

Speech relating to Parochial Schools, be referred to a select Committee, to report thereon by Bill, or otherwise, and that such Committee be authorised to take into consideration all matters relating to the education of the country.

Mr. Fisher was quite out of opinion with the hon. C. Simonds, and he should like much to have that part of the Speech disposed of now.

Mr. Speaker said with respect to His Excellency's recommendation to have an improved Election Law, he thought him perfectly justified in the measure, in as much as it had been necessary to call out the Military at the late Election to assist the local authorities.

With respect to the policy of discussing the Speech at this time, the practice here had differed from that of England, and if the Speech was now discussed, why it would all have to be gone through with again. He thought the House could not at present go into it.

Mr. Simonds said, that unless the policy of the government was brought forward at this time, how could the House know what it was. He repeated this was the proper time to discuss the policy of the government.

Mr. Fisher, in support of the observations of the Hon. C. Simonds, he would state that in England, on similar occasions, the whole Electoral Franchise of the country had been altered. And it was his wish that the practice of England should be followed in this Province.

The following Resolutions closed the Debate.

Resolved—As the opinion of this Committee, that paragraph in His Excellency's Speech, which recommends the adoption of an improved system of Finance, should be referred by the House to the select Committee appointed on the 31st January last, to take the subject of the Provincial Finances into consideration.

Resolved—That it is the opinion of this Committee, that paragraph in His Excellency's Speech, as relates to the Election Laws, be referred to a select Committee, to report thereon, by Bill or otherwise.

Resolved—That select Committees be appointed, to carry into effect the several Resolutions which passed the House this day, when in Committees of the whole on His Excellency's Speech.

UNITED STATES

NEW FLOATING DRY DOCK—We copy the following interesting account, from the *Courier and Enquirer*, of a new Dry Dock, which has been constructed, and is now in operation in New York, by which a ship of any size can be lifted out of the water.

"The 'Sectional Floating Dry Dock' is in our opinion, the most wonderful and beautiful invention of the kind ever conceived of by man. To enable the reader to form some idea of what it is, he must imagine five or seven immense square boxes or tanks, each twenty feet long and fifty or one hundred wide; and these being filled with water, sink to their position in a ship, when a ship of the line of the size of the Pennsylvania slowly takes her station directly over these immense water tanks. This being done, a steam engine is put in operation, and by means of pumps the water is rapidly drawn out of the tanks and its place supplied with air. They of course become buoyant and rise one after the other until they come in contact with the keel of the mighty leviathan, to the position of which they adapt themselves; and then the pumping continuing and precisely the same quantity of water being thrown at the same time from each tank, the tanks rise slowly but simultaneously producing an equal pressure upon every part of the mighty mass thus rising out of the element, and gradually but surely, raising her entirely out of the water.

As the filling of the tanks with air, by displacing the water gradually lifts the vessel, she is secured by shores and appropriate stays so that when the top of the tanks rise above the water, she is still actually lying upon an immense floating platform 'high and dry,' and yet without any more strain upon any portion of her than if she were still lying in the water.

The raising accomplished, which in a ship of the line would probably occupy five or six hours—less time however, than is required to pump out an excavated Dock—a number of workmen may go to work upon her bottom, and clean or repair her as may be desirable. The top of the tanks, all lying side by side, now form an immense dry platform, upon which all the necessary work upon the bottom of the ship can be carried on with the same and even more facility, than when originally lying on the stocks upon which she was constructed.

The work finished; and it is only necessary to open certain apertures in each of the tanks composing her bed, when the water rushes into each with the same velocity; and of course, the whole mass sinks quietly and steadily until the ship comes to her bearings, where she once more is sustained by the water and glides from over the beautiful and perfect contrivance which has so nobly accomplished the purpose for which it was constructed.

COLORADO SEAMEN IN SOUTHERN PORTS.

This subject has been brought before Congress and was referred to the Committee on Commerce. It so happens that this committee, consisting of nine members, has seven of its members from the Northern States. It could not well be otherwise that a majority of the members should be from the commercial section of the Union. In such a Committee the vexatious enactments of some of the Southern States against the liberties of black seamen, and the rights of Northern ship owners have met with the right kind of consideration—that is, unqualified condemnation.—Portland Advertiser.

YANKEE TRICKERY—SENATORIAL DISHONESTY.

From the *Quebec Mercury* Jan. 24.

Our attention has been drawn to the substance of the secret session of Congress, held in August last, on the North-Eastern Boundary question, by the very severe and justly merited strictures passed upon the tribe of American senators, and its juggling cabinet, by many of our contemporaries in the Province. It is now clearly demonstrated that in violation of every principle of honour and honesty with which every individual attached to the supreme council of a nation, and exercising the high and important powers of special negotiation, the American cabinet wilfully and designedly defrauded Great Britain of her just rights; rights which they possessed documents indisputably supporting at the very time they swaggeringly thought to bully from her.

This position of things will soon go forth to be viewed by the whole world and judged of according to its merits, and the United States will stand degraded in the eyes of every civilized nation. They may, and doubtless do chuckle at having over-reached an honest, frank, and confiding British nobleman, treating for his country, (of whose national characteristics he was in his nature the type and essence)—rogues commonly do exult over their victims—but it will be a pitiable grin over the grave of departed national honour, integrity, and character. Future diplomatists will meet their great men with distrust, and regulate their intercourse with them, as one would with an individual whom you knew only wanted the opportunity to pick your pocket. It is an everlasting stain upon the nation, and the perjury of it only unequalled by its deliberateness.

The question is now decided, and the obligations on either side ratified; to re-open this vexatious question, and to insist upon our original claim to the territory ceded would be manifestly impolitic. We have been duped, cunningly and wilfully cheated, and poor old John Bull is used to have his frank-hearted confidence abused, and to be plucked by knaves of every grade and species, and he must even content himself with this last act of treachery, satisfying himself that he stands in a far more enviable position as the cheated than as the cheat.

The reputation system was a deep damning blot of infamy on the national escutcheon of the American people, only to be excelled by this last of deeper and more indelible dye. But what can be expected of a nation whose trickery is a by-word—whose daily prints teem with acts of the most lawless and hideous stamp—of a land where murder, rapine, intolerance, robbery, and lust, stalk abroad unreprieved, and unpunished—in the streets of whose cities female virtue and innocence are unscrupulously assailed, and the perpetrators either unpunished, or their escape connived at—what can be expected from a people recognizing such a state of things as this? That the society can boast of some respectable and high-minded members we should be loath to suppose or to deny, but their influence is weak and futile with the great mass of the community, who are unprincipled and shuffling in all their thoughts and actions.

Mr. Webster has now the mark torn from him and his conduct, and has irretrievably fallen from the proud pre-eminence heretofore universally conceded him.

The Oregon territory is now urgently discussed in Congress, and will, we doubt not, ere long, become a question of moment for future arbitration. It is to be hoped that the representative of Great Britain will justly estimate, from this disclosure, those with whom he will be drawn an official relation, and not suffer her a second time to be duped.

In the secret session of August last, Mr. Rives, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations said—

It appears to the Committee, therefore, in looking back to the public and solemn acts of the Government, and of its successive Administration, that the time has passed, if it ever existed, when we could be justified in making the precise line of boundary claimed by us the subject of a *sine qua non* negotiation, or of the ultimate ratio of an assertion by force. Did a second arbitration, then, afford the prospect of a more satisfactory result? This expedient seemed to be equally rejected by all parties—by the United States, by Great Britain, and by the State of Maine. If such an alternative should be contemplated by any one as preferable to the arrangement which had been made, it is fit to bear in mind the risk and expense, incident to that mode of decision. We have already seen, in the instance of the arbitration by the King of the Netherlands, how much weight a tribunal of that sort is inclined to give to the argument of convenience, and a supposed intention on the part of the negotiators of the treaty of 1783, against the literal and positive terms employed by the instrument in its description of limits. Is there no danger, in the event of another arbitration, that a further research into the public archives of Europe might bring to light some embarrassing (even though apocryphal) documents to throw a new shade of plausible doubt on the clearness of our title, in the view of a sovereign arbiter? Such a document has already been communicated to the Committee; and I feel it (said Mr. R.) to be my duty to lay it before the Senate, that they may fully appreciate its bearings, and determine for themselves the weight and importance which belong to it. It is due to the learned and distinguished gentleman (Mr. Jared Sparks, of Boston) by whom the document referred to was discovered in the archives of France, while perusing his labours and intelligent researches connected with the history of our country, that the account of it should

be given in his own words, as contained in a communication addressed by him to the Department of State. I proceed, therefore, to read from that communication.

"While pursuing my researches among the voluminous papers relating to the American Revolution in the *Archives des affaires Etrangères* in Paris, I found in one of the bound volumes an original letter from Dr. Franklin to Count de Vergennes, of which the following is an exact transcript:—

"Passy, December 6, 1783.
"Sir,—I have the honour of returning herewith the map your Excellency sent me yesterday. I have marked with a strong red line, according to your desire, the limits in the United States, as settled in the preliminaries between the British and American Plenipotentiaries. With great respect, I am, &c.
"B. FRANKLIN."

"This letter was written six days after the preliminaries were signed; and if we could procure the identical map mentioned by Franklin, it would seem to afford conclusive evidence as to the meaning affixed by the Commissioners to the language of the treaty on the subject of the boundaries. You may well suppose that I lost no time in making inquiry for the map, not doubting that it would confirm all my previous opinions respecting the validity of our claim. In the geographical department of the Archives are six thousand maps and charts; but so well arranged with catalogues and indexes, that any one of them may be easily found. After a little research in the American division, with the aid of the keeper, I came upon a map of North America, by D'Anville, dated 1746, in size about eighteen inches square, on which was drawn a strong red line through the entire boundary of the United States, answering precisely to Franklin's description. The line is bold and distinct in every part made with red-ink, and apparently drawn with a camel hair pencil, or a pen with a blunt point. There is no other colouring on any part of the map.

"Imagine my surprise on discovering that this line runs wholly south of the St. John, and between the head waters of that river and those of the Penobscot and Kennebec. In short, it is exactly the line now contended for the Great Britain, except that it concedes more than is claimed. The north line, after departing from the source of the St. Croix, instead of proceeding to Mars Hill, stops far short of that point, and turns off to the west, so as to follow the British side all the streams which flow into the St. John, between the source of the St. Croix and Mars Hill. It is evident that the line, from the St. Croix to the Canadian highland, is intended to exclude all the waters running into the St. John.

"There is no positive proof that this map is actually the one marked by Franklin; yet, upon any other supposition, it would be difficult to explain the circumstances of its agreeing so perfectly with its description, and of its being preserved in the place where it would naturally be deposited by Count de Vergennes. I also found another map in the Archives, on which the same boundary was traced in a dotted red line with a pen, apparently coloured from the other.

"I enclose herewith a map of Maine, on which I have drawn a strong black line, corresponding with the red one above mentioned.

"I am far from intimating (said Mr. Rives) that the documents discovered by Mr. Sparks, curious and well worthy of consideration as they undoubtedly are, are of weight sufficient to shake the title of the United States, founded on the positive language of the Treaty of Peace. But they could not fail in the event of another reference, to give an increased confidence and emphasis to the pretensions of Great Britain, and to exert a corroborating influence upon the mind of the arbitrating. It is worth while, in this connexion, to turn to what Lord Ashburton has said, in one of his communications to Mr. Webster, when explaining his views of the position of the highlands described in the Treaty:

"My inspection of the maps, and my examination of the documents," says his Lordship, "lead me to a very strong conviction, that the highlands contemplated by the negotiators of the treaty, were the only highlands then known to them—at the head of the Penobscot, Kennebec, and the rivers west of the St. Croix; and that they did not precisely know how the north line from the St. Croix would strike them; and if it were not my wish to shorten this discussion, I believe a very good argument might be drawn from the words of the treaty in proof of this. In the negotiations with Mr. Livingston, and afterwards with Mr. McLean, this view seemed to prevail; and, as you are aware, there were proposals to search for these highlands to the west, where alone, I believe they will be found to answer perfectly the description of the treaty. If this question should, unfortunately, go to a further reference, I should by no means despair of finding some confirmation of this view of the case."

It is for the Senate to consider (added Mr. Rives) whether there would not be much risk of introducing new complications and embarrassments in this controversy, by leaving it open for another litigated reference; and if the British government—strongly prepossessed, as its minister tells us it is, with the justice of its claims—would not find what it would naturally consider a persuasive confirmation of its views of the case, in documents such as those encountered by Mr. Sparks, in his historical researches in the archives of France.

A map has been vauntingly paraded here, from Mr. Jefferson's collection, in the zeal of the opposition, (without taking him to see what it was) to confront and invalidate the map found by Mr. Sparks; but the moment it is examined, it is found to sustain, by the most precise and remarkable correspondence in every

feature, the map communicated by Mr. Sparks. The Senator who produced it, could see nothing but the microscopic dotted line running off in a north-easterly direction; but the moment other eyes were applied to it, there was found, in bold relief, a strong red line, indicating the limits of the United States, according to the treaty of peace, and coinciding, minutely and exactly, with the boundary traced on the map of Mr. Sparks.

"That this red line and not the hardly-visible dotted line, was intended to represent the limits of the United States, according to the treaty of peace is conclusively shown by the circumstances that the red line is drawn on the map all round the exterior boundary of the United States; through the middle of the northern lakes, thence through the Long Lake and the Rainy Lake to the Lake of the Woods, and from the western extremity of the Lake of the Woods, to the Mississippi; and along that river to the point where the boundary of the United States, according to the treaty of peace leaves it; and thence by its easterly course, to the mouth of the Saint Mary's, or the Atlantic.

"Mr. Calhoun of South Carolina, dwelt with great force on the confirmation of the rights of Great Britain by the posthumous documents of Franklin and Jefferson, upon those grounds strenuously urged the ratification of the treaty before England should obtain the information.

"We give the following portions of his speech which relate to this point:—
"But if it should be thought by any one that these considerations conclusive as they seem to be, were not sufficient to justify the ratification of this portion of the treaty, there were others, which appeared to him to be perfectly conclusive. He referred to the condition in which he would be left if the treaty should be rejected. He would ask—if after having agreed at Ghent to refer the subject to arbitration, and after having refused to agree to the award made under that reference, by an arbitrator of our own selection we should now reject this treaty, negotiated by our own Secretary of State, under our own eyes, and which had previously received the assent of the State immediately interested—whether there would be the slightest prospect that another equally favourable would be obtained.

"On the contrary, would we not stand in a far worse condition than ever, in reference to our claim? Would it not, indeed, be almost certain that we should lose the whole of the basin of the St. John, and that Great Britain gain all for which she ever contended, strengthened as she would be by the disclosure made during the discussion? He was far from asserting that the facts disclosed established the claim of Great Britain; or that the map exhibited in the note to the Count de Vergennes, the French Minister; but it cannot be doubted that the conformity of the line delineated on the map, with the one described in his note, would have the effect of strengthening not a little the claims of Great Britain in her own estimation and that of the world.

"But the facts stated, and the map exhibited by the chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations, (Mr. Rives,) are not only the strongest disclosures made during the discussion. The French map introduced by the Senator from Missouri, (Mr. Benton,) from Mr. Jefferson's collection in the Congress library, in order to rebut the inference from the former, turned but to be still more so. That was made in the Village of Passy, in the year after the treaty of peace was negotiated, where Franklin (who was one of the negotiators,) resided, and was dedicated to him; and that the boundary line drawn in exact conformity to the other and in the manner described in the note of Dr. Franklin—a line somewhat more adverse to us than that claimed by Great Britain. But as striking as is the coincidence, he was far from regarding it as sufficient to establish the claim of Great Britain. It would however, be in vain to deny that it was a corroborating circumstance, calculated to add no small weight to her claim.

"It would be still further increased by the fact that France was our ally at the time, and as such, must have been consulted, and kept constantly advised of all that occurred during the progress of the negotiation, including its final result. It would be idle to suppose that these disclosures would not weigh heavily against us in any future negotiation. They would so much so—taken in connexion with the adverse award of the King of Holland, & this treaty, should it be rejected—as to render helpless any future attempt to settle the question by negotiation or arbitration. No alternative would be left us but to yield to the full extent of the British claim, or to put Maine in possession by force and that, too, with the opinion and sympathy of the world against us and our cause. In his opinion we would be bound to attempt it, in justice to Maine, should we agree to what she has asserted. So much for the boundary question as far as Maine is concerned.

An Ambassador Insulted—Hampshire Gazette, in alluding to Haailio, the Ambassador from the King of the Sandwich Islands says that on Wednesday last, "the Rev. Mr. Richards and the Chief took passage in the steamer Globe, at New York for N. Haven. On applying for breakfast tickets, the Clerk offered Mr. Richards one for himself, and a half (admitting to the second table), for his servant. Mr. R. informed him that the so called servant, was a Sandwich Island Chief, and an Ambassador to the United States, and had been so accredited at Washington. The Clerk replied that this made no difference and if the man breakfasted at all, he must do so with the servants. In a mild way Mr. R. appealed to Capt. Stone, and he fully justified the decision of the Clerk. The result was that Mr. Richards was either obliged to separate from his friend, or share

the degradation. He chose the latter course and both of them took breakfast with the servants of the boat."

AMERICAN ADMIRALS—A bill has been reported in the U. S. Senate, by the Committee on Naval Affairs, which provides among other things for the creation of Admirals in the Navy. The attempt has been made more than once before, but without success. There seems to be a sort of prejudice against the title.

The project however, appears to be regarded more favorably than when first broached, and it is repeated now, with, without a doubt, be eventually adopted.

St. Domingo—The New Orleans Picayune of the 18th ult. says—"The schr. Cassius, from St. Jago de Cuba, arrived last evening reports that the negroes of St. Domingo had taken two Spanish merchantmen. Two Spanish vessels, a frigate and a sloop of war, were blockading the ports of the island. There were two British vessels of war off the island."

Disturbances on the Lachine Canal.
A Correspondent of the *Montreal Morning Courier* under date Jan. 24, says:—
It is reported that the labourers on the Lachine Canal, eleven hundred in number, have this day struck for wages.
This I suppose will, as on all such occasions, be attributed to the Irish spirit of discontent, but good authority gives as a cause that after working three weeks without receiving pay in money, but store pay on a limited scale, they were this morning, to their astonishment, told that one shilling and three pence per day was to be allowed them for their labour!! Is this, we ask the just proportion of patronage held out to labourers (who are the sinews of any country) in the profits of public contractors?

PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

EXTRACTS FROM THE JOURNALS.

Saturday, Feb. 4.
Mr. Boyd, presented a Petition from Dennis H. Leary, a licensed Teacher, praying to be remunerated for teaching a School in the Parish of St. Patrick, in the County of Charlotte, for a period of three months, he not being enabled to complete the period of one year for which he was engaged in consequence of ill health, which was referred to the Committee on School Petitions.

The Bill to repeal so much of an Act, made and passed in the ninth year of the Reign of His Majesty, George the Fourth, intitled, "An Act to levy a Tax on Dogs in certain parts of the Parishes of Fredericton and St. Andrews," as relates to the owners of Dogs residing on the Commons and Glebe in the Parish of St. Andrews, passed the House and was taken to the Council by Mr. Boyd.

Tuesday, Feb. 7.
Read a second time—A Bill for the Consolidation of the Department of Revenue in this Province, and to provide for the collection and retention thereof.

On motion of Mr. Boyd, **Resolved**, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor praying that His Excellency would be pleased to lay before the House, copies of all Correspondence that may have been had, relative to the cutting of the Sewer in the Town of Saint Andrews; as also the improvement of the Harbour of St. Andrews.

Upon the question for adopting the Resolution for this Address, the House divided—
YEAS, 11. NAYS, 12.

On motion of Mr. Hill, The House went into Committee of the whole on a Bill to incorporate the Bolton Brook Navigation Company.

The Chairman reported, that the Committee having the Bill referred to them on their consideration had made amendments thereto, and then agreed to the said Bill.

Ordered, That the Report be accepted, the Bill engrossed as amended.

Mr. Barberie, from the Committee appointed to wait upon His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor with the Address of the House of the 4th inst. relative to the practice contained in the Post Office Department, by which Newspapers and other printed papers are taxed with Postage, reported that they had attended to the duty, and that His Excellency was pleased to say, that the wishes of the House should be complied with.

Mr. Hazen, from the Committee appointed to wait upon His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor with an Address of the House of the 4th inst. praying that His Excellency would be pleased to lay before the House copies of any Despatches which His Excellency may have received, since the last Session, on the subject of the Finances of the Province, or the initiation of Money Grants, reported, that the Committee had attended thereto, and that His Excellency was pleased to say, that he would comply with the wishes of the House.

Mr. Hill moved for leave to bring in a Bill to amend an Act, intitled "An Act to provide for more effectually repairing the Streets and Bridges in a part of the Parish of St. Stephen."

When the Honourable Mr. Speaker brought under notice of the House, that the Twenty-fourth Rule, which requires Bills of a private or local nature to be read at the Assizes, or Court of Nisi Prius, or General Session of the Peace, in presence of the Grand Jury, had not been complied with.

The question was then taken for dispensing with the Rule, and that leave be granted to introduce the Bill.

Whereupon the House divided—
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THE SAINT ANDREW

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