SAINT JOHN, NEW-BRUNSWICK, FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 1851.

THE Weekly Chronicle

Volume 16. "Opposition without faction, and Measures irrespective of Men." Number 51.

THE SAINT JOHN CHRONICLE,

is published every Friday afternoon, by WILLIAM DURANT, at his Office in the Brick Building of L. H. Doudiet & Son, west side Prince Wm.-st.

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Chronicle Office, Saint John, N. B.

Weekly Almanack.

April.		R.	Sun s.	Moon H.	W.
12 Saturday,	- -	5 24	6 38	3 52	9 10
13 Sunday,	- -	5 22	6 40	4 28	9 58
14 Monday,	- -	5 21	6 41	5 0	10 46
15 Tuesday,	-	5 19	6 42	rises	11 20
16 Wednesday,	-	5 17	6 43	7 44	11 58
17 Thursday,	- -	5 16	6 44	8 56	morn.
18 Friday,	- -	5 14	6 46	10 4	0 36

Full Moon, 15th day, 5h. 56m. morn.

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By Samuel La'Mert, M. D.

No. 37, BEDFORD SQUARE, LONDON.

Doctor of Medicine, Matricular Member of the University of Edinburgh, Licentiate of Apothecaries' Hall, London, Honorary Member of the London Hospital, Medical Society, &c.

CONTENTS OF THE TREATISE:

CHAPTER I.—On the Philosophy of Marriage, with its Hindrances and Obligations, and on Infelicitous and Unproductive Unions.

CHAPTER II.—On the Anatomy and Physiology of the Generative Organs, their functions, structures, and secretions, proving that great Mental and Physical Power are dependant on their healthy action.

CHAPTER III.—On solitary Habits; their various effects on the Animal Economy: the concealed cause of Debility of the functions of the Stomach, Lungs, and Brain, and general Weakness of the Mental Faculties.

CHAPTER IV.—On the Secret Disorders of Youth and Maturity, and the Treatment of Nervous and Local Weakness, Mental Debility, and Premature Decay.

CHAPTER V. and VI.—On the Disorders arising from indiscriminate Excess, Gonorrhœa, Gleet, Strictures, and other diseases of the Urethra.

REVIEW OF THE WORK.

Marriage requires the fulfilment of several conditions, in order that it may be really the cause of mutual happiness. Could the veil, which covers the origin of domestic wretchedness, be raised and its true source in every instance disclosed, in how many could it be traced to physical disqualifications and their attendant disappointments. Excesses are always injurious; the gift, which when used in moderation is fraught with advantage, becomes, when abused, the prolific source of mischief, and of greater or less injury to the constitution and vital powers. 'The particular excesses, on the nature and consequences of which this Treatise professes to dilate, are productive of greater misery to the human frame, than any other to which it is subject.

This Work contains an accurate and complete account of the Anatomy and Physiology of the Reproductive Organs, and of their relative conditions in health and disease. Nor are these the sole contents of the Work, the means of escape, as well as the nature of the danger are pointed out in clear and intelligible language. It deservedly requires the closest attention and study, for what subject can be of more importance than the preservation of health, and the physical capabilities of which every man should be possessed. Unfortunately happens that the unhappy victim of excessive indulgence and vicious habits, whether acquired in early life, or from the follies of advanced age, while suffering from their invariable consequences, unwisely entertains a fear of applying to the qualified physician for relief. Shame and the dread so frequently but erroneously entertained that these complaints are beyond the reach of art, alike restrict him, and prevent his seeking for assistance where alone it can be procured. In acting thus, he forgets that actuate discrimination in ascertaining the causes of disease, sympathy with the sufferer, and above all, secrecy, invariably characterize the intelligent and practical physician and to the medical man, who can show by his possession of the requisite legal qualification that he is entitled to esteem and respect in his professional pursuits the utmost confidence should be extended. DR. LA'MERT has obtained the highest medical honours, as his diplomas testify, and the great extent of his practice for many years is a guarantee for his professional experience, which has reference almost solely to the treatment of these diseases.

This work may be had in St. John, of H. Chubb & Co. price 2s 6d. stg.; Halifax, Messrs. Mon on & Co.; Quebec, Mr. Neilson.

August 24, 1849.

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St. John, October 16th, 1849.

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Constantly on hand, DIPT CANDLES, of all sizes, made out of the pure hard Tallow, and undertakes to sell cheaper than can be imported from any part of the world. April 27.

THE LEGISLATURE.

[*From the City Reporter.*]

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, April 8th.

THE GREAT TRUNK RAILWAY.

Mr. GRAY rose to move a series of Resolutions which he had laid on the table yesterday. He briefly recapitulated the various proceedings of the Local Legislature in reference to railways, particularly those having reference to the Great Trunk Railway from Halifax to Quebec, showing the anxiety felt by the House of Assembly that the work should be constructed. They had offered all the ungranted lands for ten miles on each side of the line—to purchase the right of way, and necessary station grounds through other lands, and to guarantee £20,000 a-year for twenty years. Last Session the House had addressed the Imperial Government, earnestly soliciting the British Government to guarantee the interest on £1,000,000 sterling in aid of the line. Earl Grey replied in a Despatch dated June last, absolutely refusing to comply with the prayer of the address, and holding out no hopes of doing any thing in aid of the Line. That Despatch must have been received here about the 1st of July, and with it all hopes of the Great Trunk Line ceased. The people then turned their attention to another Line, which appeared to be within their means, and which held out prospects of more immediate remuneration. About the 1st of August a Convention was held in Portland, Maine, where preliminaries were agreed upon, and ever since this Country had turned its attention to the construction of that line. How was it, then, that the British Government came forward at this late hour with proposals to advance the money to build the Road from Halifax to Quebec?—Why, it was a step taken by Nova Scotia to further the interests of the European and North American Line which had led to these proposals. The hon. Mr. Howe had proceeded to England to endeavour to induce the Government to guarantee the interest on £800,000 to construct that portion of the European Line running through Nova Scotia, and his mission had led to the proposals contained in Mr. Howe's letter now published in the Journals. But the House, previous to the reception of Earl Grey's Despatch to Lord Elgin and Mr. Howe's letter, had taken action with regard to the other line. The matter had been fairly discussed, and the facility bill had been supported by members from nearly every County in the Province, and passed by an almost unanimous vote. The people having thus expressed their opinion in favour of that line, through their Representatives, he believed they were disposed to adhere to their decision, and keep their pledges. He had therefore embodied in his Resolutions that they would keep the pledges they had recently made in favour of the European and the Saint Andrews Lines, and also keep the pledges formerly made in favour of the Halifax and Quebec Line. If the House sustained him in this proceeding, he believed they would agree with him that, although this was within their means, it would be highly improper for them to pledge the revenues of the Province to any larger amount. There were also reasons why he tho't the House could not consent to the terms proposed in Mr. Howe's letter. In the first place the road was not to be touched until arrangements were completed with the three Colonies, not only as to the securities to be given, but the proportion each was to pay towards its construction, and the proportion of the receipts. This must necessarily occasion a delay of two or three years. Then again, it was proposed to appoint British Commissioners, who should have the expenditure of the money, and the sole control of the road. To this he thought they could never submit. Before he sat down he must call the attention of the House to the very able manner in which Mr. Howe had bro't the subject under the consideration of Earl Grey, in his letter of November last. It was true that gentleman was a native of another colony, but the able manner in which he had recounted the advantages likely to accrue to the Mother Country by prolonging the connection with these colonies, and the necessity for her to do something in their favour, not only redounded to his credit, but proved him to be a man of whom the colonies might be proud. It was the great misfortune of the Imperial Ministry that they did not understand the value, nor the nature of these Colonies, or the wishes of the people. The letter alluded to must have a tendency to enlighten them; and here he would say that the Imperial Government and the Colonists meant well towards each other, and any thing that occurred to disturb the harmony that should exist was the result of misunderstanding. There might be hon. members in the House who did not agree with all the sentiments expressed by Mr. Howe, but he thought there was not one who did not admire the tone of his letter.

Mr. MONTGOMERY hoped the hon. member would not press his Resolutions at present. He did not believe six members in the House had read the correspondence through,—at all events he had not had an opportunity of doing so, and he wished for time to read it through and consider before he could vote upon the question.—This was the first time the British Government had offered them aid towards the construction of a public work, and he thought it should not be rejected but on mature consideration.

Dr. THOMSON said it might be necessary to give an expression of opinion rather hastily, as the mail for England would close on Monday next. The terms proposed in Mr. Howe's letter were such as he, nor any true-born Briton could consent to.

Mr. RITCHIE said this was a subject which, in his opinion, required very little discussion. He agreed generally with the Resolutions, and also with the remarks made by his hon. colleague, (Mr. Gray). He was surprised to hear the hon. member for Restigouche ask for time to make up his mind. The house was called upon to act, and should do so with the utmost promptitude. He considered that his hon. colleague had put forth his resolutions in the most favourable shape,—far more favourable than the hon. members from the north of the Province had any right to expect. The resolutions renewed all the pledges previously made in favour of this Line,—pledges from which the Home Government had released us when they positively declined to accept them. He should not object to this, because it was no doubt a great national undertaking. He believed, however, that this Province had offered to do for that Line all that was right and prudent for them to do; but they had not met with that response from Great Britain which they had a right to look for. But now, when they were going on with another work upon their own resources, the present propositions are sent out. And what did the Ministry ask? Why, that the Colonies should guarantee every penny of the cost! The interest which New Brunswick would be required to guarantee (according to the estimates) would amount, at three and a half per cent, to £63,000 a year! This would swallow up the whole of the available revenues of the Province, they would no longer enjoy the power guaranteed to them under what was termed Responsible Government, but would be bound and sold—their liberties gone, not only during their own natural lives, but they would also sell the next generation into slavery. He would feel himself recreant to his constituents, and to his country, if he would for a moment countenance such propositions. In this respect he considered the Resolutions too softly worded; he would like to see the propositions rejected in stronger language; it was required, he thought, by the hard terms proposed after so much coldness and neglect. What did Earl Grey say? If they build the line they only *lend*—they will not *give* any thing, and in return they ask for all we have,—would bind us body and bones, and make us political slaves for no one knows how long! There was another part of the Resolutions which he thought superfluous: he did not believe the British Government would give the guarantee asked for in favour of the facility bills, and he cared not, for he was prepared to rely upon our own resources. He hoped that nothing in the Address would seem to infer that the construction of the European and North American Railway would be contingent upon an Imperial guarantee; and with these remarks he would support the Resolutions, as he considered the terms proposed by Mr. Hawes humiliating to the people of this Province.

Mr. PORTER had heard of a certain Peer who used to say, "If you want to retain your dependencies, keep them *dependant!*" He believed the British Ministry had acted upon that principle when they sent us the proposals contained in Mr. Howe's letter. He considered them insulting to the common sense of the Colonists. They had withdrawn protection in a great degree from our staple exports, nor had they attempted to open us a market elsewhere; and now they were about to abolish the small Protection that still remained in favour of our lumber. We were treated by the Home Government worse than though we had been foreigners. In fact, Great Britain had become a pounds, shillings and pence nation, and the glory had departed from her—he meant from the leading men of the nation Money was all they cared about. He did no. want anything more to pass in that House asking aid from Great Britain in any shape, as he was certain it would give occasion for additional insults to be heaped upon them.

Mr. BARBERIE had not been able to pay much attention to the subject, and hoped some further time would be given.

Mr ENGLISH was opposed to that part of the Resolutions which went to renew the pledges made in favor of the Halifax and Quebec Line in 1849 and 1850. He considered that they had promised in the two Facility Bills, passed this Session, quite as much as the Province could perform. He was also opposed to asking for any guarantee on the Debentures to be issued. He believed it useless. We were cast upon our own resources, and he believed that if we relied upon these resources, and less on John Bull, it would be better for us.

Mr. HATHEWAY would oppose renewing the pledges. After the liberal offers we had made, and the manner in which they had been spurned, he would oppose renewing the grant of the Crown Lands ten miles in breadth, if it should be the last vote he ever gave in that House.

Mr. NEEDHAM did not know why the matter should be hurried, as there would be three mails closed for England in the course of next week. Were the vote to be taken now, he would not know how to act, as he had not read the correspondence. He agreed with the two hon. members who preceded him in one thing.—he was opposed to renewing the pledges.

Mr. GRAY had no objection to let the matter stand over until to-morrow. He was the more anxious in the matter being decided early, because he had learned by Telegraph that the House of Assembly of Nova Scotia were at that moment discussing the same subject, and the decision of this House may influence them.

The Debate was then adjourned.

SATURDAY, April 5.

DEBATE RESUMED.

Mr. GRAY had considered the matter over since yesterday, and had come to the conclusion to strike out that part of the Resolutions praying for a guarantee on the Debentures to be issued in favour of the European and the St. Andrews Lines. (That part was then erased by the consent of the House.)

Mr. NEEDHAM considered the matter of that importance that he could not let it pass without making a few remarks. He should speak to the whole of the Resolutions, as he did not intend to rise again during the discussion. He was loth to make any objections to the Resolutions, for as he wished to see it go forth that we will not accept of the proposals made to us, so did he wish the Resolutions to be passed, if possible, by an unanimous vote. He was bound to give free expression to his opinions, however, and could not support the Resolutions all through as they then stood. He did not think it right to renew the pledge of £20,000 a year in support of this Line. They had recently passed two Facility Bills, involving the Province to the amount of £300,000 sterling. He had heard it whispered that the said Bills would not have passed were it not for these pledges; he did not think so; at all events, the consideration had no influence upon him. Now, supposing these pledges were renewed, and the British Government should advance the money and build the line;—he had no belief that they would do it, he was merely supposing a case—would the Province, in addition to the issue of Debentures to the amount of £300,000 sterling, be able to pay the £20,000 a year?—(Cries of "Yes.")—He said *No!* it would swamp the whole revenues of the Province. For this reason he would oppose reiterating the pledges. The next objection he had to the Resolutions was, that the language was not sufficiently strong. In some instances they went too far, in others they did not come up to the mark. He had perused Mr. Howe's correspondence with the British Ministers, published in the *Morning Chronicle*, and there were arguments there set forth which ought to convince any Ministry that they must do more than they have done for the Colonies if they wish to retain them. If Mr. Howe's letters did not convince them, it was in vain to make any further trial. It was there shown to a demonstration that if the Mother Country wished to retain these Colonies, it was absolutely necessary she must give them more than words,—that she must put her hands in her pockets and help them. But what had she done—anything? No; and far worse than nothing. In answer to Mr. Howe's forcible appeal, if they had given us the go-by it would have been far better than to say, we will do so and so, under such conditions as were imposed.—If ever there was dictation; if ever there were shackles; if ever there was slavery—aye, and the very essence of slavery—it was this. Here were the terms: "Provided you will swamp your revenues, and allow British Commissioners to come among you and put their hands into your public chest without law, and draw out as much as they choose, and do with it what they choose, we will build your Railway!" He was surprised that the history of by-gone times had not taught them better—to offer such terms as these after the pledges the Province had made, was a downright insult. It was as much as to say, "We will accept of your pledges, but railways in other countries? Let them travel everywhere and they would see placarded "Stock for sale; stock for sale," and could buy as much as they liked for below par. Now if they went on and built railways in this Province, they would very soon see not only "stock for sale," but see in the windows of the empty houses in their towns and villages, "To let; to let" (Laughter).—He sincerely hoped—he would implore them—that before committing this suicide, at least they would allow their intoxication to cool off by postponing the consideration twenty four hours; (Roars of Laughter.)

Mr. GRAY,—"The hon. gentleman's alarm is groundless; we are not going to accept the terms and build the line, but we are going to reject the terms."

Mr. GILBERT,—"No matter. Let it alone; I am afraid to have anything to do with it;"—(Laughter.)

Mr. JOHNSON approved of the Resolutions with the exception of two things. He did not think the St. Andrews and Quebec Line would prove remunerative, and wished the clause expressing that belief to be struck out. He also disliked the clause praying for a guarantee on the Provincial Debentures authorised to be issued under the facility bills. He did not think a guarantee was at all necessary, and believed it calculated to injure our credit with English capitalists. He would be very glad to see this railway constructed, as it would benefit his county, but he would not consent to the terms proposed in Mr. Howes' letter. He would not pledge all the Provincial Revenues, and consent to a permanent tax, in aid of this line, and he believed the plan was to prevent the construction of the other. The British Government would be obliged to build this road in the course of a few years at their own expense, if they wished to hold these Colonies. He considered this offer of guarantee on the part of the Home Government like the conduct of a man who endorses a note for a friend, and then take the money raised on the note so endorsed, and lays it out for his own benefit.

The hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL said he had given this subject his best attention. In order to advance the money, or guarantee it, the Home Government asked for all the available public revenues to be given up, and also that permanent taxes might be imposed throughout the Province; and these would continue until we had paid all expenses, and the interest. These were terms to which he should not agree. He did not blame Earl Grey in the matter. As for Mr. Howe, he had certainly displayed a great deal of talent in the matter, but it must not be lost sight of that his suggestions had elicited these proposals. Time pressed, as the mail was going out on Monday, and he regretted that more time could not be given for hon. members to read the correspondence; if it was the desire of the house, however, he thought the matter might stand over until to-morrow.

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Now, supposing these pledges were renewed, and the British Government should advance the money and build the line;—he had no belief that they would do it, he was merely supposing a case—would the Province, in addition to the issue of Debentures to the amount of £300,000 sterling, be able to pay the £20,000 a year?—(Cries of "Yes.")—He said *No!* it would swamp the whole revenues of the Province. For this reason he would oppose reiterating the pledges. The next objection he had to the Resolutions was, that the language was not sufficiently strong. In some instances they went too far, in others they did not come up to the mark. He had perused Mr. Howe's correspondence with the British Ministers, published in the *Morning Chronicle*, and there were arguments there set forth which ought to convince any Ministry that they must do more than they have done for the Colonies if they wish to retain them. If Mr. Howe's letters did not convince them, it was in vain to make any further trial. It was there shown to a demonstration that if the Mother Country wished to retain these Colonies, it was absolutely necessary she must give them more than words,—that she must put her hands in her pockets and help them. But what had she done—anything? No; and far worse than nothing. In answer to Mr. Howe's forcible appeal, if they had given us the go-by it would have been far better than to say, we will do so and so, under such conditions as were imposed.—If ever there was dictation; if ever there were shackles; if ever there was slavery—aye, and the very essence of slavery—it was this. Here were the terms: "Provided you will swamp your revenues, and allow British Commissioners to come among you and put their hands into your public chest without law, and draw out as much as they choose, and do with it what they choose, we will build your Railway!" He was surprised that the history of by-gone times had not taught them better—to offer such terms as these after the pledges the Province had made, was a downright insult. It was as much as to say, "We will accept of your pledges, but we want trust you, but take your pledges into our own hands and carry on the work!" He considered that a strong expression of feeling on the subject was necessary, and could not agree with the Resolutions because they did not express that dissent which all must feel at the insulting proposals. As to convicts being sent out to work on Railways, he had looked over Mr. Howe's reasons for recommending it, and agreed with him. Crime in England was not inherent in the class of men, but was the result of over-population, and want of employment. It was the duty of men calling themselves Christians not only to endeavour to prevent crime, but to sympathize with the unfortunate and endeavour to reclaim them. Mr. Howe had, however, lost all the vantage ground he had once gained, by submitting to degrading terms. What his motives were he did not know; but supposed he erred through overzeal in the cause. Earl Grey must have known, when he instructed Mr. Hawes to submit the terms, that they were such as no man in N. Brunswick would ever submit to. If he did not know it, he was unfit for a British Minister. It was worse than Southern slavery, and so we should but were we to embrace the terms. He had thus shown why he dissented from the wording of the Resolutions, and he would never consent to renew the pledge of £20,000 a year. It was the duty of the British Government to do something for us; but if they were determined to drive us off, he would tell them that we are willing to go. He thought he smelt a Federal Union of the Colonies in this Railway; they wished to have the Lower Provinces pledged in favor of the millions owed by Canada. He knew we wanted Railways, and was willing to do as much in aid of them as any one, but he would rather see the country once more in its primitive state, with the wilderness spreading over our settlements, and the sites of our towns once more the homes of the wolf and the bear, than submit to be shackled—to see freemen made bondmen—as was proposed in Mr. Hawes' letter.

Hon. Mr. MONTGOMERY had made himself acquainted with the correspondence since yesterday, and was now quite satisfied to support the Resolutions.

Mr. WILMOT agreed with the hon. member for the City as to the derogatory nature of the terms offered and would rather leave the country and live under another flag than submit to them. He differed with him, however, as to renewing the pledges, for if the Province had to pay £20,000 a year, it would be more than made up by increased revenue. Mr. Howe's letter had been praised. It certainly was well written in some respects, but it expressed satisfaction at the free trade policy of the Mother country, and from that he (Mr. W.) and the great mass of the people in this Colony dissented. He was glad to see the people of England coming to their senses also, and that Earl Grey's days in Downing Street will soon be numbered. He disagreed with what had been said by the hon. member for the City about convicts. He would rather see the People of these Colonies imitate the Colonists of the Cape of Good Hope, and shoulder their muskets to resist, than suffer them to land here. He had no idea of seeing this country made a penal settlement. The hon. member might argue that they fell through misfortune, but he would not take them after their fall, and see the Province made a sink of iniquity (hear, hear.)

Mr. GRAY was glad to hear his sentiments so generally responded to, and also to see that the Resolutions would meet with almost unanimous support. He agreed with his hon. colleague that the increased revenue would more than pay the pledges in favour of this Line, should they ever be called for. As to what had been said about strong language, he thought a style courteous but firm was by far the best. Strong words often lost their force with the breath that uttered them; while a quieter style carried a moral force with it—(hear, hear.)—If a crisis came, and the privileges of the people should be invaded, the quiet man would probably be found as eager to resist tyranny as the man who uses boisterous language.

The first Resolution then passed unanimously. The second Resolution, renewing the pledges, was opposed on division by Messrs. Needham, Tilley, Hatheway, English, Steves and Gilbert: Ayes, 31.—The third Resolution, opposing the convict scheme, was carried by all but Messrs. Needham and Cutler, who dissented.—The fourth and fifth Resolutions passed unanimously.

MONDAY EVENING, April 7th.

The joint Address to the Queen, founded on Mr. Gray's resolutions, passed the House today. The Bill to make the Foremen of Grand Juries elected by the Juries, was also passed.

The House afterwards went into Committee of Supply, and a number of grants were passed. The principal discussions which took place arose on the grants being proposed to the Stanley Land Company for roads, and to Messrs. Williston and Letson, for liabilities incurred while in charge of sick emigrants in the year 1847.—The former grant, of £100, passed after considerable discussion, and progress was reported on the latter.

Please correct in my telegraph despatch published on Saturday, relative to the debate on the Railway, the expression, "to apply to Mr. Howe for a guarantee," &c.,—it should have been, "to apply to the Home Government."

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

The Council was occupied for some time today—first in Select Committee, and then in Committee of the whole—on the Bill (sent up from the Lower House) to exempt the Carleton Tide Mills from the operation of the Harbour Act. It was made apparent to the Select Committee that it was impossible to work these Mills and prevent the saw dust from falling into the stream—that they were situate far down the harbour, and never worked but when the current is running out swiftly, which carries the saw dust out to sea—that were the present law enforced, the Mills must close, causing the ruin of the lessee, and a great loss to the Corporation, &c. The Bill was strenuously opposed throughout all its stages by the Hon. John Robertson, who, it appears, has for some time past been filling up the Carleton Mill-pond with saw dust from his Steam Mills, and that with impunity, ever and anon hinting *in terrorem* that if any complaints were made, certain parties would be fined for breach of the harbour law! Some idea of the affair may be gathered from Mr. Needham's speech, delivered when the Bill was committed in the Assembly, and here subjoined:—

Mr. Needham said, that this scourge was prepared up stairs in the Legislative Council, and held he believed by Mr. John Robertson as a whip or sword over Mr. Bond, to keep him quiet, while he (Mr. R.) has taken forcible possession of the Carleton Mill-pond as a place of deposit for his saw dust, bark, &c., which he transports from his mill in carts, displacing the water at a great rate; threatening Mr. Bond at the same time, in so many words, that if he interferes with him in this matter, he will stop him (Mr. B.) altogether from making saw dust. Thus rendering the Carleton Tide Mill, that cost upwards of £6000, valueless—ruining the lessee, and doing great injustice to the bond-holders. He said that the sooner the Legislature took this deadly weapon or scourge out of Mr. Robertson's hand the better.

Hon. Mr. Hazen commented in strong terms upon Hon. Mr. Robertson's conduct, and informed him that he had rendered himself liable to a chancery suit by filling up the Mill Pond. The bill was sustained by a vote of 16 to 1, the hon. Mr. Robertson being the only nay!—*New Brunswicker.*