

PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT.
HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
EXTRACTS FROM THE JOURNALS.

Monday, March 6.
A Bill to suspend a part of the Fifteenth Section of an Act, intitled "An Act to repeal all the Laws now in force for the organization and regulation of the Militia, and to make further provision for the same;" passed the House and was taken to Council by Mr. Partelow.

To His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor or Administrator of the Government for the time being, the following sums for Grammar Schools for the year 1843, agreeably to a Law of the Province.—

For the Grammar School St. John, the sum of £150.
To each Grammar School in all the other Counties in the Province } £100 each.

On motion of Mr. Brown.—Ordered, That the Petition of the Justices of the Peace for the County of Charlotte, praying aid towards paying off the County Debt, and which was presented to the House on the 20th day of February last, and ordered to lie on the Table, be referred to the Committee of Supply.

Upon the question being put thereon, the House divided—

YEAS, 6. NAYS, 18.

Monday, March 6.—The House in Committee of Supply—the following grants were passed: To the Clerks of the Council and House of Assembly, £150 each; the Assistant Clerks, £75 each; for the support of Parish Schools, £1200; for the apprehension of Deserters, £400; to the Master in Chancery carrying Messages between the Council and Assembly, £40; to John Abrams, Tide-waiter at St. John, £91 6s.; Tide Surveyor at Miramichi, £260; to encourage the destruction of Bears and Wolves, £300; for the support of Grammar Schools, as follows:—Westmoreland, £100; St. John, £150; King's, £100; Queen's, £100; Charlotte, £100; Sunbury, £100; Northumberland, £100; Gloucester, £100; Carleton, £100; Restigouche, £100; Kent, £100; to reimburse, in part, the Overseers of the Poor at St. John, for the expenses of the Lunatic Asylum in 1842, £200; to the Librarian of the Legislative Library, £60 his services to the end of the present session; to the two Stage Drivers attending the Council and Assembly, 20s per diem each; during the session.

Tuesday, March 7.
A Bill in amendment of the Acts now in force regulating the qualification of Jurors, passed the House and was taken to the Council.

Mr. Hazen moved for leave to bring a Bill to amend an Act, intitled "An Act to provide for the payment of Interest on Warrants which are not paid at the Treasury, on demand, which being brought in was read a first time.

Ordered, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to direct the Accounts from the Commissioners of the Light Houses in this Province to be laid before the House.

Ordered, That Mr. Boyd, Mr. Payne and Mr. Perley be a Committee to wait upon His Excellency with the Address.

Mr. Taylor moved for leave to bring in a Bill to establish sundry regulations for the future disposal of Timber and other Lumber cut on Crown Lands, which was read and a first and second times.

On motion of Mr. Partelow.—The House went into Committee of the whole in further consideration of the several Messages received from His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, as also other Documents laid before the House by His Excellency's command.—

Extracts from the Report.

Resolved, As the opinion of this Committee, That the Message of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor of the 23d day of February last, communicating a Letter from the Honorable the Solicitor General and an Account from that gentleman, claiming an allowance for conducting certain Criminal Prosecutions and other extra public services, should be referred by the House to a Select Committee to report thereon:—And that the Account of the Income and Expenditure of Kings College, laid before the House by command of His Excellency on the same day, should be referred by the House to the Committee of Supply.

As the opinion of this Committee, That the Communication from H. M. Watson, Esquire, Acting Deputy Postmaster General at Halifax, relative to the transmission of the Journals of the Legislature, laid before the House by command of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor on the 27th day of February last, should be referred by the House to the Select Committee appointed on the 16th of the same month to prepare an Address to Her Majesty on the subject of the Post Office Establishment.

Ordered, That Messrs. Wilmot, Hazen, Thomson, Allen, Hamilton be the Committee to take under consideration the several subjects of the Fourth Resolution, which relate to the claim of the Solicitor General for conducting Crown Prosecutions;—also the account of the Income and Expenditure of King's College, to report thereon.

Wednesday, March 8.

A Bill to amend an Act, intitled "An Act to provide for the payment of Interest on Warrants which are not paid at the Treasury on demand," which was read a second time.
A Bill to alter and amend the Laws now in force relating Attorneys Fees in the Supreme Court, and Courts of Common Pleas in this Province, was thrown out by the House.

On motion of Mr. Hazen.—Resolved, That

an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to cause an immediate inquiry to be instituted as to the practicability of effecting a reduction in the salaries of the Clerks and others on the Ordinary and Extra Indoor Establishment of the Crown Land Office, or a reduction by dispensing with the services of some of the Officers charged on the Ordinary or Extra Indoor Establishment of that Department, and that His Excellency will be further pleased to lay before the House the result of such inquiry.—Ordered, That Messrs. Hazen, End and Wilmot be a Committee to wait upon His Excellency with the Address.

On motion of Mr. Fisher.—The House went into Committee of the whole on a Bill to improve the Law regulating the Election of Representatives to serve in the General Assembly.

The Chairman reported, that the Committee having the Bill referred to them under their consideration, had made progress therein, and he was directed to ask leave to sit again.

On motion of Mr. Partelow.—Whereas it appears by the Schedule of Warrants drawn on the Queen's Casual Revenue, laid before the House on the 27th day of February last, that Warrants to the amount of two hundred and sixty pounds seven shillings and six pence, have, at four several periods, been drawn in favor of Doctor Abraham Gesner, the last of which for sixty eight pounds, bears date on the 8th day of that month, and appears to be the balance then due him for sundry services as are stated in the said Schedule, therefore—Resolved, that an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to direct to be laid before the House the account of Doctor Gesner's particularizing the services for which those Warrants have been drawn, and copies of any instructions given him before undersaking the same.—Ordered, That Messrs. Partelow, Smith and Fisher be a Committee to wait upon His Excellency with the Address.

On motion of Mr. Fisher.—The House went into Committee of the whole on a Bill relating to the Sale of Crown Lands, the Chairman reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Wednesday, March 7.
The Bill relating to Trespasses, as amended, was read a third time and passed.

The Bill to suspend a part of the fifteenth Section of an Act, intitled "An Act to repeal all the Laws now in force for the organization and regulation of the Militia," and to make further provision for the same, was lost in the Council.

We extract from the *Provincial Reporter*, the following Speeches of the Members from this County, on the Bill to regulate the Duty on Timber exported from this Province which was taken up in Committee on the 2d inst.—

Thursday, March 2.
Mr. Boyd said the Bill was like Sir R. Peel's Bill for an income tax, and was equally as objectionable to the people. Two thirds of all the Pine in the country (he said) was on private property. Forty seven vessels loaded annually at St. Andrews, they would pay a duty of from ten to eleven pounds on each cargo, the amount of which was taken directly out of the pockets of the people of that country. It was a direct violation of the Treaty, and he was quite sure Her Majesty's Government would never give its consent to such a Bill. They would never consent to tax sawed lumber, that was out of the question; were they to tax themselves, in order to tax the Americans? he did not like it; he could not see how it was to benefit shipbuilders a tax on sawed lumber, was a tax on industry.

Mr. Thomson said he was not tied down to his constituents; he would go against the interest of his own brother, when it was right to do so. Private property should not pay public debt; the land had been paid for once, and at a high rate, and would that House make the purchaser pay for it a second time by taxing the timber, that might be cut off it? If they did so, he thought it would be trying the patriotism of the people; he would consent to sacrifice some private privileges for the public good, but not to the extent contemplated. There must be Surveyors for public, as well as private purposes, let them inspect the timber berths, and watch the lumbermen, and the stumpage would produce a large revenue. The lumberer now, who would cut timber off Crown Lands, would laugh at the persons who cut off their own, and payed as great a tax as themselves. Let [said he] the Surveyors make a return of what is cut off private property, as well as public, and charge the duties accordingly. He would wish to see the duties put only on Pine and Spruce; let the other kinds go free.

Mr. Hill said the government should begin by purchasing all the lands back again. If they intended to put the Bill into operation, the great injustice of the matter was this: that the tax would fall upon the honest man, and he would be made to make good the deficiencies of the rogue, who had robbed the Crown Lands of the timber. General Rules should have a general application. From calculations made by hon. Members who were favorable to the bill, it appeared they only calculated on a saving of £1,200 this sum he thought was hardly an object to cause the House to perpetuate a wrong upon the people, which would depreciate the value of private wood lands; he would oppose the bill because he thought it an unjust one, he knew it was desirable to raise a revenue; he would go for a small duty of 3d or 4d a ton on timber exported, in addition to the present stumpage. Two thirds of the timber shipped from Charlotte, came from the St. Croix, consequently they will suffer more in that quarter than in any other part of the Province. Let the House collect what is already due from the lumberers if they want to raise a revenue; he was convinced there was little or nothing due to the government from the People of Charlotte County. This bill would burden the shippers in Charlotte with from £7 10s to £16, upon every cargo sent from that district, which would have a very bad effect both at home and abroad.

Mr. Brown thought the Bill would inflict an act of manifest injustice on his constituents, yet if they would say to him they would give up their right for the general good, he would willingly go for the Bill, as knowing it would be productive of a great public good. It certainly would be a hardship on persons owning large tracts of wild lands. (Here the hon. gentleman named a person who had purchased and paid for a large quantity of land in his neighbourhood.) It was quite impossible for him to go for the Bill, knowing the feeling it had excited in Charlotte County. Public meetings had been held and instructions given to him by his constituents not to consent to the Bill. He knew all the tricks and smugglings of lumberers as well as any body; it was a fact which he would not deny; they did smuggle when they could get a chance. For his own part he liked the principle of the Bill well enough, he knew it would be a benefit to the lumberer. His colleague (Mr. Hill) had pointed out all the evils that would attach to the owners of private lands by passing of the Bill, and his observations were true, yet the whole of Charlotte County were opposed to the Bill, and he therefore should vote against it.

Mr. Hill hoped that all timber that was now cut, as well as what was to be cut should come under the Act; it was he said no greater hardship than to make people pay for timber cut off their own land. [Here a great deal of discussion took place as to whether the timber now on hand should be subject to the duty, or at what time the Act should go into operation.]

On the question of the provision that the timber on hand should not be subject to the duty, being put the House divided, and it was in a tie.

Mr. Payne suggested that spruce and hardwood should be exempt from duty.

Mr. Brown would go for 1s on pine, and 9d for spruce and hardwood; and let them pay a sum for their timber berths.

RIGHT OF VISIT.

We copy the following article on the "Right of Visit," from the New York Journal of Commerce.

MARINE POLICE.—RIGHT OF VISIT.—The discussions lately renewed on the 5th article of the Ashburton Treaty, seem to us to be a matter that the common sense of the people on both sides will settle sooner than diplomatics can. The Treaty in reality does not discuss the question now renewed—it simply establishes the fact that the United States is to keep a squadron of 80 guns on the coast of Africa, to aid in the great cause of preventing an abuse of its flag for purposes of slave dealing. England does the same. And each Government, it is presumed, will vie with the other in preventing crimes of every description on that coast, and to protect trade and lawful traders. Practically speaking, it is fair to presume, that in this praiseworthy pursuit, taking into consideration the unhealthiness of the climate, the exposures of unarmed traders to the rapacity of the actual slaver, who would not hesitate to rob and plunder stores and supplies from any flag, and sink it into the bargain, to prevent detection,—these two squadrons of England and the United States, whose right of visit is mutual, would, for every offence accidentally committed, performed twenty acts of courtesy and kindness towards the lawful flag of their respective countries.

What then is this new discussion about? Do we say that no matter how suspicious in appearance a vessel may be, our commanders are only to look at the flag and enquire no further? If so, we had better save our navy, and keep our vessels of war on some more useful service. It would be worse than nonsense to send 80 guns to the Coast of Africa under such circumstances. What we would rightly claim to do, we should allow others to do; guarding as far as practicable against all abuses, and exacting or granting suitable indemnity should abuses occur. What is the every day (or every night) case of our police at home? Would a watchman be doing his duty if he failed to board a suspicious looking fellow at night, who carried a suspicious bundle under his arm? If it turns out, on investigation, that this suspicious looking character was an honest, good citizen, he would applaud the watchman, and go on with feelings of increased security and confidence in the guardians of the night, although perhaps a rogue would not like this "right of visit" at all.

We recollect an amusing story related by a friend who was chased in the streets of Charleston, S. C. by one of the city guard. The night was dark and rainy, and it was after "drum beat" when the guard is set, and no negro is allowed to be in the street without a pass. This friend was running however, and a guardsman gave chase. If it turned out a good prize, he would share a fine imposed in such cases. The chase was a hot one and the guard occurred just opposite a lamp. The soldier no sooner saw his error than he apologized to our friend. "Beg your pardon sir," says he, "I took you for a nigger;" and they both went their way, no harm done. Now if this guardsman had dragged this friend an unnecessary distance or had unnecessarily detained him to ascertain the simple fact whether he was white or black, he would no doubt have been punished.

ed, and every amend made by the city authorities of Charleston.

There must be a Police of the Sea—all civilized nations using this trackless highway, must admit of its necessity. And the vigilant exercise of this Police is the more required in quarters where rogues do most congregate. An actual slaver is admitted by our own laws to be an unmitigated rogue. Shall a flag of any form or colour which he will take care to use on required occasions, be his passport, and shield him from a visit? Surely not. Ask the honest trader who is exposed to the rapacity of the rogues and pirates—as before stated—whether he is not willing to be visited by an authorized marine officer, who, whilst he proves his identity, is ready and willing to offer any required assistance. Suppose a slaver had boarded one of our own honest traders and robbed him of stores and spare rigging, (a very common event,) and the next day he should see at a distance an English man-of-war, what flag should he hoist for assistance? If he hoisted the stars and stripes, it would be John Bull's duty to leave him. If this flag is to prevent the right of visit, his only safety then would be to use another flag. What nonsense.

Ask any underwriters whether the do not regard the fact of squadrons of friendly and civilized nations cruising at any and all points of danger, as a matter of additional security to vessels covered by the policies.

England, by past acts, has justly awakened our people to a sense of suspicion that she may abuse a common right. That question is now narrowed down to an understanding that she cannot mistake. The Treaty stands on a good basis, and there is now little cause of fear that either party will commit abuses under it. If they do, and when they do, it will be time enough to discuss the matter. Neither party can now do wrong with impunity.

GREAT FIRE AT CINCINNATI.
The Baltimore correspondent of the New York Tribune, under the 24 inst. writes:—The Western mail brings us an account of a dreadful fire which occurred in Cincinnati on the afternoon of the 25th ult. about 5 o'clock, by which 7 men are known to have been killed, and twenty more or less, seriously wounded. The fire broke out in the smoke house of Messrs. Pugh and Alvord, at the corner of Walnut street and the canal. The smoke house stood in the rear, and was somewhat detached from the main building by a wooden door which opened on a narrow passage. The fire, it was supposed, could be confined to the smoke house, by closing up the Pork house on the main building, and this was accordingly done all the windows and doors and shutters being closed.

In the course of half an hour, the main building was filled with smoke, putrid air, and probably some inflammable gas, from the smoke house and when the flames burst through the wooden door connecting the two buildings, an instantaneous roar of flame was perceived, and in the twinkling of an eye, the whole of this substantial building was a mass of ruins. The whole was lifted up in the air and thrown into the streets in large fragments—the second story walls on the north and south sides were thrown down, and the whole eastern end of both stores, fronting on Walnut, blown into the streets from its foundation up.

The appearance of the explosion was awfully terrific, and its consequences fatal to several most esteemed citizens. It is thought that from 8 to 12 persons were immediately killed, and probably 20 wounded—some of them dangerously.

A slip from the office of the Cincinnati Message states that the number killed is between 20 and 30, and those wounded, from fifty to one hundred—many mortally.

The Cincinnati Daily Times says—deep, appalling, and mournful feelings pervades the city. Those taken from the ruins are amongst our most respectable, intelligent, and enterprising citizens, in the prime of life, with families, and noted for their public spirit and social qualities.

Congress, Washington, Feb. 22 1843.
Effect of Sir Robert Peel's Speech, in Congress.

Mr. C. Ingersoll.—Sir, I wish to present a resolution about the treaty, and to call on the President for information.

Wise.—Mr. Speaker.
Fillmore.—Mr. Speaker.
Several others.—Mr. Speaker, I—
Speaker.—The House will come to order.

(Bang, bang.)
Ingersoll.—Sir, there is my resolution, and I want the Clerk to read it, (throwing it on the desk, and holding in his hand an English newspaper.)

Clerk (reads)
Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to communicate to this House, if not in his opinion improper, whatever correspondence or communication may be received from the British Government, respecting the President's construction of the late British treaty concluded at Washington, as it concerns the right to visit American vessels.

Cries of "no—I object" and go on, Ingersoll and great uproar and excitement, one member calling out in a loud voice, "Go—d—n the British, we'll whip 'em yet!"

Ingersoll.—(waving the newspaper in his hand, and crying above the noise,) Sir, I have Sir Robert Peel's speech in my hand, and I wish the Clerk to read it. (Cries of "Read read—no, no—go on—order—let's have the speech. Silence!")

Here there was a great excitement and uproar, and the members began abusing the British pretty severely—and some said D. n them, let them construe the Treaty one way, and we'll construe it another—and then we shall have to fight about it after all. In the midst of this uproar, Mr. Ingersoll threw the

English newspaper on the Clerks desk, and walked up the aisle, with many members of both parties around him.

From the Portland Advertiser, March 1.

THE COMET.—The beautiful celestial phenomenon of a Comet visible at noon day, just without the radiant blaze of the sun, and strongly illuminated by its light, attracted many gazers yesterday. We believe it had not before been noticed in this neighbourhood. We do not ourselves remember to have seen its approach announced, but others inform us, that it has been repeatedly predicted as likely to appear in February, 1843.

From its being so very near the sun, the popular speculation is much more excited—not to say superstition, than it would otherwise be.—There is nothing in this fact, however, that is novel, or any more extraordinary than all the other phenomena of Comets. Dr. Halley computed that the Comet of 1680 when nearest the sun, was not farther from it than half the Sun's Diameter, or about twice as far as the moon is from the earth, while the greatest distance of the same Comet, exceeds 138 times the distance of the Earth from the Sun.

Extraordinary Petition.—A Petition has been presented to the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, calling for the abolition of Capital Punishments; but if this is thought to be inexpedient, the petitioners make the abominably outrageous request that the office of hangman may be fixed upon the Ministers of Religion, as they conceive that such an arrangement would be peculiarly fitting and proper, since the hanging of the criminal, if demanded by the requisition of the Divine Law, is the most solemn and sacred duty imposed upon man, and ought to be performed only by men who have been ordained and consecrated as ministers of God.

A new system for punishing refractory and disobedient convicts has been introduced into the Auburn state Prison. It is copied from German practice, in which country it is called "wasser cure." In cases of disobedience and bad conduct a few gallons of cold water are poured through a funnel from an elevation upon the head and naked limbs of the delinquent. Strange as it may appear, this treatment is found to subdue most effectually even the most stubborn, and the convict sent back to his labour unreluctantly and perfectly cowed in spirit. The introduction of this system into the Army might be found highly advantageous and render unnecessary the infliction of corporal punishment, to the use of which there is a strong and growing repugnance.

Important.—The Hon. Mr. Sprig of Kentucky, (Member of the American Cabinet) and a man named Drudge, (a Miller's cart driver) got at Washington the other day in a grog shop at Loggerhead's no doubt upon a political question—when they had a regular set-to and clench. Drudge was too muckle for this Sprig of a Member, and Drudge hit him on his head's content, and in the end bit off his Ear! The physician in attendance pronounced the ear to be too much lacerated to be again carried by the Hon. gentleman to the Senate—but confidently assured him that he would carry the mark to his grave.

Mexican Treaty.—We learn on authority of the correspondent of the New York Express, that the President and Secretary of State on behalf of the United States, have recently made a treaty with the Government of Mexico, through the Representatives of that power which was this day communicated to the Senate for ratification, and this evening referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, with a order to print the copies.—(Post. D. Adv. 4th.)

Sandwich Islands.—The general appropriation bill which has just passed the House of Representatives, contains a provision of \$3000 for a Commissioner to reside at the Sandwich Islands.—U. S. paper.

We have much satisfaction in being able to state, that all is tranquil again at Lachine. We are given to understand, that between six and seven hundred of the men have been regularly at work on the Canal since Tuesday last, and that the contractor can obtain, without difficulty, as many others as he can find employment for. The strike, therefore, may be said to be at an end, as the men of both parties are working under the terms of their original contract viz. for two shillings per day.—Montreal Gazette.

We have heard that New Brunswick is to be separated from the control of Nova Scotia in this Department, (Post Office) and, from our knowledge of the gentleman whom we have heard named as likely to be charged with Post Office rule in this Province, we feel convinced, that if he be elevated to the situation, the public will have no cause to complain, so far as he is allowed to study the general interests in the discharge of the duties of his office.—Courier, March 11.

Secretary's Office, 7th March.
Provincial Appointments.—The following persons are re-appointed Sheriffs of the several Counties for the ensuing year: Edward W. Miller, Esq., for the County of York; Thomas Jones, Esq., for the County of Charlotte; John Hazen, Esq., for the County of Sunbury; Nathaniel H. DeVeber, Esq., for the County of Queens; Asa Davidson, Esq., for County of Kings; Wm. P. Sayre, Esq., for County of Westmorland; J. M. Johnson, Esq., for County of Northumberland; LeBaron Drury, Esq., for County of Kent; Henry W. Baldwin, Esq., for County of Gloucester; John F. W. Winslow, Esq., for County of Carleton; James Paul, Esq., for County of Restigouche. Who are hereby required to

transmit their the Secretary's Lieutenant Governor by the Act.

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