powers may be entertained, provided the rights of Holy See be respected in principle. The safety of French frontiers requires annexation of Savoy, and Emperor hopes a frank explanation of the question will cause the Great Powers to recognize the justice of the claim. He professes astonishment at the agitation in the Catholic world—points to his efforts on behalf of the Pope.

The French army has been reduced by 150,000, and would be further reduced but for China war and Italian occupation—concludes by referring to new Free Trade policy, and predicting the most favorable results Speech produced slight depression in Paris *Bourse.*

English journals protest against annexation of Savoy to France.

Reported Prince Lucien Bonaparte will probably be proposed King of Tuscany.

London *Chronicle* reiterates its statement relative to Treaty Alliance of Austria and Russia, but says that Treaty has since been modified. *Journal de Strasburg* gives official denial to the statement.

CENTRAL ITALY.—Votes of the people are to be taken for annexation to Sardinia, or a separate Kingdom.

Umbrian Marches demand annexation to Piedmont.

Pope threatens Victor Emmanuel with excommunication.

Annexation of Savoy to France condemned by English Ministers.

Treaty of Peace between Spain and Morocco. Demands of Spain exorbitant. R. HYNDMAN.

GEORGETOWN COURT.

The following are the convictions which have taken place for March Term in King's County:—

The Queen, at the prosecution of John Smith, *v.* Patrick Hughes, William Hughes and James Hughes—Indicted for shooting a horse and for an assault on the prosecutor in the execution of his duty as Sheriff, tried, and Patrick Hughes and William Hughes convicted, and James Hughes acquitted; and the said Patrick Hughes and William Hughes sentenced to be imprisoned in the common jail of King's County for two years.

The Queen, at the prosecution of Edward Hughes, *v.* Patrick Hughes, William Hughes and James Hughes—Indicted for maliciously shooting—tried, and Patrick Hughes and William Hughes convicted of shooting with intent to do some bodily harm, and James Hughes acquitted; the Court sentenced Patrick Hughes to be imprisoned in the jail of King's County for two years, and William Hughes for the like term—both to be kept at hard labor; this period to commence at the termination of their former sentence.

The Queen *v.* Joseph McDonald—Larceny. In this case the prisoner submitted, and was sentenced to be imprisoned in the County jail for eighteen calendar months, and during that period to be kept at hard labor.

The Queen *v.* Joseph Burke—Indicted for Larceny. Prisoner tried and acquitted.

The Queen *v.* Donald Nicholson—Indictment for Arson; indictment found two years ago. Tried and acquitted.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

[Continued from our last.]

THURSDAY, March 8.

The special committee to whom was referred the petition of Raymond Campbell, presented their report, which set forth that from the evidence before the committee, the said Raymond Campbell had mailed a registered letter containing the sum of £7, at the Post Office, East Point, which had never been received at the Post Office, Charlottetown, and recommended that the sum be paid to him out of the public funds. The House went into committee on the report. Messrs. Beer, Davies, Longworth, and Haviland thought that if the sum was granted it would be establishing a bad precedent. Messrs. Coles, Kelly, and others were in favor of adopting the report of the special committee. As hon. members seemed generally to be of opinion that it would be desirable to obtain more information, if possible, respecting the case, the committe rose, and the Chairman reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

A number of petitions were presented.

On motion of hon. Mr Longworth, the House resolved itself into committee on the bill to continue certain Acts therein mentioned, viz: the Act which regulates the surveying of timber, and the Act for licensing hawkers and pedlars. The Bill was reported agreed to without amendment.

Hon. Mr Whightman was added to the committee on Public Accounts. House adjourned.

AFTERNOON SITTING.

Sundry petitions were presented.

Hon Mr Haviland introduced a Bill giving to a judgement creditor the right to sell under Execution the interest in Real Estate, subject to the equitable claim of a mortgagee prior to the date of the judgement, obviating the necessity of filing a Bill in Chancery.—Read a first time.

FRIDAY, March 9.

Mr Owen, Mr Montgomery, and Hon. Col. Gray presented some ordinary road petitions.

Mr Douse presented a petition, numerously signed, from inhabitants of Lot 62, praying a grant to improve the harbor at Wood Islands, but owing to some little informality in it, which he had just observed, asked for some indulgence to have it corrected, and would avail himself of the earliest opportunity of again laying it before the House.

Hon. Col. Gray, by command, presented a message from His Excellency, desiring that the House at its rising to-day, would adjourn till Monday the 19th inst. The hon. member then made a motion accordingly, which was agreed to.

Hon Mr Coles called the attention of members of the Government to the state of Mount Stewart Bridge, and suggested that the Superintendent of Public Works be sent to examine the same and report thereon.

The Bill to amend the Registration Act, was read a third time and passed.

Hon. Mr M'Aulay presented a petition from Roderick Campbell, praying a grant for conducting Cardigan Ferry

Two messages were received from the Legislative Council; the first announcing that they had passed the Bill for separating the offices of Clerk of the Executive and Legislative Councils, &c.: and also the Bill to authorize the Government to open a cash account with the Bank of P. E. Island. The second announcing that they had passed the Post Office Bill, and also the Bill to amend the Act relating to the office of Sheriffs without amendment.

On motion of hon. Mr Haviland, the House resolved itself into a Committee of the whole on the Bill to amend the Act relating to judgements in the Supreme Court: Mr Beer in the Chair. The Bill was reported agreed to without amendment.

Hon. Col. Gray presented the School Visitor's Report, which having been read, Hon Mr Coles remarked; that he was sorry it did not contain more information respecting the schools in the country. As the education Act was about to be amended, the House required particular information in reference to its working. But he understood that the Visitor had been employed last summer in a manner which he probably would not be next; he had been acting as a kind of secretary to the parties who accompanied the Governor in His Excellency's tours through the Island. He had also been once or twice at the christening of a settlement now called 'Dundas.' Mr Stark, when School Visitor, drew up a report which had proved very useful to the House, on account of the information it afforded respecting the operation of the Act, and the state of the different schools in the country. But in the report now before the House, they had nothing in reference to any country school. He had learned that it was intended there should be a full report this year, and that the Visitor had sent round circulars to the different Teachers to obtain information for that purpose, but that they had returned such flattering accounts of their own schools, he was ashamed to give them in the Report. The document no doubt contained some general remarks in regard to the state of Education, and gave a particular account of the several schools in Charlottetown, which he (Mr Coles) supposed the Inspector had time to visit in his political tours round the city; but this was not what the country had a right to expect from an individual who was receiving £200 of the public money. He stated in the report that he did not consider it would be pauper to put the country to the expense of furnishing a detailed report. Probably he alluded to the expense of printing it, but this did no excuse him for not doing his duty. The House then adjourned.

AFTERNOON SITTING.

Hon. Mr Coles moved that the School Visitor be required to add to his Report an account of inspection of the different schools under his supervision, during the past year. Agreed to.

His Excellency came down to the Legislative Council and gave his assent to the Bills for the appointment of Clerks to the Councils, and those relating to the Post Office, the Cash Account with the Bank, and the appointment of Sheriffs.

The Bill continuing certain Acts was read a third time and passed; as was also, the Salmon protection Bill

Hon. Mr. Haviland introduced a Bill for the improvement of the present Jury Law. It provided that after six hours deliberation the verdict of nine out of twelve Jurors should be received. That the Sheriff of Queen's County should return 200 names of petty Jurors and 150 Grand, instead of 300 and 200 respectively, as at present; and that the numbers to be returned for King's and Prince Counties be reduced to 130 for petty and 65 for grand Jurors, respectively. He proposed in addition to reduce the amount of Jury fees at present paid on a verdict, to twelve shillings, which was to be paid to the particular jury which tried the case, instead of being handed in to the Treasury, as those fees now are. The amount to be in addition to the statutable allowance of three shillings per day.

Some petitions were received. House adjourned.

LEGISLATIVE DEBATES.

FRIDAY, Feb. 24.

Bill to authorize the granting of Fishing Licences to Citizens of the United States for Vessels built on the Island.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND moved the order of the day that the House go into Committee on said Bill.

Hon. Mr. WHIGHTMAN.—I think it would not be right to allow Americans to come here and enjoy the privileges which the Bill would afford. They were granted Free Trade, in which they have never fully reciprocated; and under the Alien Bill they can now hold land in the Colony, therefore I consider that to permit them also to build vessels on the Island would be giving them too much liberty. As our forests are becoming pretty much reduced, we have little enough wood for our own ship-building trade, without allowing the Americans to come in and use it up. But I do not think they would avail themselves of the privilege which the Bill seeks to confer, because fishing licences, or liberty to sail in our waters, would not enable them to go to other places, or even carry their fish to market.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND.—The Bill is not a Government measure. I myself am wholly responsible for what it contains. I did not, however, expect opposition from the last speaker, as he was a member of the Government which granted Free Trade with the United States. If the Americans are so narrow-minded as not to reciprocate, I am sorry for it Such conduct is contrary to the spirit of the age. Free Trade principles are rapidly gaining ground, and are now advocated by the ablest statesmen and economists of the present day. Even the Emperor of France is taking up the subject, and has lately concluded a treaty with Britain which places the commercial relations of those two countries on a more liberal basis, than they have ever been heretofore. It is selfish for a merchant to oppose the measure because it will allow Americans to use the wood of the Colony. We permit them to come here and purchase land, but we must not let them interfere with the merchants. The sooner our forests are cleared away, and the land turned into cultivated farms, the better for the Colony. The Bill will be a great advantage to the people of this Island. The Americans will come here to build vessels and to fish, consequently our young men will be employed. Under existing arrangements our people cannot look for employment from the Americans fishing on our coasts, for according to the laws of the Union, their ships must be manned by citizens of the United States. There were croakers in England when Free Trade was first proposed there. The cry was, could we compete with the Russians and others who lived on black bread! Will the Americans be allowed to glut our markets! But Sir Robert Peel braved all opposition, and introduced the measure contrary to the wishes of the farmers of Britain. Let us carry out that which has been so nobly begun. Let us have the mantle of Adam Smith to fall upon us. I appeal to gentlemen on the other side of the House to give the measure their support.

Hon Mr. POPE.—Probably the introducer of the Bill did not think that I would oppose it. I am not prepared to go for anything so much against ourselves. We are told that the Emperor of the French is in favor of Free Trade, but he expects something as an equivalent. We should not give away our privileges merely to keep up with what is called the spirit of the age. I am not disposed to give away our rights, and receive nothing in return. The Americans can come here now and purchase free land; but we cannot get registers in the United States for our vessels, nor will they allow us to take freights from one of their ports to another. I consider it my duty to oppose the Bill.

Hon. Col. GRAY.—I am not a merchant, but have a little general experience, and will offer a few remarks. I think the hon. member for Georgetown should not attribute narrow-mindedness to every one who differs from him. The last speaker remarked that the Emperor of France would not give Free Trade unless he received something in return; but I believe if we pass this Bill, we will get something in return. When we passed the Alien Bill, the design was to get hold of the dollars; and I think this measure will be the means of bringing in more. The introducer of the Bill, in his argument, overlooked one point. When the Americans come here they will not only employ our young men, but as they will not be able to sail the ships built on the Island in other waters, they will be under the necessity of laying them up here during the winter. The fish, instead of being sent home all around by water to the United States, will probably be sent by railroad from Shediac, and the vessels laid up either at Charlottetown or some of the other ports, the consequence of which will be that the crews will mostly remain on the Island all winter. By and bye I think we will ship nothing to Nova Scotia or New Brunswick, but will send all our produce to the United States. In my opinion our merchants who build large ships will not be injured by the Bill. The Americans only require small craft for the fishing trade, therefore they would not compete with the builders of large vessels. I think even the merchants would be gainers by this measure on account of the increased circulation of money. I have no objection to the Bill.

[To be continued.]