

The Standard,

Vol. 15

No. 7

OR FRONTIER AGRICULTURAL & COMMERCIAL GAZETTE.

Price 12s 6d in Advance ST. ANDREWS, N. B. WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1848. [15s at the end of the Year]

Fredericton Correspondence.—Letter from JACK ROBINSON.

Fredericton, 5th February, 1848.
Ma. Editor.—Many of the most weighty matters of the Session yet remain untouched. There is an unusual number of messages, Despatches, Reports, and Petitions, received and either laid on the table, or referred for consideration to various Committees. Among the Despatches those which relate to Emigration are perhaps the most important. They are very voluminous, and not only contain much valuable information, but also many prudent suggestions for the adoption of measures to prevent the sudden influx of paupers and diseased persons, and hold out a reasonable hope that a fair share of the heavy expenses of the last year will be borne by the Imperial Treasury. These Despatches were, of course, highly satisfactory, and the House immediately passed a Bill, which had been prepared by the Executive Council, in accordance with the suggestions before mentioned. By this Bill the head money is doubled in all cases, and trebled if the vessel arrive after the first of October. An additional sum is imposed if there be sickness on board, and the vessel is made liable for the whole. This, it is presumed, will induce the Ship owners to take none but healthy persons on board, and to take good care of them afterwards. Next in importance perhaps, is a message containing information from the Surveyor General on the survey and disposal of the Crown lands and forests, in which are many judicious remarks on the opening of Roads and the gradual settlement of the country. There are Despatches relating to several contemplated Rail Roads—to the completion of the Bay of Fundy survey—suggesting amendments in various enactments of the last Session—the whole correspondence connected with the intended Training and model schools &c. Among the numerous Reports of various Commissioners appointed under the addresses of the House last Session, that of Doctor's Wilson and Bayard, who were appointed to visit the Lazaretto and Lepers on Sheldrake Island, will be read with interest. It has been published in the daily Journals, and in a plain, sensible manner, seems to set forth a very fair share of professional knowledge.

Among the Petitions presented, there are some calling for compensation for expenses sustained in the suppression of riots on the 12th of July last. One of these presented by Mr. Tibbets of Carleton brought up one of the most exciting debates of the present Session. There is a select Committee appointed to report on that part of the Governor's Speech which refers to those riots, and from the hints thrown out in this debate, it would seem to be the opinion of some members that the party animosities which have unfortunately, for several years, been increasing in this Province, were now beginning to subside; and that it was therefore bad policy to mention them at all: on the other hand it was affirmed, that many murders and other violent and lawless acts were connected with this unfortunate matter, and that to pass it over in silence would be impossible—that it was moreover the bounden duty of the House to investigate this fearful subject calmly and impartially, with a view to ascertain whether any special preventive measures were really necessary, and if so, what those measures should be. There was no decision, but from what appeared it was pretty certain that there will be some difference of opinion among the members should this exciting matter become the subject of investigation. Connected with this is a notice of motion to call on the Governor for any correspondence which may have been carried on with him on the subject during the recess.

The expected set-to on the subject of Political Economy between the advocates of free trade and protection has not yet come to pass. Indeed it is yet impossible to tell to what extent the House will be allowed to impose differential duties, or whether they will be allowed to do so at all.

There are two Despatches entered on former Journals peremptorily forbidding the Governor to pass any Revenue Bill containing differential duties, and there is no formal reply of those instructions; besides, it is very clear that if every Colonial Assembly in the Empire assume the power of imposing differential or prohibitory duties on articles of foreign importation, they will completely thwart the Imperial Government in every attempt to settle the commercial treaties with foreign nations, so far as the trade with the Colonies is concerned.

The Revenue for the last year was £127410 and a few thousands above the estimate made by the Committee of Finance. The receipts and expenditures of the year were however within about £900 of each other—that is if the Imperial Government refund the balance of the Emigrant Bill. These facts show up the absurd and unfounded statements and misrepresentations set forth in some of our public newspapers, and their theoretical speculations on the initiation of money grants and matters of finance.

A committee has been raised to consider the

expediency of altering the Statute Labour Law, and they will probably bring in a Bill to extend the scale of labour from two days to fifty, and reduce the commutation to 1s 6d or 1s 3d a day, with a view to turn as much as possible into money, and lay it out by auction.

So far as Charlotte is concerned there has been little more yet been done than the introduction of Petitions. One member has obtained the passage of a Bill to commute the allowance of Statute Labour in Saint Andrews to 1s 3d a day, and has two other Bills in progress, one to restrain the sale of liquors by the small quantity, and another to lay a small toll on the free Bridge at St. Stephen. Another of our members has a Bill in progress to increase the allowance to Petit Jurors, and another has a Bill to make several Bye Roads into a Great one. The heavy business of the Session however is only beginning.

There was a great Temperance meeting on Wednesday evening here in the Hall, which though large, was completely filled. The members of the Grand Division from various parts of the Province with A. Campbell Esq., at their head were the speakers, and were listened to with much attention. The "Sons" were numerous and made a very good appearance.

Her Majesty's Attorney General, the Hon. C. J. Peters, died here on Wednesday morning after a short illness—this was the day appointed for the funeral, but as there is something like an old fashioned snow storm whistling over the land for the first time this winter, that solemn service is postponed until to-morrow.

Yours, JACK ROBINSON.

Provincial Parliament

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Extracts from the Journals.

January 31.

PUBLIC SERVICE.

Resolved, that there be granted

To His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor or the sum of £12,000 towards the encouragement of Parish Schools

To the Keeper of the Light House on Campo Bello £100.

To the Keeper of the Light House on Machias Seal Island, £130, and an additional sum of £36 to enable him to pay an assistant.

To the Keeper of the Light House in the Harbour of Saint Andrews, £40.

Mr. Brown, presented a Petition from Amy G. Campbell, praying to be remunerated for teaching a School at Saint Andrews, for a period of three months ending on the seventh day of January, 1846, referred to the Committee on School Petitions.

A MAD SPORTSMAN

One of his lordship's conceptions (the late Lord Oxford, the relative of the well-known Horace Walpole), was that of training animals to purposes nature never designed them, and if lions had been accessible in this country, he would probably have put a snaffle into the mouth of the forest king, and have trained him for hunting, unless his lordship had been devoted to the experiment. But his most notorious attempt of this order, was a four-in-hand of stags. Having obtained four red deer of strong make, he harnessed them, by dint of the infinite diligence which he exerted on all such occasions, was at length enabled to drive his four antlered coursers on the high-road. But on one unfortunate day, as he was driving to Newmarket, a pack of hounds, in full cry after fox or hare, crossing the road, got scent of the track. Finding more attractive metal they left the chase, and followed the stags in full cry. The animals now became uncontrollable, dashed along at full speed, and carried the phantom and the driver in it, to his great alarm, along the road at the rate of thirty miles an hour. Luckily they did not take their way across the country, or their driver's neck must have been broken. The scene was now particularly animating; the hounds were still heard in full cry, no power could stop the frightened stags, his lordship still exerted his charioteer skill in vain. Luckily, he had been in the habit of driving to Newmarket. The stags rushed into the town, to the astonishment of every body, and started into the inn yard. Here the gates were shut, and scarcely too soon, for a minute or two after the whole dogs of the hunt came rushing into the town, and roaring for their prey. The escape seems to have cured his lordship of stag-driving; but his passion for coursing grew only more active, and the bitterest day of the year, he was seen with his followers shrank, he was always seen without great coat or gloves, with his little three-cocked hat facing the storm, and evidently incoherent to everything but the performance of his hunt. His lordship was perhaps the first man who was ever made by country sports though many a man has been beggared by them; and none but fools will waste their time on them. His lordship at length became unquestionably mad, and was put under restraint.

At length, while still in confinement and in a second access of his disorder, having ascertained, by some means or other, that one of his grey-hounds was to run a match for a large sum, he determined to be present at the performance. Contriving to send his attendant from the room, he jumped out of the window, saddled his piebald pony with his own hands, all the grooms having gone to the field, and there being no one to obstruct him, suddenly appeared on the course to their universal astonishment. In spite of all entreaties he was determined to follow the dogs, and galloped after them. In the height of the pursuit, he was flung from his poney, fell on his head, and instantly expired.—Blackwood.

POETRY.

FROM ALL THAT CAN INTOXICATE.

"From all that can intoxicate!"
The only Pledge that saves
From million crimes that ready wait,
From grief and early graves—
From ruin, and the certain grasp,
So pitiless of law;
And from the sorer doom that's ripe,
When Heaven's sword doth draw.

"From all that can intoxicate!"
O thou of brilliant star,
To whom all sweet and delicate
Refinements, kindred are,
To splendours of thy intellect
We homage give, yet these
May gild the Drunkard's brimming bowl,
Or flash upon his lees.

And dream not, in thy pride of place,
Such wretch thou ne'er canst be:
The thunder that's unseen has dropt
On many, like to thee.
For if thou art exalted now,
It may be only thence
That thou may'st fall, as others tell
Who braved Omnipotence.

Give thou the Pledge!—The rolls of fame
From strain are not exempt;
And ill may touch thy goodliest,
That presage never dream.
'Tis safety for thy budding child—
The germ thou hast sown, priced—
For the warrior, the councillor,
The minister of Christ!

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Several projects have been set on foot for the purpose of raising means to build a suitable Temperance Hall in this City, but have been allowed to fall through, fortunately perhaps, as the changed aspect of Temperance affairs has given rise to wants, to meet which, any building heretofore erected would most probably have proved inadequate. But we are pleased to learn that renewed exertions are being made to accomplish this desirable purpose, which, notwithstanding the discouraging aspect of the times, seem likely to be crowned with success. The idea is to raise some six thousand pounds by means of a Joint Stock Company, and to this end a Subscription list has been opened, and upwards of three hundred shares already taken at Five Pounds each.—Temperance Telegraph.

The labours of John B. Gough.

The last number of the Massachusetts Catalyst contains an interesting letter from Mr. John B. Gough, giving an account of his labours for the past year, accompanied with some remarks on the present state of the temperance cause. Mr. Gough states that during the year he has spoken 240 times, besides addresses to children, travelled 7,313 miles; obtained 10,836 names to the pledge, besides children; and visited 162 cities, towns or villages. In all his travels, of about 45,000 miles, by stage, steamboat and railroad, he has never met with any accident, nor been detained by any casualty.

We copy the following extract from the letter of Mr. Gough, as giving the opinions of one who has had ample opportunities of judging in relation to the present state of the temperance cause.

"In looking at the cause, I feel that it rests on a firmer basis than it did five years ago, and though there are fewer songs of victory, and less rejoicing over expected triumphs, yet there is a greater depth of feeling and determination,—a clearer conviction of the magnitude of the evil and the necessity of adopting right measures for its removal,—and above all, a more universal acknowledgment of God as the Author of the movement, and a deeper sense of dependence on Him, for success in this great work. This is all encouraging. Then the enormity of the traffic is forcing itself every day upon the attention of the people, and in spite of the combined efforts of manufacturers, importers, traffickers and drinkers, and worse than all, of caterers to the rum interest from personal, pecuniary or political motives, a sentiment is obtained, that will, I think, ere long speak loudly through the Legislatures, that the traffic must cease. That sentiment will increase, and that mighty command be obeyed."

NOVA SCOTIA.

The following is an extract from one of Lord Grey's despatches, on the political affairs of Nova-Scotia. His Lordship's decision on the important questions brought before him will be found to be highly important as well as encouraging to the liberal party.

Downing Street, 31st March, 1847.
Sir,—I have already acknowledged the receipt of your despatch of the 2nd February, enclosing two letters to yourself from your Executive Council, and I now propose to communicate the conclusions at which I have arrived after that attentive consideration which I have felt due, as well to the intrinsic merits of the views stated by our advisers, as to the respectable source from which the statement emanates.

"In doing so it will be convenient that I should at the same time advert to the correspondence which soon after your assumption of the Government of Nova Scotia, you had with Mr. Howe and his friends."

"Upon a careful comparison of these very able papers in which the Members of your Council and their political opponents have stated their respective views as to the manner in which the Executive Government of Nova Scotia ought to be conducted, I am led to the conclusion that there is not in reality so wide a difference of principle between the conflicting parties as would at first sight appear to exist, and that it may not be impossible to chalk out a system of administration to be hereafter adopted, to which, without the slightest sacrifice of consistency, both might assent."

"On the one hand I find that the members of your Council declare that they desire in no degree to weaken the responsibility of the Provincial Government to the Legislature, and I gather from the general tenor of their papers of the 28th and 30th of January, that they are aware that in the present state of affairs, and of public opinion in Nova Scotia, it is necessary that the Governor of the Province should, in administering its affairs, have the advice and assistance of those who can command the confidence of the Legislature, and more especially of that Branch of the Legislature which directly represents the people."

"On the other hand I can hardly doubt that the gentlemen of the opposite party who have insisted so strongly upon the necessity of what is termed 'Responsible Government' would admit the justness and importance of many of the arguments which have been used, in order to show the danger and inconvenience of making the general tenure of officers in the Colonial service to depend upon the fluctuations of political contests in the Assembly. I am the more convinced that the gentlemen of the opposition will recognise the force of these arguments, because I observe in the various papers in which they have stated their views, frequent references, either direct or implied to the practice of this country, as that which affords the best model for imitation in laying down rules, as to the manner in which the Government of Nova Scotia should be carried on."

"Now, there is scarcely any part of the system of Government in this country, which I consider of greater value than that, which though not enforced by any written law but deriving its authority from usage and public opinion, makes the tenure of the great majority of officers in the public service to depend upon good behaviour. Although, with the exception of those who hold the higher judicial situations, and in which judicial independence has been considered as necessary, the whole body of public servants in the United Kingdom, hold their offices technically during the pleasure of the Crown, in practice, all but the very small proportion of officers which are distinguished as political, are held independently of party changes; nor are those who have once been appointed to them, ever, in point of fact, removed, except in consequence of very obvious misconduct or unfitness. Thus, in fact, though the legal tenure, 'during good behaviour,' in the popular sense of the term, may be said to be the general rule of our public service."

"In the practical application of these views, there will, I am aware, be room for considerable difference of opinion. In this, as in all questions of classification, varying circumstances and the various views taken by different men will give rise to discussion and occasional alterations with respect to particular officers. Your acquaintance with what has passed, and is passing in the Mother Country, will suggest to you instances in which the question has been raised, whether a particular office should, or should not, be a Parliamentary office; and some in which different offices have been deliberately removed from the one to the other class."

"Small and poor communities must be content to have their work cheaply and somewhat roughly done. Of the present Members of your Council, the Attorney General and Provincial Secretary, to whom the Solicitor-General should perhaps be added, appear to me sufficient to constitute the responsible advisers of the Governor. The holders

of these offices should henceforth regard them as held on a political tenure; and, with a view to that end the Provincial Secretary should be prepared, in the event of any change, to disconnect from his office that of the Clerkship of the Council, which seems to be one that should on every account, be held on a more permanent tenure."

"It is possible that in the event of any change being rendered necessary by the course of events in the Provincial Parliament, the party succeeding to power might insist on increasing this number of political offices by adding to the list of those to be so regarded. In case such a question should arise, I must leave it to your discretion, on a view of various local and temporary circumstances, which I am at present unable to appreciate to form your own decision with respect to any such demand."

"I should feel no objection to somewhat increasing the number of political offices, (for instance, by appointing a Financial Secretary, and a Responsible Chief of the department of Public Lands and works,) should the expense of doing so, without injustice to those now in the public Service, be found to be not more than the Colonial Revenue would conveniently bear."

"You will observe that in the preceding observations, I have assumed that those only of the public servants who are to be regarded as removable on losing the confidence of the Legislature, are to be Members of the Executive Council."

"On such terms as these, which I have thus detailed, it appears to me that the peculiar circumstances of Nova Scotia present no insuperable obstacle to the immediate adoption of that system of Parliamentary Government which has long prevailed in the Mother Country, and which seems to be a necessary part of Representative Institutions in a certain stage of their progress."

Rash Resolution.—A lady was followed by a beggar, who very importunately asked her for alms. She refused him, when he quitted her with a profound sigh, saying: "Yet the alms I ask'd would have prevented me from my present resolution." The lady was alarmed, lest the man was going to make some rash attempt upon his own life. Calling him back, she gave him a shilling, at the same time asking him the meaning of what he had just said. "Madam," said the fellow laying hold of the money, "I have been begging all day in vain, and but for this shilling I had well nigh come to the resolution, to go to work."

Ap't Reply.—As two merchants were conversing together upon business, a flock of wild birds passed over their heads, upon which one of the traders exclaimed, how happy those creatures are! they have no acceptances to pay.—You are mistaken, exclaimed his friend; they have their bills to provide for, as well as we.

A Goose story.—If any man woman or child, resident in this side Cape Horn, should stand in heel of a goose, they can be accommodated with one, on application to the editor of Arkansas Light. He has one, that was purchased this winter, which has been seven times roasted, six times baked, and fifteen times stewed and boiled, and yet the sarcophagus that envelops his resist the edge of axe, the cleaver, and the knife.

A Crier Extraordinary.—A gentleman informs us that, while sojourning at one of the towns in Virginia, he encountered in the street a stout, double-lunged Negro, who was ringing a hand-bell most manfully. After laboring at it some time, the fellow made a dead halt, and bellowed out something to the following effect: "Sale dis night—frying-pans, gridirons, books, pyxter-knives, and odder kinds of medicines. Joe Williams will hab some fresh oysters at his establishment, by tickles desire. Mr. Hewlett will gib limitations oper agin. Two or tree dozen damaged discussion locks. Dat's not all. Dare will be perlie and select colored ball at Mrs. Jim. Johnson's just arte dis."

FRIENDSHIP.

Friendship is a sweet attraction of the heart towards the merit we esteem, or the perfection we admire; and produces a mutual inclination between two or more persons, to promote each other's interest, knowledge, virtue, and happiness.

There's nothing so common as pretences to friendship: though I know what it means, and fewer yet come up to its demand. By talking of it, we set ourselves off; but when we inquire into it, we see our defects; and when we heartily engage in it, we must charge through abundance of difficulty.

Of all felicities, how charming is that of a firm and gentle friendship! It sweetens our cares, softens our sorrows, and assists us in our struggles: it is a sovereign antidote against calamities.

There are two requisite qualities in the choice of a friend; he must be both a sensible and an honest man; for fools and vicious men are incapable of friendship.