PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY—FREDERICTON,

Wednesday, July 19.

LOCATION OF EMIGRANTS.

The House went into Committee of the whole, in further consideration of His Excellency's Messages.—Mr. Taylor in the Chair.

Mr. Speaker stated, that the principal object of now going into Committee was, to consider the Message of His Excellency relative to the English Emigrants lately arrived, and now in Fredericton. It appeared that those emigrants had been induced to come out to this country, under expectations that had not been realised; and they had therefore applied to the Executive for relief. Their demands certainly were not very high, and they did not appear to be in a destitute condition. He (Mr. Speaker,) did not think the Legislature could well grant them any money; and he supposed that the only way of relieving them would be, by authorising the Executive to locate them on some of the waste lands of the Crown, giving them a certain time to pay for the lands.

Mr. L. A. Wilmot thought that the Legislature should hold out some encouragement, to induce those people to remain in the country; they were a fine sturdy, healthy, robust, decent set of people, such as were seldom seen arriving as emigrants; and he would be very sorry to see them go away to the United States.—They were calculated to become valuable settlers, even if they had come with nothing in their pockets; because their health and industry were so much real capital brought into the country, which would be greatly benefitted by their productive labour. He (Mr. W.) thought the Lieutenant Governor should be authorised to locate them on crown lands; and if a small sum of money could be appropriated, to employ experienced persons to teach them how to go to work in the wilderness, and form a settlement, it would be a very excellent thing; much more advantageous than if money were distributed directly amongst them. The greatest disadvantage which such people coming to settle in this country was, they did not know where to begin; they knew nothing about setting to work in the wilderness; and therefore the employment of a few experienced woodsmen to instruct them would be a great benefit.

Mr. Brown approved very much of the suggestions of the hon. and learned member for York; and thought that his plan was the only way, in which the House could hold out encouragement to poor emigrants; but such a mode would render them useful both to themselves and the country. If located in such a manner, they would be a great acquisition to the Province. It should first be ascertained how many of them would be willing to settle in this manner; they should see the land, and then 2 or 3 experienced woodsmen should be appointed to take charge of and instruct them in their first proceedings, and then all their operations would be directed to advantage. But if they went upon new land without such direction and assistance, they might kill one another, in their inexperienced mode of using the broad axe and felling trees. The hon. member concluded, by describing all the process of clearing and settling wilderness lands.

Mr. J. M. Wilmot had understood that those people came out under the direction of the Nova Scotia and New Brunswick Land Company, expecting to receive land partially cleared, from that company; and if that land was good, they would do better by going there than by settling in the wilderness. It would never do to grant money directly to them; because that would be establishing a bad precedent. It was certainly very desirable to retain them in the country, if possible, but it was difficult to know what mode to adopt.

Mr. Hannington perfectly agreed with Messrs. L. A. Wilmot and Brown's propositions: these people were placed in special circumstances; they were a very useful and valuable class of persons, and the House were called upon to do something for them, to prevent them being imposed upon. He would therefore cheerfully go with such a plan as had been proposed; and he thought the revenue could not be better applied, than in promoting such objects; as he was convinced that these emigrants were such as would be useful to the country.

Mr. Speaker thought the Committee should be a little cautious on this question. If the House now granted a sum of money, to enable the Executive to locate those emigrants, it would be establishing a precedent, fr[illegible] they might afterwards be expected [illegible] valuable settlers; he thought the Irish emigrants were always the best settlers that came to the country; and he would like to see how these people had greater claims for assistance, than the poor Irish emigrants that were continually arriving without a penny in their pockets; for, certainly, they did not by any means appear to require aid as much as the Irish. He was not disposed, therefore, to grant money to people not in need: all emigrants had equal claims with them, and thousands had superior claims, from from being more in want. He thought that these people had no idea of settling on wilderness lands, to endure privations, because they had expected to be located by the land company; and why should the House make any distinction between them and any other classes of His Majesty's subjects arriving in the same way? He (Mr. Speaker) would wish them to be retained in the Province, if possible; but it would be unjust to make any invidious distinctions in their favour.

Mr. Partelow perfectly agreed, that all emigrants had equal claims, and that every facility should be given to all alike to enable them to settle in the country. But these people were peculiarly situated: they had come out, under promising expectations held out by the directors and agents of the Land Company, and had thus been induced to leave comfortable homes for this new country; and when they arrived, they found their expectations frustrated and the operations of the Company suspended; and therefore they had made a direct appeal to the Executive, for direction and relief. He (Mr. P.) therefore thought that something ought to be done to assist them; either by placing a sum of money at the disposal of the Executive, or by authorising His Excellency to locate them as had been proposed; certainly such a valuable class of settlers should be induced to remain in the country. No doubt, all emigrants had equal claims; but the great difficulty had always been, that poor emigrants on their arrival did not know to whom to apply. He (Mr. P.) thought that blocks of land should be laid out in different parts of the country, and placed under the controul of local boards of commissioners, who should be authorised to locate good settlers on certain terms thereupon. In the mean time, this was entirely a new question; the House were for the first time applied to, to make the experiment; and therefore he was inclined to go with the proposal that had been suggested, to hold out encouragement for the settlement of the country; and to follow it up hereafter, if successful, in a similar way.

Mr. L. A. Wilmot said, that he had some documents in his hand that would throw a little light on the matter.—[The hon. member here read copies of the following papers:—1. A circular address, published in England by the Land Company; holding out the most hyperbolical and extravagant inducements to persons to emigrate from Great Britain to this Province;—2. A certified copy of a Letter from one of the Company's Agents, relative to these emigrants;—3. A copy of the memorial of the emigrants themselves, to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, on finding their expectations disappointed on arriving here.] The memorial of the emigrants merely prayed His Excellency, to locate them on a tract of land, to be cleared and improved by them, and to be sold to them at as reasonable a rate as practicable, to be paid for by instalments within a given period; they required no pecuniary relief, but merely wanted a location, for which they were willing to pay and to work. They did not look for cleared farms, but were willing to go into the wilderness and settle the country. They did not come begging; their request was most reasonable, as they were ready to pay for their land by instalments. There would be no invidious distinction, in granting this mode of relief; every good settler should be encouraged; but these parties certainly had peculiar claims, they would become valuable settlers, and he (Mr. W.) hoped they would be assisted in the way they prayed.

Mr. Speaker replied, that if the hon. and learned member for York had favoured the Committee with the information which he had just communicated, a little earlier, he (Mr. Speaker,) would have been quite willing to accord with the views of these emigrants, as far as they had set them forth in their memorial; he had no objection to afford them assistance, in the way of a loan.

Mr. End was glad that the opposition to this proposed measure was withdrawn. No matter what countrymen these emigrants were, whether English, Irish or Scotch; nay, even if they were from any other country of Europe, if they intended to settle in the Province, they were entitled to consideration. He (Mr. E.) thanked the hon. Speaker for his good opinion of Irish settlers; but, as settlers, it should never be considered of what country emigrants were; if they were healthy, industrious, frugal and well conducted people, the House should shut their eyes against all kind of country predilections, and encourage them to become productive settlers. He had not seen those emigrants himself, but he had heard that they were clean, industrious, healthy people, and likely to become very valuable settlers; and he would therefore go cordially with any measure, to accord with the views of the Executive, in affording them relief. It was hardly fair to allude to the Land Company in this question; it was no matter to the Committee how these people had been deceived; if they had been so deceived the law of the land was open to them; but the question for the Committee to consider was, that if they were willing to become *bonâ fide* settlers and did not beg anything, the Committee should meet their views. They appeared to have some little capital with them, and they would no doubt be a useful acquisition to the country; and the Committee should now do something for them, which they would not hereafter be ashamed to look at as a precedent.—He (Mr. E.) had certainly long ago been very much surprised at the Land Company's advertisement in the Royal Gazette; he was astonished at its poetical and highly-coloured statements, as inducements for emigrants to come and settle on the Company's lands; and he was sorry that no person accustomed to writing for the press had ever done anything to expose the flaming descriptions in that document; for the whole concern was, in his opinion, the most Utopian scheme that had ever been projected.—He hoped the committee would now liberally and cordially respond to the humane call made upon them by the Executive.

Mr. Clinch said, that it could not be denied that these people had superior claims on the Legislature; it appeared, they were anxious to settle on lands and go to work; while it was well known that most of the emigrants to this country, and especially the Irish, came here only as a way to the United States; the best of them always went off, and the worst and most useless only remained. But these people were of a different class altogether, and it would be highly proper for the committee to meet their views. He had always been averse to any particular measures of such a kind, because they were so difficult to manage satisfactorily; and even what might be done now would be only matter of experiment. But still the experiment should be tried; and he thought there could not be a better plan than what had been already pointed out.

Mr. Weldon, after detailing the circumstances under which these Emigrants had reached Fredericton and found themselves disappointed, observed, that the present year was a peculiar one; it was a year of considerable distress, wages were low, business was greatly stagnated, and a variety of circumstances operated, to prevent these persons from advantageously scattering through the Province. They were therefore placed under very peculiar circumstances, and as they had applied for so very reasonable a kind of relief, he thought it would be as well to make the experiment; and there could be no better plan, than by placing a small sum at the disposal of the Executive, to be employed in locating them on waste lands, and letting them have the lands for a certain period, before any payment of the purchase money should be required. The assistance should be as a loan only, and not a gift; and altogether, he (Mr. W.) very much approved of the suggestions of the hon. and learned member for York (Mr. L. A. Wilmot,) and the hon. member for Charlotte (Mr. Brown.)—With this view of the case, therefore, he would move a resolution, to take the sense of the committee. The hon. member then moved a resolution, to the effect that, in the opinion of the committee, the emigrants in question should be located on Crown Lands, and no purchase money be required to be paid for — years; and that his Excellency should be authorised to expend a certain sum, not exceeding £—, towards locating them, in such a manner as his Excellency should deem advisable.

Mr. Speaker thought that the loan should be to the extent of the purchase money of the several lots of land; and that no grants should pass to the purchasers, till the money was repaid, otherwise there would be no security for the repayment.

Mr. Weldon replied, that the Executive would take care that the loans should be repaid, before passing any grants to the parties.

Mr. Street was well disposed to go with a resolution, to encourage such a class of emigrants, because it was the best mode of promoting the settlement of the country; but still the committee should take care [illegible] amount to get rid of. He thought this resolution required some alteration; because it must be remembered, that the seventh section of the remedial bill, passed yesterday, provided a peculiar mode of granting lands to poor settlers, to which this resolution was directly repugnant, because it went to give these people a larger time for payment than that bill would allow. He thought, therefore, it would be better to place a sum of money at the disposal of the Lieut. Governor, to enable his Excellency to locate the settlers, by allotting them lands and paying the first instalment for them as a loan; which would enable the Executive to effect the object, without infringing on the spirit of the remedial bill; and he considered that the Legislature should hold out every encouragement to facilitate the establishment of such valuable settlers in the Province. The hon. member concluded, by moving the following Resolution as an amendment:—

"*Resolved*, As the opinion of this Committee, that a sum not exceeding £ , should be placed at the disposal of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, to be by him applied towards locating upon wilderness lands in this Province, the Emigrants recently arrived in this country from the north of England, and now in Fredericton, in such manner as His Excellency shall deem most advisable to effect the above object."

Considerable discussion followed this motion, some hon. members maintaining that the original resolution would not infringe on the provisions of the remedial bill, because that bill was not yet passed by the other branches, and therefore had not become a law; while others contended, that as there was no doubt that it shortly would become a law, and as the Civil List Bill, which allowed only the auction system, actually was a law, the amendment would be better than the original resolution; and finally, as all appeared to wish to afford the relief pruyed for, in the best and most effectual manner, Mr. Weldon withdrew his resolution, and Mr. Street's was agreed to without a division, and the blank filled with "£200."

The committee then took up the Message of His Excellency, relative to the pecuniary relief he had been requested by petition to grant, and had afforded to the distressed inhabitants of Madawaska.

Mr. L. A. Wilmot moved a resolution, to the effect, that, under the peculiar circumstances of the case, the House would make provision to indemnify his Excellency, at the next Session.

Mr. End said, that he believed the usual mode acted on by the Executive, and especially by Sir Howard Douglas, in cases of a similar nature, was to call the Council together, and to issue a warrant under their advice; but, although that course had not been pursued in the present instance, yet he thought the emergency of the case was quite sufficient to justify the steps taken by His Excellency, Sir John Harvey. The dictates of humanity were paramount to all other considerations; and, admiring His Excellency's prompt and efficient compliance with the prayer of the petitioners, he (Mr. E.) cheerfully supported the resolution; and hoped the committee would equally approve this auspicious commencement of his Excellency's administration, and view it as a happy omen of the ready attention which would be paid by the Executive, to the true interests as well as to the necessities of all classes of His Majesty's subjects in this Province.

The resolution was then agreed to; and the chairman reported progress and the resolutions, &c.

Friday, July 21.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, &c.

The House, on motion of Mr. L. A. Wilmot, went into Committee, in further consideration of the Messages of His Excellency, and the Dispatches communicated thereby.—Mr. Taylor in the Chair.

Mr. L. A. Wilmot said, that it would perhaps be superfluous to make any lengthy observations on the present occasion; the Resolutions to be submitted would speak for themselves, and if any hon. members had any objections to make to them, they could state them as the resolutions were brought forward. The hon. member then moved the following Resolution:

"*Resolved*, as the opinion of this Committee, that the House should entertain a deep feeling of gratitude towards the Right Honourable Lord Glenelg, for the highly gratifying manner in which His Lordship has been pleased to express His Majesty's approbation of their proceedings on the subject of the differences which had unfortunately arisen, respecting the enactment of the Civil List Bill; and for the promptness with which the numerous and unimportant objections, advanced by the Executive of the Province against the completion of this measure, were disposed of by His Lordship."

The Resolution being seconded by Mr. Jot[illegible] was agreed to, without debate.

Mr. Partelow, then moved the second resolution, which is as follows:

"*Resolved*, as the opinion of this Committee, that as very great discretionary powers are vested in the Lieutenant Governor and Executive Council, by Act for the support of the Civil Government of this Province, that Council should be composed of persons possessing the confidence of the country, and those, a majority of whom have evinced a decided hostility to the principles of the late important amendment."

Mr. End asked how hon. members were to make up their minds, as to whether Executive Councillors possessed the confidence of the country or not—Was it to be by popular election, or by what other mode? For his part, he (Mr. E.) had not the least doubt, that if any of the present Executive Councillors were to go through the country, to obtain votes for a seat in the Assembly, he would come into so that House with as large a majority as any hon. member present had ever had. ["No—no—no;" from various members.] Oh! but yes, yes, yes! He was quite confident of it, and he would unhesitatingly assert it. Did not the petitions of last Session, against the 5th Section of the Civil List Bill, shew it; and how were those petitions received? Were they neglected with contempt, and were not parties commented on and villified, about getting them up, although they had nothing to do with it? That very system that those petitions complained of,—the auditors of them,—was it not to be perpetuated by the House, and did not the people petition strongly against it? And yet hon. members talked about people having, and not having, the confidence of the country; the people would say, that they did not know what the confidence of the country meant: how they were to ascertain it? But the fact was, some of those Councillors had sacrificed their selves for the public service, particularly the Provincial Secretary, and the House could not pick on Mr. his character, try as long as they would. He (Mr. E.) was totally against this resolution, believed it; heartily and conscientiously disbelieved its truth.

Mr. Street said, that it was unfair to bring on the resolutions, that had not previously been laid on the table for general information; it was not a usual mode of proceeding; it was taking hon. members by surprise; it was not a dignified mode of legislating; it was not parliamentary. It would have been fair and just, that the resolutions should have lain on the table for a day or two; especially as important as they impugned the conduct of persons, holding important situations. But the house were suddenly called into committee, and these resolutions were brought forward on the spur of the moment, without having been made known in the house. He (Mr. S.) did not approve of this resolution; he did not believe it contained truth; it said, that the majority of the Executive Council were hostile to the principle of the Civil List Bill. He did not believe they were so; and if hon. members would look at the objections that had been laid before His Majesty's Government—if they would divest themselves of all bias and party feeling, they could not lay their hand on their heart and say, that those objections had arisen from any disinclination to oppose the principle of that measure. The country were indebted to the Executive, and it was a most fortunate thing that those objections had been brought under the notice of the Government. When before the Civil List Bill was passed into a law, objections they considered the manner in which those objections had been replied to, it might reasonably be believed, that if they had not been brought forward, they might have given rise to much trouble hereafter. It was not fair, because the Executive felt it to be their duty to express their sentiments, that hon. members should say that they were not actuated by the same patriotic motives that the house were urged by: if they were actuated by a sense of duty, even if their judgment were wrong, it was not fair to pass a censure on them, as there was nothing to justify the house believing that they were influenced by anything but just and proper motives. He (Mr. S.) firmly believed, that the Executive were actuated by motives as pure and patriotic as ever pervaded the breast of any member of that house. It manifested a party feeling, disgraceful to any hon. member, to pass a censure in that way; it was putting the worst constructions on the motives of parties; and he (Mr. S.) did not believe that any disinterested man could possibly [illegible] which tended to carry with it a violent reflection on the conduct of the Executive: he believed that His Majesty's Government were fully satisfied of the uprightness of their conduct; and he knew that they had expressed, in the most explicit terms, a conviction that the late Lieutenant Governor and his advisers had been actuated by a high sense of duty, and from the purest and best of motives. It was therefore neither fair nor just to pass such a censure on them as this. The resolutions passed under an excited state of feeling last winter, were anything but justified and approved by Lord Glenelg; on the contrary, in the most unequivocal manner, his Lordship had expressed a hope that the house would, as an act of justice, do away with them; and they ought to do so; but instead of that, they were now going to pass another resolution, confirming them; they were alluding to old matters, that had all been settled, and that ought now to go to sleep and be buried. Such a mode of proceeding was treating the Colonial Minister with disrespect; that Minister had heard the whole story on both sides, and had every information on the subject; and after due and deliberate consideration of the whole matter, he had said that he differed in opinion with the Executive, but was satisfied that they had acted from pure and proper motives. If the house did not now, then, think proper to do away with the former resolutions, they might at least say no more on the subject, and bring forward no further censures. However, he (Mr. S.) apprehended no evil result from such proceedings, because they would have no effect; but still they ought not to be passed at all; it was incorrect, and this resolution did not contain truth on the face of it.

Mr. Partelow was not at all surprised, that the two hon. and learned members who had last spoken opposed the resolution; but what was that resolution? It was a mere reiteration of the deliberate consideration and decision of the house, as expressed by a majority of 26 to 2, in February last: their opinions since then were not at all changed; although the late Lieutenant Governor had left the Province, yet the Executive Council remained as they were, and therefore the same difficulty existed as then. The house declared on that occasion, that the majority of those Councillors did not possess the confidence of the country; affairs were unchanged in that respect; there was nothing in this resolution contrary to that declaration; and all the objections raised by the Executive, and especially by their delegate, the Solicitor General, had been entirely overthrown by the Colonial Minister; and therefore he (Mr. P.) threw back the charge of party feeling and interested motives in the teeth of the hon. and learned member for Northumberland, (Mr. Street,) to whom such a charge would much more correctly apply, considering his intimate connection with the Executive Council. That hon. member should certainly have evinced a little more delicacy than he had, in this debate, after having seen every position taken by his brother, the Solicitor General, substantially declared by the Colonial Minister to be frivolous and vexatious. The house, therefore, certainly ought to reiterate the expression of their feelings as to the Executive Council; and he (Mr. P.) for one, never would have consented to the passing of the Civil List Bill, if he had not been satisfied that His Majesty would make a very essential alteration in that Council. There was no doubt that this resolution would pass; and as to its not having been previously submitted to every hon. member, it was a mere reiteration of what had been deliberately recorded by the house last session; there was nothing new in it; and if, therefore, the hon. and learned member for Northumberland objected to its tenor, why did he not try the strength of the house by offering an amendment?

Mr. Street replied, that if any hon. member had ever evinced a want of delicacy, it was the hon. member who had just sat down; and that hon. member's observations, in alluding to him (Mr. S.) and his brother, were indelicate in the extreme. He (Mr. S.) had alluded to no particular person; he had spoken generally; he had made no personal allusions; therefore, he again said, that that hon. member's observations on the Solicitor General were indelicate in the extreme; and even were he to say "ungentlemanly," he should not be far out of the way; they were certainly very unhandsome.

Mr. End said, that if his hon. and learned friend had been as long in the House as he (Mr. E.) had, he would not have been surprised on the present occasion. The more important resolutions were, the more hastily they were adopted; and the celebrated Committee of Grievances was a case in point; on that occasion, a long string of resolutions was brought in and adopted instantaneously, and it was no uncommon case. The minority had not been actually imprisoned yet; but it was all but that; they had met with every other indignity. He (Mr. E.) indeed, was tired of complaining of such treatment. As to the observations about persons being brothers; he would ask the hon. member for St. John, whether he really believed, that hon. members were influenced by such feelings, in that House? Why did not this overwhelming majority do, as they would wish to be done by? Why would they not give other people credit for discharging their duty with impartiality, as well as assume it for themselves? But it had been said, that the House last winter passed certain resolutions, and therefore they must now take them up again; but why were the House not equally consistent in all things? A few years ago, they voted that the auction system of disposing of crown lands and timber was burdensome and impolitic; and their resolutions then in the strongest possible terms deprecated that system; but the House were not called on to act consistently on that subject; that was not the kind of consistency that was palatable.—However, it was of no use to talk; hon. members could do no more than complain; they certainly had not been treated with that consideration which a minority were entitled to; but he (Mr. E.) was not surprised at it.

(*Remainder of this debate next week.*)

Saturday, July 22.

MR. BAILLIE.

Mr. Weldon moved the following resolution, observing, that it was rendered necessary in consequence of the impossibility of going into committee on His Excellency's last Message, at so late a period of the session:—

"*Resolved*, That the House will take into consideration, at an early day the next session, the Message of his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor of the 20th instant, with the documents accompanying the same."

The hon. member also said, that the documents respecting Mr. Baillie's explanations to Lord Glenelg contained expressions relative to the House of Assembly, which would require observation from the House; and therefore this motion was necessary.

Mr. L. A. Wilmot seconded the motion; observing, that it was a matter of prudence that the House should let the matter stand over till the next Session, till they could feel cool on the subject; for he (Mr. W.) must say, that there were such low, gross and abominable reflections on the House in those documents, as must call forth their honest indignation. He was really sorry, for Mr. Baillie's own sake, that he had suffered himself to record such expressions on paper, and he had no doubt that he (Mr. B.) would repent it before long, when his warmth of feeling had subsided, and he could calmly reflect on what he had written. But it was the bounden duty of the House to take notice of those documents, and to reply to such shameful charges and reflections.

The Resolution was then adopted, without further remark.

At half-past 12 P. M. precisely, His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor arrived in state at the Province Building; and the House of Assembly being summoned to attend His Excellency in the Council Chamber, the House attended accordingly, when Mr. Speaker addressed his Excellency in the following brief Speech:—

"*May it please Your Excellency,*—

"The Assembly, since the Bill for the support of the Civil Government became a law, proceeded to the consideration of such other measures, as appeared to be necessary in consequence of that highly important enactment.

"They have also passed—

"A Bill to appropriate a part of the Emigrant Fund for the purposes therein mentioned.

"A Bill to provide for the relief of Poor Emigrants in the town of St. Andrews, in the county of Charlotte.

"A Bill to alter and amend an Act, entituled "An Act to provide for opening and repairing Roads throughout the Province."

"These Bills I now present to your Excellency, in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty's faithful and loyal subjects, the Commons of New-Brunswick; and I pray your Excellency's assent to the same."

His Excellency was then pleased to give his assent to the said Bills, and to all the other Bills passed this session; after which, his Excellency addressed the two Houses in the following admirable Speech, which he delivered with the most emphatic clearness of enunciation, and evidently with the most heartfelt cordiality:—

Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council;

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly;

"My thanks, and in my opinion, those of the Province, are due to you for the alacrity with which you assembled for the performance of your Legislative duties at this unusual and inconvenient season of the year, for the zeal and assiduity with which you have attended to those duties, and above all for the spirit of harmony and unanimity in which they have been conducted.

"Upon the successful result of your joint labours, as regards the public interests, I offer you and the Province my sincere congratulations, to which permit me to add the expression of an earnest hope, that the great object by which the minds of the inhabitants of this Colony have been so long engaged, having been brought to so satisfactory a conclusion, any feelings of irritation which may have connected themselves with the discussions to which it has given rise, may now subside, and mutual good will, whenever that feeling may have been unhappily interrupted, be renewed and re-established betwixt all classes of His Majesty's subjects in this Province.

"In now releasing you from further attendance upon your Legislative duties, I beg to assure you that I look forward with the utmost confidence and satisfaction to again meeting you, in your Legislative capacities, at the period usually appointed for that purpose, or whenever the interests or the exigencies of the public service may appear to me to render it expedient to call for your advice and assistance.

"In the mean time, I do not allow myself to doubt that those sentiments of loyalty to the King and of unshaken attachment to British connexion, for which the People of this Province have always been distinguished, will be (if possible) strengthened by feelings of gratitude for the recent proofs which His Majesty has given them of his paternal regard and solicitude for their welfare."

The Assembly was then prorogued, in the usual form, to the third Tuesday in September next.

Communication.

MR. CAMERON.—It seems that the "*Traveller*" is determined to have the last word, right or wrong, and in the last Courier, with his usual disregard to truth, he has given us another specimen of his *able* composition. He says he was not aware that Mr. Mather had obtained his License till he saw it so stated in my communication, and therefore I must be "*convinced of the error of my ways, and the truth of his statement.*"—Can it be possible that any person could have the effrontery to come forward and state such a thing to the public, when by referring to the communications they must be convinced of the utter fallacy of his assertions;—neither can I believe he is a Magistrate, as he has stated, or he would be more consistent with truth and justice.

I am sir, &c. A MAGISTRATE.

Kingston, July 20, 1837.

THE OBSERVER.

ST. JOHN, TUESDAY, JULY 25, 1837.

The English June Mail arrived in this City by the steamer Gazelle from Windsor, on Thursday last, dates to the 8th of the month.—In addition to a variety of extracts in the fourth page of this paper, we subjoin several paragraphs selected from various papers in our possession.

The 18th anniversary of the birth of the Princess Victoria, the day on which she attained her majority, was celebrated with great splendour in the metropolis and throughout the United Kingdom. In London many of the shops were closed in honor of the day, the poor were fed with roast beef and plum-pudding, and in the evening the city was brilliantly illuminated.

A splendid Ball was given at St. James' Palace by their Majesties.

His Majesty, who had been seriously ill, was convalescent. The Queen's health is stated to be perfectly re-established.

There was a splendid ball at the King's Theatre on the evening of the 1st of June, for the benefit of the Spitalfield weavers, at which the Princess Augusta, the Duchess of Kent, the Princess Victoria, and other members of the royal family, attended. The ball was extremely splendid. The number of persons who were present was described as being some thousands. The supper and refreshments, as well as the music, were supplied by the King.

The London banking houses of Wilde, Wilson, and Wiggin had actually stopped payment.

The liabilities of the houses of Wiggin, Wilson & Wildes, are reduced to £2,100,000 in the proportion of 6, 9, and £600,000 each. They owe besides to the Bank, one million and a quarter, advanced on security.—*Globe, translated.*

A party of thirty gentlemen on the 1st of June made an experimental excursion from Liverpool on the Grand Junction rail road to Birmingham. On their return they travelled from Wolverhampton to Liverpool, a distance of 83 miles, in 4 hours 50 minutes, including stops amounting to an hour and a half; the time occupied in travelling being less than three and a half hours.

According to an official report lately made in France to the Minister of the Interior, it appears that the number of English people residing in France is equal to 60,000, viz. in Paris between 24 and 25,000, in Havre, Caen, &c. 4000, Versailles, St. Cloud, &c., 3000, Bordeaux, Bayonne, Thoulouse, &c. 6000, &c. Admitting that each person spends an average amount of 5 francs per day, the annual sum spent by domiciled English in France, is equal to £4,370,000 sterling annually.

The London Standard says, according to the last quarterly return in the Gazette, the bullion of the Bank of England amounted to £4,423,000 sterling. It had increased in the last quarter.

The King has munificently given £6000 for the promotion of Education in the Highlands of Scotland.

Irish Coercion Act.—On Thursday, Mr. Sharman Crawford moved the repeal of this act, as arbitrary and now unnecessary. Lord Morpeth regretted that he could not accede to the motion, though he admitted that the act was at present a dead letter, for the government had not found it necessary to enforce its provisions. He thought it advisable to let it run out the term for which it was passed—namely, five years from 1835. Mr. Crawford divided the House on his motion, which was rejected by 87 to 5.

Dreadful Explosion of the Union steamer.—The following letter, dated Hull, June 7, was received at Lloyd's this morning:—

"This morning at six o'clock, as the Union was ready to leave here for Gainsborough, crowded with passengers, the boiler exploded. The vessel was blown into a thousand pieces and sunk in the Dock Basin. Many of the passengers were killed, a considerable number seriously injured, and I am afraid many more drowned."

A private letter received in the City states that "six persons only, out of 160 on board, were saved." We hope that this melancholy statement will prove to be considerably exaggerated.

We have been put in possession of the following particulars by a gentleman who arrived in town this morning by the Lincoln mail:—

"One of the Hull and Gainsborough steam packets was blown up yesterday morning with a dreadful crash; the tops of the boiler and chimney were thrown a great distance from the vessel; one man was blown above 100 yards, and fell on the top of a house; a female also fell near the same spot, and others in different directions—some with their brains dashed out, and some with their limbs dreadfully mutilated. Eleven were found dead, and many so much injured that life was despaired of. The accurate extent of lives lost could not be ascertained till low water, but it was apprehended that it would prove very severe, as great numbers were below in the cabin at the time of the explosion."

The marriage of the Duke of Orleans with a Protestant Princess has already produced some of its fruits; the Protestants, relying upon so powerful a support at the Palace, entertain hopes of crushing ere long the Catholic religion. Their manœuvres in different devices have excited the attention of the Bishops. We have only to remind our readers of the complaints of the Bishops of Arras and Perpignan. The Archbishop of Tours and the Bishop of Grenoble have cautioned their flocks against the snares laid for them. The Archbishop of Amasis, Administrator of the diocese of Lyons, has just addressed a pastoral letter to the curates for the purpose of informing them of the efforts made at the present moment to revive and spread among the people the doctrines of the pretended reformation. The Bishop exorted the pastors of the towns and villages to redouble their care and vigilance to counteract the subversive attempts.—*L'Europe.*

Letters from Dresden, says a late Paris paper, represent the emigration to the United States of America, as increasing to a frightful degree. It is not families of small means, which are mostly absorbed in the expenses of the voyage, that are going, but rich landed proprietors are selling their estates to go and seek a new country in a new world. Frequently persons of seventy years old are seen with these caravans.

A paragraph from the Greek Courier, describing the improvements made in Athens, states that the population exceeds 18,000 souls.

England takes from France every year no less than a million and a half pairs of Gloves.

The Legislative Session was closed on Saturday last. The Speech of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, with the other proceedings on the occasion, will be found in a preceding column.—The "Bill for the support of the Civil Government in this Province," (being an exact copy of the Bill for the same purpose passed last session,) received His Excellency's assent on Monday the 17th instant, and is now a law of the land.—A number of other Bills were passed during the session, a full list of which we have not been able to obtain.

The passing of the Civil List Bill by His Excellency, was celebrated by the inhabitants of Fredericton, on the evening of the 17th, by an enormous *bon fire, a feu de joie* by the Rifle company, and other demonstrations of public gratification.

We hear that the 85th Regiment is understood to be held in readiness at Halifax, to proceed into this Province should circumstances render it necessary.

Robberies.—Several daring Robberies have recently been committed in this city, for the depredators of one of which a handsome reward is offered—(see Mr. Malcolm's advertisement in this paper.)—In addition to the robbery of Mr. Malcolm's dwelling house, in Princess-street, we learn that Mr. Berryman's house in the same street, and Mr. R. Welsh's shop in Germain-street, have also been broken into within a few nights past. Mr. Berryman was fortunate enough to get hold of the rascal, and gave him a good thrashing. Several articles were stolen from Mr. Welsh's premises.—Magistrates and citizens should be on the look out for the rogues, and if possible bring them to punishment.

The Legislature of Lower Canada is, by Proclamation of Lord Gosford, summoned to meet for the dispatch of business on the 18th of August next.

It is stated in the latest American papers that a law has been passed by the Legislature of Upper Canada, authorizing a suspension of specie payments by the Banks of that Province, till 30 days after the opening of the next session of Parliament in winter.

By the Act 6th Wm. 4th, Cap. xxv., any person or persons guilty of disorderly riding or horse racing upon any *street or highway in this Province*, are punishable by fine not exceeding Five Pounds, or in default of payment, by imprisonment not exceeding twenty days.

Last evening, the 24th instant, a young Man was fined, agreeably to the above Act, before Alderman Porter, on complaint of His Worship the Mayor, for disorderly riding on the Marsh Road in the Parish of Portland.

This is published to prevent others from offending in like manner.—*Communicated.*

SPECIE.—The British government, purchased 120,000 silver dollars in New York, for the payment of the troops in Canada; which came up in the steamboat North America last night.—*Albany Evg. Jour.*

BANK OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.—We learn this useful Institution has already been of signal benefit to these Colonies. Owing to the stoppage of the great American Banking Houses in London, a large amount of Bills drawn by the Canada Banks, and by two of the Chartered Banks in this City, were refused payment. The moment the Directors of the Bank of British North America found such to be the case, they, for the credit of the Colonies, immediately stepped forward and relieved the protested Bills.

We understand the Manager for the Halifax Branch is already there, and that the Officers for the Branch in this City are on their way out.—*Courier.*

From the Royal Gazette, July 19.

CIVIL APPOINTMENTS.

John A. S. Street, Esquire, King's Counsel.
Neville Parker, Esquire, do.
William B. Kinnear, Esquire, do.
Edward B. Chandler, Esquire, do.
Lemuel A. Wilmot, Esquire, do.

Captain Bayfield, R. N., in the *Gulnare*, has commenced his Surveying operations in the Bay Chaleur and neighbouring waters.—*Halifax Telegraph.*

Petition against the Timber Duties.—Last week we published the proceedings of a public meeting for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of petitioning the Legislature against the high price of the duty on timber, &c. and stated that the Petition which we then published, was being conveyed through the County for signatures. J. T. Williston, Esq. one of the Delegates appointed at the meeting to convey the same to Head Quarters, left here on Thursday morning with the Petition, which during the short period of only three days, obtained from 1800 to 2000 signatures.—*Miramichi Gleaner.*

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT.—*An accident of a truly melancholy nature, happened at the Steam Mill, Chatham, Saturday morning last.—Two lads, George Fry aged 15, and John Kelly, aged 17 years, which [illegible] it is supposed, near one of the shafts connected with crossent saws, the clothes of the former became entangled thereon, and on finding this to be the case, he clasped Kelly in his arms, when both were whirled round in the machinery. Ford must have met with an instantaneous death; as his head at every revolution of the shaft came in contact with one of the beams of the building, and the other lad was dreadfully maimed and bruised. The physicians were in immediate attendance, and in the course of the day, it was found necessary to amputate Kelly's right leg, at the thigh. He now lies in a very precarious state, with but slight hopes of his recovery.*

An inquest was held on the body of the first named unfortunate youth, before M. Cranney, Esq. one of the Coroners of the County, when a verdict of Accidental Death was returned.—Miramichi Gleaner.

HALIFAX, JULY 19.

His Majesty's Ship Cornwallis, Vice Admiral the Hon. Sir Charles Paget, G. C. H., Captain Sir Richard Grant, arrived here on Sunday afternoon from Portsmouth, via Madeira and Bermuda. Immediately after the Ship was anchored, Sir Charles landed, paid his respects to Admiral Sir Peter Halkett, Bart., and then returned on board. They will come on shore with Lady Paget, and Miss Paget, by whom he has been accompanied [illegible] country, and take possession of the Admiralty [illegible]

At half-past eleven this forenoon, Admiral Sir Peter Halkett, Miss Halkett, and Lieut. and [illegible] kett, embarked on board of His Majesty's [illegible] villo, which Vessel sailed at one o'clock this afternoon with a fine fair wind.

We are informed that S. N. Binney, Esq. has been appointed Manager of the Colonial Bank, and that the Cashier may be expected by the next [illegible]

Lower Canada.—There have been numerous meetings in Lower Canada recently, to protest against the proceedings of the English Government.—[illegible] is the leader of the people. They have a [illegible] jority in the elective branch of the Provincial Legislature, but this majority is constantly thwarted by the Legislative Council, the members of which are appointed by the King, and have concurrent [illegible] jurisdiction. The excitement is daily increasing [illegible] the radical party, as they are called, composed principally of French Canadians, and led by Mr. P[illegible] a popular orator, begin to talk openly of raising the standard of Revolution, and applying to the United States for aid: and they may get such aid if the British do not soon give up our territory.—*Kennebec Journal.*

Central Asia.—We have seen a letter from an English gentleman at Bagdad, dated in the latter part of January, 1837. From it we learn that Col. Chesney had proceeded to Bombay to induce the friends of the Euphrates steam navigation to construct several boats of different sizes, adapted to the depth of water in different parts of the river. Col. C. is yet sanguine in respect to the final success of the enterprise. The English gentlemen are prosecuting their researches in that interesting country in all directions. An exceedingly minute and accurate survey of the ruins of Babylon has just been made. One party had surveyed the Tigris and the rivers which fall into it between Bagdad and Mosul; another were proceeding across the Syrian desert to Aleppo; while a third were preparing for a tour to Kurdistan, to the Chaldean Churches, and to the sources of the Euphrates and Tigris. Col. Taylor, the British resident, is a gentleman every way qualified to do honor to science and to the English name. It is apprehended that the British influence is on the wane in Persia, while that of the Russians is augmenting. The expedition of the Persian king against the rebellious province of Herat is likely to fail in consequence of the immense number of soldiers collected, no provision having been made for their subsistence.—*Biblical Repository.*

MARRIED,

On Monday se'n