The Observer.

SAINT JOHN, APRIL 6, 1852.

ARRIVAL OF THE "BALTIC."

NEW YORK April 5th—10 o'clock, a. m.—The steamer "Baltic" arrived last evening with four days later news. Cotton has declined. Sales from Saturday to Tuesday, inclusive, 17,000 bales, of which 4,500 were sold on Tuesday. Grain market dull. Corn declined 6d., Wheat 2d., and Flour was offered at 1s. decline. *—Tel. to News Room.*

We learn from Fredericton, that the Legislature is expected to be prorogued on Wednesday at 2 o'clock, after a Session of exactly three months, it having commenced on Wednesday 7th January. The Supply Book was closed on Monday. The Fredericton *Reporter* of Friday last, remarks as follows on the Session:—

"The legislature, which is now upon the verge of its three month's sitting, is rapidly drawing near its close, and as nearly all the Bills intended to be passed have been disposed of in the House of Assembly, the Supply Book and Contingencies will occupy the remainder of the Session. It would be unfair to accuse the House of idleness; for so far as constant attendance in their places, and plenty of discussion are concerned, they cannot be blamed. The great drawbacks have arisen from long speeches and two many of them; and also from the absence of so many members on the Committees of Scrutiny. We should imagine that another week will close the Session.

The Legislative Council has, from the new infusion which it has received, as well as from other causes, given place to more lengthy debates, than at any former period. The Bills sent from below have all been discussed in that calm and dignified manner which becomes the second Branch; and the amount of parliamentary knowledge and judgment and talent in debate, which have been displayed in the Council during the present Session, form a pleasing, and we would add profitable contrast to the boisterous debates in the House of Assembly. Hitherto the official reported debates of both Branches shew that the Council has debated just *half as much* as the House of Assembly."

CITY ELECTIONS.

This morning, at 8 o'clock precisely, Polls were opened in the several Wards for the election of an Alderman and a Councillor for each ward for the ensuing year. In some of the Wards the elections were conducted with much spirit. The polls closed at 4 P. M.

King's Ward.—The Election was warmly contested, which resulted in the return of John M. Walker, Esq., for Alderman, by a large majority over W. H. Needham, Esq., the late Alderman; and Mr. James S. Ballentine, was chosen Councillor, in room of J. A. Harding, Esq., resigned.

State of the Poll at the close—Walker 367, Needham 240; Ballentine 258, Mercer 213, Rouse 51. Needham resigned at half-past 3.

Queen's Ward.—No opposition to Alderman Smith, who is of course again returned; Mr. R. Hannah opposed Mr. Nowlin, for the office of Councillor, but he resigned the contest about 12 o'clock.—Mr. Nowlin is again returned.

Duke's Ward.—Alderman Johnston was opposed by the present Mayor, Thomas Harding, Esq.—Mr. Johnston was elected by a majority of 26; for Councillor, Capt. Joseph Stevenson is elected by a large majority over Mr. Hagarty, the late Councillor.

State of the Poll at the close—Johnston 157, Harding 131; Stephenson 138, Hagarty 120.

Sydney Ward.—No opposition to either Alderman Vanhorne, or Councillor McAvity.

We have no reliable intelligence from Carleton.

Kossuth arrived at New Orleans on the 27th ult. There were no preparations made for his reception, and scarcely any excitement was manifested in the city.

By Favor's Express, per steamer *Admiral*, last Friday, we received latest Boston and other American papers.

The population of the City of Montreal, is stated at 59,000.

A magnificent aurora borealis was visible at Frankfort, Germany, on the night of the 19th ult. It was seen in New York and other places on the same night. What a magnificent exhibition to have been seen over such a vast portion of the world at nearly the same moment of time!

ST. JOHN TOTAL ABSTINENCE SOCIETY.—The twentieth annual meeting of this Society was held at the Temperance Hall on Wednesday, 24th ult. It appeared from the report which was read by the Secretary that 217 names have been added to the list of the society during the year, making the total number of names on the books 4514.

The meeting was addressed by the Rev. Messrs. Bill and Cooney, and by Messrs. S. L. Tilley and W. H. A. Keans.—On motion of Mr. George Stymest, seconded by Mr. J. D. Robertson, the following gentlemen were elected Office Bearers for the ensuing year:—

N. S. DEMILL, *President.*

Vice Presidents—Thomas Harding, John Humbert, W. R. M. Burtis, Joseph Fairweather, W. H. A. Keans, George A. Lockhart.

James Gerow, *Jr. Cor. & Recording Secretary.*

John R. Marshall, *Treasurer.*

Executive Committee—Wm. Hewett, Robert Robertson, L. H. Waterhouse, Z. Ring, Robert Reed, George P. Sancton, Thomas McHenry, John F. Masters, John Ansley, Edward F. Lockhart, John Fraser, Thomas C. Humbert, Lorenzo F. Langan, and W. H. Fisher.

We regret to notice the death of Mr. GEORGE R. M. WETMORE, son of Charles P. Wetmore, Esq., of Fredericton, at Cooper's Wells, Mississippi, on the 9th March. He was returning home from the West Indies, where he had been on account of ill health. He was a young man of much promise, and had gained the esteem of all who knew him.—*Courier.*

THE PILOT.—This powerful Steamer, built last year for a tug boat, has undergone extensive alterations, and been thoroughly fitted as a passenger vessel. She will henceforward be run in the Bay of Fundy, where her power, speed, and thorough sea-going qualities will command a good share of public patronage, and be a valuable acquisition to all travellers. The vessel is commanded by Capt. JOHN LEAVITT, one of our most experienced steamboat masters; and with good sub-officers, passengers will doubtless be well accommodated on board the Pilot.—*Chronicle.*

At a meeting of the St. John Local Committee of the New-Brunswick Society for the promotion of Agriculture, Home Manufactures, and Commerce, for the purpose of a general Exhibition of the Products of Industry in the Province during the present year—the Hon. Mr. Justice PARKER in the Chair. Read the report of the Sub-Committee appointed to make arrangements for the future proceedings of this Local Committee, and distribute the various duties among Sub-Committees. This Report was unanimously accepted.

The following Resolutions were then unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That the Gentlemen first named in the respective Committees, be requested to act as *Conveners* thereof.

Resolved, That so soon as such Legislative grant for the proposed Exhibition be made, as will, in the opinion of the Committee of N. B. Society, be sufficient for the purpose, the Secretary do notify the Conveners of the different Committees of their appointment, and request them to proceed with their duties.

Resolved, That the publishers of the several newspapers in this City be requested to publish the proceedings of this meeting.

Resolved, That this meeting do adjourn to Thursday the 8th April, at 12 o'clock.

R. PARKER, Jr., *Secretary.*

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS AT FREDERICTON.—These elections took place on the 29th ult., when the following returns were made:—

WELLINGTON WARD.—John L. Marsh and A. M'Caus, *Jun., Councillors.* Thomas L. Simmons, *Assessor.*

ST. ANN'S WARD.—W. D. Hart and James S. Beck, *Councillors.* Thos. R. Robertson, *Assessor.*

CARLETON WARD.—Alexander Mitchell and Francis M'Manus, *Councillors.* William Morgan, *Assessor.*

QUEEN'S WARD.—Robert Gowan and John M'Intosh *Councillors.* Hugh Moore, *Assessor.*

KING'S WARD.—Alexander Black and Andrew Ritchie, *Councillors.* John Flemming, *Assessor.*

We have so often expressed our opinion on the system of Vote by Ballot as now successfully working in this City, that it is needless for us to say more on the present occasion than that we view it as a great boon. The recent Elections were conducted in the most orderly manner. In St. Anne's Ward, where there was an active canvass and where the largest number of votes were polled the greatest regularity and decorum prevailed throughout the whole day. Messrs. Beck and Hart addressed the meeting at the close—the former gentlemen, referring to the quiet manner in which the Election had been conducted, and the good feeling that prevailed, expressed the hope that the members of the Legislature who had visited the polls during the day would be so favorably impressed with the new mode of Election as at once to introduce a measure applicable to the whole Province embracing Vote by Ballot. We hope so too.—*Fred. Reporter.*

Fredericton, 17th February, 1852.

To the New-Brunswick Society for the encouragement of Agriculture, Home Manufactures and Commerce:

The undersigned, a committee appointed to consider and report upon the papers sent in to compete for the Premiums offered by the Society at their Quarterly meeting held on the 22d day of April, 1851, beg to report.

That seven Essays or papers have been sent in and submitted to them; of which three were answers to the questions concerning the general management of Farms; two were upon the management of Orchards; and two upon the best modes of storing and using turnips.

Your Committee consider all the papers laid before them to be of a useful and practical nature, and they recommend that they be printed and published under the revision of the Executive Committee in the forthcoming number of the Society's Reports.

They have awarded the first premium on the subject of farm management to Dr. George P. Peters, of Lancaster, in the County of St. John for his paper signed "Agricola;" the second to R. Jardine, Esq., of St. John, for his paper signed "Willry," and the third to C. L. Hatheway, Esq., of Sunbury, for his paper headed "Encourage the Farmer."

Your Committee do not consider that there is by any means a proportionate difference between the merits of these papers respectively, and the nominal value of the Premiums allotted to them in the list published by the Society.

Your Committee have awarded the Premium for the best Essay on Orchards to Mr. William Watts, Sen., of Fredericton, for his paper with the motto "Be Fruitful."

The Premium for the best Essay on Turnips your Committee would assign to Mr. J. G. Leyton, of Dorchester, for his paper marked with the subscription "P. M."

Your Committee would beg to state that Essays on the two latter subjects were handed in by C. L. Hatheway, Esq. All three of that gentleman's Essays exhibit a very considerable degree of merit and original observation, in consideration of which they beg to recommend that the Society award to Mr. Hatheway a silver cup, with an appropriate inscription, to be of the value of five pounds.

JAMES ROBB,
J. A. BECKWITH,
J. GREGORY.
—[*Reporter.*]

Messrs. Howe and Fulton were escorted in triumph through the streets on Monday, and the day wound up with a torch-light procession.—*Halifax Br. American, 31st ult.*

GOODS FOR CANADA.—The British barque Hero arrived in this port on Saturday from London, with a full cargo of goods for Canada, consigned to Hill, Sears & Co. The goods will be forwarded by railroad to their destination. This is the commencement of what will no doubt one day become a great trade.—*Boston Bee.*

THE BOSTON SUFFOLK BANK EMBEZZLEMENT.—The N. York papers give the following curious incidents of the arrest in that city of one of the defaulters in this unfortunate transaction, and the embarkation of the other, to be arrested probably on his arrival in England. The following are the particulars as related by the Journal of Commerce:—

Officers Boyer and Wm. H. Stephens of this city, on Wednesday last, while at the dock of the steam ship Asia, at Jersey City, in search of an individual for whom they had a warrant, who was expected to sail in that vessel on that day, observed two gentlemenly dressed young men go on board the vessel. They had with them a valise which appeared very heavy, and they seemed themselves to be much excited. Officer Stephens remarked to Bowyer and Sheriff Bliss of Norwich, Conn., who was also with him, that these young men looked like rogues. The Sheriff replied, "Oh no, I know them well; one of them is Charles Brewer, receiving teller in the Suffolk Bank at Boston, and the other Albert T. Converse, of Norwich." The officers, however, still thinking from the appearance of the young men that all was not right, decided, at once, to arrest them on suspicion, and accordingly proceeded to Brewer's state room, and in an authoritative tone asked him, "Where's that money? How much have you got?" and other similar questions. Brewer, on being so suddenly confronted with the officers, began to tremble and show evident signs of guilt. The officers then commenced searching his carpet bag, in which they found $5000 in gold coin, and a check for $500 on a banker in Wall street. Brewer made a partial confession, by admitting that he had done wrong, and saying that he was willing to accompany the officer to Boston. He, together with Converse, was then arrested; and on searching the latter, several letters, written by Brewer, to be conveyed by Converse to his (Brewer's) wife, and other of his relatives, were found. The following despatch was amongst them. "When we are off sure, copy these, and send them by House's line and Bain's to Mrs. M. W. Palmer, No. 36 Common street, Boston, 'It is all right. A. F. C.'" The Mrs. Palmer mentioned in this despatch, is no other than Brewer's wife, and the number designated in Common street, his residence. It is thought that Converse merely accompanied Brewer to the city for the purpose of seeing him safely off. After the sailing of the Asia, Mr. Stephens ascertained that Thorndike Rand, the bookeeper of the Suffolk Bank of Boston, had sailed in her, taking with him from $6000 to $10,000 belonging to the bank. The money which Rand had brought with him, he had exchanged in Wall street for notes on the Bank of England. The officers took possession of Brewer's luggage, and by accident, a trunk belonging to Rand, which contained all his clothing, and which, rather than subject himself to the danger of being arrested, he thought proper to let go without endeavoring to get it back. Brewer and Converse were, on the same day, taken by the officers to Boston, where both were committed—Brewer for examination and Converse as a witness. Rand and Brewer, it appears, had excused themselves from the Bank, one under pretence of being unwell, the other of having a relative sick, and immediately came to this city for the purpose of leaving for Europe. The officers are deserving of much credit for the shrewdness and sagacity they displayed in the matter, thereby recovering so large an amount of money, which otherwise would inevitably have been lost.

The Steam ship *Crescent City*, from Chagres, with 250 passengers and $1,500,000 in gold, and dates from San Francisco to 2d March, arrived at New York on Tuesday last.

DREADFUL ACCIDENT TO THE OPERATIVES AT HELL GATE.—On Friday last at 2 o'clock Mr. Maillefert after having fired one charge of powder at the Frying Pan Shoal without effect, proceeded to let down another charge, consisting of a canister of 125 lbs. of gunpowder, enclosed in a cast iron cylinder, instead of one of tin, such as he had previously used. There were two boats, one a Francis's Metallic Life Boat in which were Mr. Maillefert and Mr. William Smith, his brother-in-law, and the other occupied by a young man named Theodore Southard and two laboring men, one named John Whalen and the other called Joe. In the latter boat were the charged cylinders, in the care of Southard, which when lowered upon the rock to be blasted were to be discharged by means of a wire attached thereto, by connecting it with a galvanic battery in charge of Mr. Maillefert. Besides one charge which had been fired without effect, another failed in consequence of the box which contained the canister being broken, so that the ballast of sand ran out. This accident seems to have occasioned some confusion in the boat. When the third charge was lowered upon the rock to be blasted, and every thing supposed to be ready for the operation, Southard handed to Mr. Maillefert a wire, which from the result, it is evident was that attached to the loaded canister remaining in the boat, instead of that deposited on the rock.

Not suspecting this unfortunate blunder of young Southard's, Mr. Maillefert and his brother-in-law rowed off some forty yards from the other boat, and fired the charge. The effect of the explosion of 125 lbs. of gunpowder closely packed in an iron cylinder, was of course terrific. The boat containing Southard and his companions was blown to atoms, and its occupants sent flying high through the air. Of one man no trace has been discovered. Of another a headless, armless, legless trunk was picked up by a row-boat and taken to Stevens's Point, where it now is. Southard himself was very seriously injured, both externally and internally. He was blown to a considerable distance, and picked up by a boat and conveyed to his family at Astoria, where he and his two unfortunate companions resided.

The shock of the explosion was so great that all the houses in the neighborhood for half a mile or so were shaken to the foundation. As many people were watching the operations of the blasters, a number of small boats instantly went to the assistance of the sufferers. Mr. Maillefert and his brother-in-law were picked up by some men in a row-boat and carried to Astoria.

The life boat which Mr. Maillefert used on the occasion was so much shattered as to be entirely useless. An effort was made to tow it ashore, but it was abandoned, as but little beside the bow was left of it.

The accident might have been much worse than it was, but for a little delay, which, though provoking to the parties concerned at the time, was probably the means of saving their lives. Mr. Maillefert's lady and family had made an appointment to go with him to see the operation of the new cylinder. They arrived at the starting point, however, a few moments after the boats had left, and did not see their friends again until they were called to minister at their bed-sides. The feelings of the ladies at their providential escape may be well imagined.

Capt. Southard, who was seriously wounded in the explosion died of his wounds at 2 o'clock on Saturday morning. It appears from Mr. Maillefert's statement that the disaster arose from the wire being handed to him which was attached to the canister which floated, in consequence of the ballast escaping from the box, instead of that attached to the canister which had been lowered upon the rock. The floating canister had been hauled along side the boat, with the intention of conveying it ashore.—*N. York paper.*

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN NEW YORK.—A most destructive fire occurred in New York on Friday night 26th ult., about 12 o'clock, commencing at the south-west corner of Broadway and Dey streets, which buildings were consumed, together with Nos. 5, 7 and 9 Dey street, with their contents. Messrs. Merritt, Bliss & Co., dry goods importers, are supposed to have lost $150,000, covered by insurance. The loss of Messrs. Latimer & Large, [illegible] of goods insured $20,000. The loss of Messrs. Arott, Weaver & Richardson is from $60,0000 to $70,000; insured for $30,000. Messrs. Cranes & Thompson lose $2,000; insured for $21,500. Messrs. White, Bramhall & Lockwood, importers of woolen goods, were damaged to the amount of $20,000 to $30,000; fully insured. Messrs. H. Robinson & Co. are also covered by insurance. The buildings destroyed were erected the past season, were very valuable, and were stowed full of the richest goods sold in the American market—the occupants having just prepared themselves for the spring trade, now about commencing.

The New York Courier says:—The conflagration was one of the most superb we have ever witnessed. The cinders and tin sheathing of the roof were carried a great distance from the fire and fell plentifully in Wall street.

When the walls fell, the sight was most magnificent. As far as the eye could reach, the sky was covered with a brilliant cloud of sparks and cinders, red hot plates of tin, and flaming pieces of goods, which continued to fall in showers for more than ten minutes.

The roofs of houses for blocks and blocks, the streets, sidewalks, and awnings, were covered with the cinders.

The fire is supposed to have originated from the hot-air furnace in the sub-cellar of Nos. 5 and 7 Dey street.

The loss on stock by this fire is $157,000, and buildings $60,000. The total amount of insurance is $530,000.

GREAT FIRE IN PHILADELPHIA.—At a very early hour on Sunday morning, shortly after midnight, a fire broke out in Bank Alley, a compactly built part of the city, between Second and Third streets, leading from Chesnut to Market street, which resulted in the destruction of four large ware-houses, filled with costly goods, to the value of $800,000 to $1,000,000, including a large quantity of silks, laces, and fancy goods. The stores destroyed are those of Stewart & Bro., Nos. 13 Bank alley and 14 Strawberry street, estimated at $300,000; of Lewis & Bro., Nos. 11 Bank and 12 Strawberry, put at $350,000; Gilton & Co., Nos. 9 Bank and 11 Strawberry street, $200,000; Wyeth, Rogers & Co., who occupied the upper story of Messrs. Gilton's store, $75,000.

FALL OF BUILDINGS IN NEW YORK.—A serious disaster occurred in New York on Saturday afternoon, at 1 o'clock, from the very culpable practice of erecting buildings of so imperfect a structure as not to be able to support their own weight. The walls of two buildings, in 32d street, each 25 feet in front and 40 feet deep, had been raised to the height of 32 feet, when, as a number of men who had just returned from dinner, had ascended the ladder to resume their work, the entire walls fell in a crash, and the men were all enveloped in the mass of bricks and timber. An alarm was immediately given, firemen and others assembled, and every effort was made to extricate the sufferers. Five men were taken out of the ruins, three of whom were very seriously injured, and two of them died in a short time.

The two others were slightly hurt. It was asserted that there were three or four more at work, but at a late hour no more had been discovered. The walls were of the frailest construction, and the foundations were very imperfect. During the search a most painful scene was presented, from the distress of the wives and families of the persons missing, who had rushed to the spot on the rumor of the casualty.

TERRIBLE FIRE AT ST. BARTHOLOMEWS, WEST INDIES.—On the 2nd ult., at about two o'clock in the morning, the people of St. Bartholomew's were awakened by the thunder of cannons, and by the tocsin ringing the alarm, to learn that their little town was the prey of flames, the wind blowing at the time with much violence, that notwithstanding all endeavours, 120 houses or stores were in the space of four hours laid into ashes; by which a great number of people are now without shelter, and deprived of the means of support. It is impossible to give an exact account of the losses, but an idea may easily be formed, considering the number of houses and stores destroyed, and the fact that most of the unfortunates saved themselves with nothing but the dress they had on, some only half clad. St. Bartholomew's is one of the Caribbean Isles, belonging to Sweden. It is fifteen miles in circumference, and fertile in sugar and tobacco. Its population is about two thousand. It is sometimes called St. Barts.

The following statistical comparisons between the cities of Philadelphia and New York were read at a meeting held in Philadelphia, on Thursday:—

The county of Philadelphia, from one extreme to the other extends about twenty-three miles, and has an average breadth of about five and one-half miles. It comprises one city, seven incorporated districts, five boroughs, and a population of about four hundred and ten thousand souls, of which only 121,417 are in the city proper. The city and seven incorporated districts are, to a great extent, compactly covered with houses, have the appearance of unity, and contain about three hundred and forty thousand souls. The remotest point of the county from the State House is about fifteen miles. The city of New York embraces the whole island of Manhattan, extends fourteen miles in length, and has an average breadth of about one and a half miles. The rural parts of the island contain only the ancient and small villages of Harlaem and Manhattanville, and the entire city a population of about five hundred and fifteen thousand souls. The funded debt of the city and county of Philadelphia is about nine millions of dollars. The funded debt of the city of New York is about eleven millions of dollars.

The Cumberland Alleganian of Friday says:

A disease which has baffled the best medical skill has been prevailing for some time past in the Glades, the upper part of this county. Its approach is known by a slight pain, which soon extends over the system, drawing the body nearly double, and causing the most excruciating pain to the person attacked, who is only relieved by death, which usually takes place in a few hours.

The item of oil consumed on railroads is a far more expensive one than is generally supposed.—An authentic statement shows that during the year 1851 the railroads of Massachusetts, comprising a total length of 1012 miles, expended for spermeciti oil $77,283.80. The number of miles of railroad in operation in the United States, is 10,814. Reckoning the cost of oil on all the roads in the same ratio as that paid by the Massachusetts railroads, we have the snug little sum of $825,943.82 as the amount paid by all the railroads in the United States for oil in 1851.

Ephraim Holbrook, Esq., a merchant of New York lately deceased, has left legacies to various religious and charitable institutions of that city amounting in the aggregate to $890,000. His whole estate is estimated at $200,000.

The Boston papers say that the cargo of the ship Shooting Star, from Canton—6,000 packages of teas—was sold on Friday in thirty minutes.

Opposition to the Fugitive Slave Law.—The Pennsylvania Senate have passed a bill forbidding the use of their jails for the detention of fugitive slaves.

The papers of San Francisco are rejoicing that *clams* of extraordinary size have been discovered in their waters.

A number of Missionaries from the M. E. Church will sail for California on the 9th of April. Among them will be Rev. JAMES HUNTER, A. B. GIBBONS, ELIJAH MERCHANT, W. J. MACLAY, from the Baltimore Conference, J. SWANZEY, from the Pittsburgh do., and J. D. BLAINE, from the New Jersey Conference. JOHN DILLON, of the Ohio Conference, goes out at the same time for Oregon.

The Oswego Journal states that there are fifteen flouring mills located in or near that place. Together they have 72 [illegible] capable of grinding 7,075 barrels of flour daily. Last year fourteen of these mills turned out 518,225 barrels. Many of the mills on the west side were not in operation during the entire season, hence the smallness of the yeardy business when compared with their capacity. Besides allowing room for their business, these mills with the buildings attached, can store 58,209 barrels of flour and 555,000 bushels of wheat.

EBB TIDE.—During the Jenny Lind mania, when concert tickets rose from fifty cents, to ten, fifteen, twenty, and two hundred dollars a piece, prices in a variety of other matters rose in like proportion. All the hotels, during this mania, increased their board and charges, some from $1 to $2, and some from $1 50 to $2 50. Since then, however, we believe all are returning to their senses. Concert tickets are down to fifty cents again, and some to twenty-five cents. All the principal hotels are coming down also. The Irving House and other hotels—all beginning to run over—are at their old figure again—£2 a day and no questions asked.—*N. Y. Herald.*

Louis Napoleon and the English Press.—LORD JOHN RUSSELL, in a speech delivered by him before his resignation as Prime Minister, expressed the deliberate opinion that it was the violence of the English press that rendered the Peace of Amiens of short duration and involved England and France in the most bloody hostilities that ever mangled the face of Europe; that a temperate discussion and negotiation between the two countries might have prevented the calamity of war, but that the language of the press at that time was such that it embittered all negotiation and prevented the continuance of peace.

In the British House of Lords the present Prime Minister, LORD DERBY, has expressed himself with equal emphasis on this general subject. The vituperation which had been poured upon LOUIS NAPOLEON by British journals had been uttered in full view of the fact that the existing state of government in France has been acquiesced in by the French almost with unanimity; that the extraordinary powers exercised by the French President have been conferred upon him by the almost unanimous expression of the popular opinion of France; and that the title by which he holds his power—that of the declared and expressed will of the people of France—is entitled to profound respect. In connection with this view his Lordship went on to say:

"My lords, I will go further, and I will say that I firmly believe that the French President personally is fully disposed to entertain friendly relations and to maintain a pacific policy toward other nations. [Cheers.] But, my lords, I think if any thing could divert him from that course—if he were a man likely to be worked upon by his own personal feelings—if any thing were likely to divert from that course of policy which I believe his inclination and his sense of the interests of France are likely to make him take, it would be the injudicious, and I may add unjustifiable, language which has been made use of by a large portion of the public press of this county upon the character of the French Government and people. [Loud cheers from all parts of the house.]

"*If, as in these days, the press aspires to exercise the influence of statesmen, the press should remember that they are not free from the corresponding responsibility of statesmen.* [renewed cheers,] and that it is incumbent on them, as a sacred duty, to maintain that tone of moderation and respect, even in expressing frankly their opinions on foreign affairs, which would be required of every man who pretends to guide public opinion, and which is naturally expected from every man who does not seek to inflict the most serious evils upon his own country and others, (cheers;) and I say that it is more than imprudent, that it is more than injudicious, that it is more than folly, that it is perfect madness at one and the same time to profess a belief in the hostile intentions of a foreign country, and to parade before them the supposed inability of this country to defend itself, (cheers;) to magnify the resources of your supposed assailant, and to point out how easy would be the invasion, if not the subjugation, of this country, (though, thank God, the most violent have not yet spoken of subjugation;) but to speak of that invasion, accompanying it with details of the fearful amount of horror and bloodshed which, under any circumstances, must attend it, and then in the same breath to assail with every term of obloquy, of vituperation, and abuse, the public and private character of the man who wields that force which you say is irresistable. [Cheers.]

THE FRENCH ARMY.—The following is an extract from a letter of the Paris correspondent of the New York Journal of Commerce:—

On Saturday last, a French colonel of engineers, in whose facilities and opportunities of judgment touching all military concerns my confidence is implicit, passed an hour with me in earnest conversation, of which the substance was this: The French army does not desire war; promotions are frequent, general and fair; most of the officers are married; the superior are amply paid, and hold a social station equal to their wishes. In France, the soldiery possess every comfort and advantage; in Algeria, there is some hard service. The effective force falls short of formal official statements, and is much less than it is now represented to be, abroad. The subalterns and troops, though under the prestige of the glorious name of Napoleon, and now familiar with the idea and pretensions of the nephew, are still more under subjection to habits and ideas of discipline—that is, prompt, unlimited obedience to legal or regular command. They could not be brought, however, by any functionaries or authorities, military or civil, to fight against each other: no hostile array of the regiments is possible; but they will be ready and ever eager to put down popular disorders, whenever regularly ordered and led.

Civil war, therefore, in the ordinary sense, should not be apprehended: no mere mob will ever again prevail in the cities.

THOMAS STODDART, late sergeant in the Scots Greys, died in Edinburgh, Feb. 8th, aged 68 years. Deceased was present with his regiment at the battle of Waterloo, and took part in the brilliant charge when the greys dashed through the second line of the French column, and captured two eagles. After encountering and overcoming a French officer in single combat, he was surrounded by the enemy and covered with wounds. He was found next day among the dead and dying, but he nevertheless survived the memorable event nearly 37 years.

COLONEL JOHN MONTMORENCY TUCKER, late of her Majesty's Twenty-seventh Enniskillens, died on the 22d of February, at the Beneficent Asylum, Northfleet, Kent, aged seventy-two. Deceased distinguished himself in all the Peninsular wars, and at Waterloo, where he was seriously wounded.

MR. ROBERT GORE died at Prescott, England, Feb. 12th, at the age of 73. Deceased served with Lord Duncan in the memorable battle of Camperdown, on the 11th October, 1797, and with Sir H. Parker and Nelson in the expedition against the Danes in 1801.

KURLEANDER, the oldest of pianists, and probably of all musicians, died recently at Prague, aged 100 years.

FLAX COTTON.—By late advices from Europe, we learn that the Chevalier Claussen has succeeded in disposing of his patent for preparing flax cotton, as follows—

In France for	£50,000	Sterling.
" England,	50,000	"
" Ireland,	40,000	"
" Scotland,	25,000	"
" Belgium,	[illegible]	"
" Holland,	20,000	"
Total,	£205,000	

Equal to about 1,000,000 dollars, besides a royalty on all manufactured.

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY.

TUESDAY, March 30.

The Bill to continue the Act providing for the Inspection of Dry and Pickled Fish passed. The Bill to amend the Act for the protection of the Fisheries was committed on motion of Mr. Gray—the penalty for not providing fish way dams is increased to ten pounds—provides that fishwardens be paid from the Treasury altogether.—Messrs. Partelow and Street objected to the immense expense that this would entail on the Province; every County would require a warden. Mr. Hanington proposed that the salary should not exceed £80, and the whole not more than £360—this was agreed to at first, and disputed afterwards—then Mr. Johnston proposed an amendment to repeal the section of the former Bill relating to the Grand Manan herring Fishery—said his constituents complained of its operation—Mr. Harding seconded, arguing that the Bill excluded St. John fishermen from the fisheries—Mr. Wilmot took the same view. Mr. Partelow referred to the former action of the House—thought the present law acted rigorously. Messrs. Gray, Partelow and Fitzgerald opposed the amendment, alleging that protection to the spawning ground is essential to the fisheries—there was much argument—progress reported—the amendment will pass.

Now the vacating section has been expunged from the Bill appointing a Law Commission—the feeling against it appeared strong; the Attorney General did not much oppose it; Messrs. Partelow and Needham supported the withdrawal.

In supply—Grants passed to the Sheriffs of St. John, Albert, Gloucester, Restigouche and Queen's for election expenses.—£2,250 for the support of the Lunatic Asylum.—£700 to support the Tracadie Lazaretto.—£25 to Mrs. Collins, and several other grants.

Grants recommended by the Emigrant Committee passed. Several others passed—few rejected. £20 granted to W. H. Williams for a horse lost last winter. Nearly all the St. John School claims passed. Grant to John Murray, pilot, was rejected by a majority of one.

The Census returns were laid on the table.

The Governor came down and assented to the Railway and some other Bills.

The Scrutiny Committee reported—reviewed the evidence—gave an opinion that the conduct of the Registrar had been improper, but that false certificates had been obtained through misrepresentation by Chapman's agents—referred the question to the House. Consideration deferred till tomorrow.

In the Council the Temperance Bill passed by the following division—Yeas, Saunders, Kinnear, Brown, Harrison, Wark, Hill, Gilbert, Connell, Ryan, 9. Nays—Black, Botsford, Davidson, Hazen, Hamilton, Odell, Minchen, 7.

Albert Mining Company Incorporation Bill passed the Council after much opposition in committee, and on the third reading—gives the right of entry on certain conditions.

WEDNESDAY, March 31.

The bill to amend the act of incorporation of the European and North American Railway Company passed the house to-day by a vote of 18 to 16. When opposed, the Government members stated the objects of the Bill were to remove the objections to the passage of the Railway Bill in the Nova-Scotia Legislature, and to maintain the faith pledged to the Company. The Opposition argued that it was introduced merely to serve the purposes of Nova Scotia.

The House has ever since been engaged in the Scrutiny question, with closed doors—cannot say when it will terminate.

The School bill has passed the Council, also all the appropriations sent up from the house.

THURSDAY, April 1.

The House referred the decision of the Scrutiny case back to the Committee by a majority of one. Several propositions were made, such as to declare the seat vacant, &c., but none of them agreed to.

The House in Supply passed nearly all the grants to the teachers in Saint John, Light House appropriations, and various others.

Mr. Whitney's application for a return of Hospital dues was refused.—The Hacmatack Bill has been again rejected by the Council.

It is said the House will be prorogued on Thursday next.—Messrs. Needham and Johnston have obtained leave of absence.

FRIDAY, April 2.

A Bill to appropriate £2500 for cutting Grimross Canal was lost. An address to appropriate this amount out of money voted for the improvement of the River was proposed—consideration postponed.

House in supply, much time was spent in consideration of grants to the Fish Wardens in Charlotte.—£100 was voted for the erection of a Marine Hospital in Richibucto—no other appropriation of consequence.

The Scrutiny (Charlotte County) was adjourned till next session.

A bill to suspend the Saw Dust Law, Saint John, was introduced at a late hour by Mr. Taylor. Mr. Gray raised some objection, much was said about the lateness of its introduction—read a first time.

In reply to Mr. Montgomery relative to reciprocity and the bill before the Congress, the Attorney General replied, that the Government of this Province had not lost sight of this important subject—correspondence between His Excellency and the Governor General upon the subject had been going on during the Winter, and the moment the rumour of a bill to effect reciprocal trade with Canada being before Congress reached this place, a communication with the Governor General had been made urging the interest of this Province. Honourable members must however bear in mind that the Government of this Province had no power of holding official communication with the Authorities at Washington, this could only be done through the Governor General or the British Government, and also these negociations for reciprocal trade by the lower Provinces, would have to be based upon very different principles from those of Canada. As the concessions from Lower Provinces to the Americans, to effect this object, were widely different from those offered by Canada, and must not only be consented to by these Provinces, but by the British Government, which alone might make distinct Bills necessary in Congress. The Government however, have no official information of any bill upon the subject being yet introduced into Congress.

An address passed to inquire into the conduct of the Westmoreland County Registrar.—It is announced that the House will be prorogued on Wednesday next.

SATURDAY, April 3.

A suspending clause was added, on motion of Mr. Hanington, to the bill Incorporating the Hillsboro' Mining Company, when the amendments of the Council were read.—House now in supply—On motion of Hon. Mr. Partelow, £500 granted for Provincial Exhibition at Fredericton—17 to 9. It is supposed supply will close to-day.—I believe the Westmoreland Scrutiny Committee have determined to declare the seat vacant—they report on Monday.

Supply not ended—there was a long discussion on the grant to the exhibition—malpractices of Societies were exposed by Messrs. Cutler and English—£500 were voted. A Bill was afterwards introduced by the Attorney General to amend the Bill for the encouragement of Agriculture. £5000 were granted for the enlargement of the Lunatic Asylum, (to this there was but little opposition)—£2000 for the enlargement of the Penitentiary—£21 to Sheriff Johnston for extra election expenses.

£537 to the Queen's Printer, being amounts struck off from former accounts. £50 to each of the Reporters not employed by the House, and many other grants.

An abstract of the Census was ordered to be printed.

A Bill relative to a Mill reserve (Hon. John Robertson's) passed Committee.

MONDAY, April 5.

Supply closed—£547 to Mr. Simpson for Printing the Reports, £150 for the enlargement of the Emigrant Hospital, St. John; £1,100 the accounts of the Commissioner of Public Buildings—this includes the expense of the addition to the House, the fittings, Government-house repairs, &c. Grant to a wharf at Canning, Queen's county, and one in King's. Some to teachers passed. An application for £100 for the promotion of Temperance was rejected, also applications for Temperance Halls, &c.

Two distinct motions made by Mr. Earle, relative to cutting a canal at Grimross Neck were rejected. A resolution passed to give the use of the Province Buildings for the Exhibition. Resolutions were sent down from the Council to address the Queen, to allow an American steamboat to coast between Pictou and Quebec—not yet considered.

The Bill to extend Mr. Robertson's mill reserve passed the third reading on division. The bill to amend the Fishery bill passed—it is different from the original bill. Mr. Fitzgerald opposed it as making an assessment to pay the Fish-wardens compulsory.

The Saw-dust bill was moved by Mr. Taylor. The Attorney General proposed a Commission of Enquiry, in the mean time suspending the act. Messrs. Wilmot and Gray opposed this. Mr. Gray read the petition from the Corporation and accompanying certificates to prove the injury done to the harbour, and complained that the bill was brought in so late, when the members representing the Common Council were absent. Progress reported.

FREDERICTON, April 3.—The great business of the past week has been the appropriation of the money. St. John has obtained no trifling amount this Session, if you put to its credit the sums voted for the Asylum, £5,000, the Penetentiary £2,000, and the wharf at Reed's Point £2,000. But those are all provincial rather than local works. Partelow worked for these as he did for almost every other claim for Saint John, and it is perhaps in some measure owing to him that the money has been obtained so easily. People calculate and draw inferences from this, and many do not hesitate to assert that he will stand for St. John next election, and some say he will be elected.

The only bill of much importance passed this week, was that to amend the Portland Railway Charter. It was unquestionably introduced merely to serve the purposes of the Nova Scotia Government and aid them in getting their Railway Bill through their Assembly.

The Westmorland Scrutiny Committee report on Monday. They will adjudge the seat to be vacated, and a new election of course will follow immediately.—*Freeman.*

FATAL AND MELANCHOLY DISASTERS AT SEA.—The schr. Fairy, Locke, master, of Ragged Islands, sailed hence for Kingston, Jam., on the 7th Dec. last. On the 9th, two days after leaving Halifax, during a heavy North West gale, accompanied with thick snow, two of the crew, John Owens, Carpenter, of St. John, N. B., and Francis Wood, seaman, from Ireland, were washed overboard and lost. The Fairy having arrived at Kingston, 6th Jan., left on the 17th for Wilmington, North Carolina. On the passage to Wilmington, 15th Feb., a fearful storm of thunder and lightning occurred, when William Lloyd of London, and Cornelius Swim of Cape Island, Barrington, seamen, were seriously injured by the lightning, which also affected, but in a less degree, the Captain, Mate and steward.—*Halifax Recorder.*

AUSTRALIA.—Sydney advices to the 18th December had reached Liverpool. Provisions were exceedingly dear, though not scarce. Many places were quite deserted