

[From our Fredericton Correspondent].  
FREDERICTON, 17th Feb. 1842.

Mr. Editor.  
Since I wrote my last long letter, I have read the report of the three days debate in the Sentinel, and also in the Mirror. Ward, you will perceive, says nothing about the matter, but Fitzgerald says largely upon the proceedings as a Political Reviewer. Your friend Jack Robinson has no pretensions in that way, he only tries to give the sum and substance of some things, and all he hopes, that his letters may be thought worth printing.

A great mass of matter has been handed over during the week, but no one thing has been decided of sufficient importance to call up much discussion. The Responsible Government question, which was the subject of one of my letters last year, has been on the carpet again, but it appears to be worse understood than ever. Mr. Weidon, one of the Executive members introduced the three great Government Bills, viz:—the Board of Works, the Road, and the Municipal Corporation Bills. In presenting those Bills Mr. W. remarked, that he should not hold himself bound to support them. The responsible looked upon this as a sort of political apostasy. Since that time, to the terror of many, and the astonishment of all, Messrs. Johnston and Weidon have both left the cabinet, and instead of the contemplated improvement, have improved it "very much the wrong way." This explosion they say has placed the Governor in an awkward posture as he can neither select new members from the majority nor from the minority. The three great Bills are, in the meantime, left in the House like three orphan children, and as it is not yet known who will take charge of them, some think they will be unheeded and die. So there seems to be some defect in the machinery of the Responsible system—either needs regulating or winding up.

The financial state of the Province deeply engages the attention of all parties. In setting one demand against another, there appears a large balance in favour of the Province, but many of the outstanding debts cannot, it seems, be collected at the present time, and the members are puzzled to know what they shall do for money to meet present pressing engagements. Some are bent on borrowing a large sum from England and going on with the usual scale of appropriations, others are for borrowing a small sum to meet present difficulties, and others again are for borrowing none. Many of this last class are keen for getting all they can granted in supply, but like the ancient Egyptians, though they call for bricks in full tale, will furnish no materials whereof to make them. The finance Committee are to have a special meeting in the morning with a view of devising means to get clear of the difficulty.

The Committee of Trade made their report to-day, and among other things recommended a reduction of 2-6d a barrel of the duty on Flour. A great number of local Bills have passed through the House, but the heavy part of the business is still on hand.

Yours, very truly,  
JACK ROBINSON.

#### HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

##### JOURNALS OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

February 14.

Mr. Boyd presented a Petition from James Curran, Ferryman at Joe's Point, in the County of Charlotte, praying to be reimbursed expenses incurred in transporting Her Majesty's Mails from that place to Robins-town; which was referred to the Committee on Internal Communication.

Mr. Brown presented a Petition from the Hon. James Allan Shaw, of Saint Andrews, in the County of Charlotte, Merchant, praying for an investigation of certain Accounts with the Crown Land Department, with a view to the adjustment and settlement thereof; which was referred to a Select Committee to report thereon. Ordered, That Messrs. Taylor, Hayward, M. Leod, Beardsley, and Freeze do compose the said Committee.

A Bill to limit the duration of the Assembly, passed the House and was taken to the Council.

On motion of Mr. Boyd,—Whereas it is expedient that Commissioners of Bye Roads should be furnished with proper Forms of Accounts with Blank Receipts and Affidavits, to enable them to make their Returns according to Law;—Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to devise and settle such Forms as may be necessary, and that this House will provide for the printing of a sufficient number of the same, to be transmitted to the Clerks of the Peace, and by them distributed to the several Bye Road Commissioners in their respective Counties. Ordered, That Messrs. Boyd, Brown and Hayward be the Committee for that purpose.

Mr. Hill brought in a Bill, to repeal an Act, intitled "An Act against tumults and disorders upon pretence of preparing or presenting Public Petitions or other Addresses to the Governor or General Assembly," which was read a first time.

Mr. Brown presented a Petition from John Wilson, Charles R. Hatheway, Esquires, and 299 others, Magistrates and Inhabitants of the County of Charlotte, praying that measures may be adopted for the erection of the contemplated Bridge over the River Waveig, on the site recommended by the Commissioners for examining the same. Ordered, That the said Petition be received, and referred to the Committee to ascertain what sums will be required for the improvement of Roads throughout the Province, to report thereon. On motion of Mr. Brown;—Ordered, That a Petition from William Hill, John B. Hill, Daniel Hill, and 148 others, praying that the Bridge over the Waveig River be placed near the mouth thereof, and which was presented to the House on the

25th January last, and ordered to lie on the Table, be referred to the same Committee. The Hon. Mr. Weidon moved for leave to bring in a Bill to repeal the Act to prevent disorderly riding or driving on Public Bridges, and make other provisions in lieu thereof, which was read a first time.

February 15.

Mr. Brown presented a Petition from Henry Dickson, of the Parish of Saint James, in the County of Charlotte, praying that a sum paid by him in the year 1839, towards the purchase of a Lot of Land from the Crown may be refunded, in order to meet a balance remaining due on a certain other purchase of Crown Land; which was received, and referred to the Committee appointed on the 10th instant, to take into consideration a Petition from Isaac and Thomas Murray, presented to the House on that day, to report thereon.

Mr. Hill presented a Petition from John Haverly, praying compensation for teaching a School at the Parish of Saint Stephen, in the County of Charlotte, for a period of six months during the past year; which was referred to the Committee on School Petitions.

Mr. L. A. Wilnot presented a Petition from Henry S. Beck, of Fredericton, in the County of York, setting forth, that he had incurred a very heavy expense in publishing a Map of the Province, compiled from the latest surveys, and praying that a grant may be made therefor; which was received.

Mr. Brown presented a Petition from Joseph Moore, of the Parish of Saint David, in the County of Charlotte, praying remuneration for loss sustained in consequence of the purchase of certain Lands from the Crown; which was not received.

The Hon. Mr. Johnston presented a Petition from Thomas Moses, Deputy Treasurer at West Isles, in the County of Charlotte, praying an increased allowance for his services for the past year, for the reasons therein stated; which was referred to the Committee of Supply.

Mr. Fisher brought in a Bill, to impose a Tax upon Wild Lands; which was read a first time.

The Hon. Mr. Johnston made application to be excused from serving on the Committee for taking into consideration the matters relating to the Financial Affairs of the Province; which was granted. Ordered, thereupon, That Mr. Hill be appointed to the said Committee, in his stead.

On motion of Mr. Barberie,—Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to take into consideration the general state of the Post Offices throughout this Province, and report thereon. Ordered, That Mr. Barberie, L. A. Wilnot and Mr. Fisher, do compose the said Committee.

On motion of Mr. Hill,—The House went into Committee of the whole on a Bill to authorize the appointment of Commissioners to examine into the state and condition of the several Banks in this Province.

The Chairman reported, that the Committee had gone into consideration of the Bill to them referred, and agreed to the same. Ordered, That the Report be accepted, and the Bill engrossed.

Mr. Boyd brought in a Bill, to Tax Itinerant Showmen, exhibiting in the Towns or Parishes within this Province; which was read a first time.

Mr. Hill presented a Petition from Michael Shepherd, and 123 others, inhabitants of the Parish of Sackville, in the County of Westmorland, praying that an Act may pass to prevent or restrain the importation of intoxicating Liquors in this Province; which was read.

Mr. Boyd brought in a Bill, to incorporate the Saint Andrews Marine Assurance Company; which was read a first time.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

February 9.

The Hon. Mr. Hatch, presented a Petition from the Magistrates of Charlotte County, praying a sum of money may be granted to aid them in paying for expenses incurred in building a Court House in the County, and contingent expenses, and stating an amount of debt of nine hundred and fifty pounds, from which they desire to be relieved by grant from the Province, or Assessment, or both. Ordered, That the said Petition be received, and lie on the Table.

The Hon. Mr. Wyer, presented the following Petitions:—

A Petition from Colin Allan, Ass. Cor., Joseph Gaynor, and other Freeholders of York County, praying that a future contested Elections, the Polling for Candidates shall be completed within two following days, no Sunday intervening, and that the Representatives shall be Elected to their Seats in the Assembly for four years and no longer; A Petition from Robert Dougherty, of Saint Andrews, praying an allowance for continuing a conveyance for Passengers between that Town and Saint Stephens; A Petition from Nehemiah Marks, of Saint Stephen, praying the amount of a penalty imposed on him, and the costs of Prosecution may be repaid, the Act under which this penalty was incurred, not having been approved of by Her Majesty; which were laid on the Table.

February 10.

The Bill relating to the driving of Stage Coaches and other Wheel Carriages, on the Great Roads of Communication throughout this Province, was lost in the Council.

A Message was brought from the Assembly by Mr. Hill, with a Bill to incorporate Saint Stephen's Marine Assurance Company, to which they desire the concurrence of this House. Ordered, That it be referred to the Select Committee appointed to examine and report upon Bills relating to Corporations.

The Hon. Mr. Hatch, presented a Petition from Thomas Moses, Deputy Treasurer of West Isles and Campo Bello, praying remuneration for services; which was received.

February 11.

The Bill to continue an Act, intitled "An Act to provide for the erection of a Fence with Gates across the Highway on Deer Island, in the Parish of West Isles, in the County of Charlotte," was read a third time and passed.

A Message was delivered from the Executive Council, by the Hon. Mr. Wyer, a Member of Her Majesty's Executive Council.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Message to the Legislative Council.

1st February, 1842.

W. M. G. COLEBROOKE, Esq. GOVERNOR. The Lieutenant Governor communicates to the Council, Papers relative to a new Settlement on the Road to Saint Andrews, which has led to the formation of other associations with the same object;—also the reports he has received from the Surveyor General on the subject, and having authorized an advance of £210 to open a communication to the first settlement, he recommends to the Council, in anticipation of any general measures for the execution of such works, that similar advances may be sanctioned to facilitate the opening of the necessary communications to the various locations which are about to be occupied.

W. M. G. C.

The Hon. Mr. Hatch, presented the following Petitions:—

A Petition from William Dugan and Lancelot L. Caplan, praying aid to the line of Coaches between Saint John and Saint Andrews; a Petition from William White, of Saint Stephens, in the County of Charlotte, praying the allowance for keeping a Ferry at Oak Bay, may be continued to 1843. Ordered, That the said Petitions be received, and lie on the Table.

The Hon. Mr. Wyer, presented the following Petitions:—

A Petition from James Allan Shaw, of Saint Patrick, praying a sum of money paid under the Act to provide for a regular supply of Seamen for new Ships fitted out or loaded in this Province may be refunded him; a Petition from Solomon Vail, praying Legislative aid to assist him in continuing a Communication between Fredericton and Saint Andrews. Ordered, That the said Petitions be received, and lie on the Table.

February 15.

The Hon. Mr. Hatch, presented a Petition from James Curran, praying an allowance for carrying the Mails between Saint Andrews and Robins-town, which was received.

The Hon. Mr. Wyer presented the following Petitions:—

A Petition from William Babcock, Charles R. Hatheway, and others praying certain alterations in the Law relating to Tavern Keepers and Retailers, may be made; a Petition from John Wilson, Charles R. Hatheway, Samuel Frye, and 299 others, inhabitants of Charlotte County, on the subject of a Bridge about to be erected over the Waveig River.

February 16.

The Hon. Mr. Wyer, presented a Petition from John Haverly, of Saint Stephen Parish, praying an allowance to him for services as a School Master, which was received.

Nova Scotia House of Assembly.—During the week the sum of £28,000 was appropriated for the construction and repair of roads and bridges. This measure was approved of by the whole House without a question, scarcely a word was wasted upon it. Formerly the Road Grants occasioned many quarrels and disputes, and unnecessarily occupied the time of the House.

A duty of nine shillings per barrel has been imposed upon the importation of pork from Canada, as well as from foreign parts. Immediately after this resolution was passed the House resolved to petition Her Majesty to withdraw the Imperial Duty on Flour.

Notwithstanding all the care and labour with which the Assembly came to the decision last week, that the appointment of Sheriff ought to be taken from the hands of the Chief Justice, no reform will follow unless the House devise another plan of effecting its purpose, as the Legislative Council has disapproved of the Bill. The opponents of the change desired by the Assembly refer to the practice adopted in England. The authority is unquestionable, but if one of the customs of that country respecting the office of Sheriff was followed in this, the necessity of any interference with his Lordship's patronage would be obviated. There no Sheriff can serve two years consecutively; but here when a Sheriff is once appointed, he retains office year after year without interruption, till he makes a fortune. The nomination of the Sheriffs which is gazetted annually, might be safely stereotyped by the printers, as an alteration is seldom made in the list. The members of the House will not, we trust, lose sight of these facts.—Acadian Recorder.

Halifax, Feb. 16.

On Saturday morning last, an attempt to shoot a Sergeant of the 70th Regiment, named Gargill, was made by a private soldier in the new Barracks at the Citadel. It appeared that the man was reprimanded and threatened with punishment by the Sergeant for some offence, committed on the previous evening while in a state of intoxication;—and the latter being in the barrack room of the offender at the time of breakfast, received a discharge from a musket, when the ball entered his back and passed through his left breast. It is expected that the wound will not prove fatal.—R. gistr.

Albion Miners.—An adjustment of the late differences at these Mines, has been effected, and the operatives have resumed their labor.—Id.

Mortality among the Children.—The present season is an unusually melancholy one to several families in the Capital,—many of whose younger members have fallen victims

to the Measles and Scarlet Fever.—Id.

Remains of the Steamer President.—We learn from Capt. Jopson, of the schooner Monks, from the Cape de Verd Islands, that the wreck of the ill-fated steamer President, and also several water casks, bearing her name, had been picked up and carried into St. Nicholas, one of the said Islands. Capt. Jopson did not himself see these interesting relics, (as he sailed from another island, Bonaville,) but was assured of the fact by a respectable English gentleman who had seen them. The latitude and longitude where they were picked up, we are unable to state. The boat, as well as the water casks, had the name "President" upon it. This is the first trace that has yet been discovered of the wreck of that noble steamer.—N. Y. Journal of Commerce.

From Jamaica.—By the arrival of the British brig Rob Roy, Wilkings, 14 days from Kingston, we have Jamaica papers to the 21st of January. The Provincial Legislature had adjourned without, as the Governor states, accomplishing the object for which he called them together, viz:—providing a sufficient revenue for the support of the Government. A law was passed depriving the city authorities of Kingston of their police power, and organizing the militia instead, as a punishment for the late riots. There was some legislation amendatory on the Immigration Scheme, which was acknowledged to be a complete failure as it had been conducted. The same confession is made more reluctantly by the Demerara papers.—Charleston Mercury.

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Justice, came too late for publication this week—it will be inserted in our next number.

Causticus, is rather too caustic in his remarks; we decline publishing the letter—we agree with him however, in presenting a certain Q. C. with a "lather trumpet."

Paul Pry is received, his conjectures about our paper are as erroneous, as his expressions are vulgar and contemptible.

An Old Man, is too personal—besides, his name should have been sent us in order to insure publication, as we cannot deviate from the rule of never inserting a communication unless it is accompanied with the real name of the author.

We wish it to be understood that we do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by correspondents.

#### THE STANDARD.

SAINT ANDREWS, FRIDAY, FEB. 25, 1842.

Charlotte County Bank.

Hon. HARRIS HATCH, President.

Director next week—Wm. Babcock.

DISCOUNT DAY, TUESDAY.

Hours of business, from 10 to 2.

BILLS AND NOTES for Discount must be lodged with the Cashier, on or before Monday, otherwise they must lie over until next week.

SAINT STEPHENS BANK.

WILLIAM PORTER, Esq., President.

Director next week—Gen. M. Porter.

DISCOUNT DAY, SATURDAY.

Hours of business, from 10 to 1.

BILLS AND NOTES for Discount must be lodged with the Cashier, on or before Friday, otherwise they must remain in his hands until the following discount day.

LATEST DATES.

London, Jan. 3 Montreal, Feb. 17

Liverpool, Jan. 4 Quebec, Feb. 17

Edinburgh, Dec. 27 Halifax, Feb. 17

Paris, Dec. 27 New York, Feb. 19

Toronto, Feb. 17 Boston, Feb. 21

DIVISION OF THE HOUSE—PUBLIC

LOANS.

We barely had space in our last number to notice the discussion which took place in the House of Assembly, on the government measure of investing in the power of the Executive the initiating of the public money—the result of the division—and the certainty of a speedy dissolution as a necessary consequence of that division.

As it was a government measure, and one too of the gravest character, and miscarried as such, the Governor has no other alternative but to dissolve the house, or choose advisers who will recommend measures that will be found more in unison with the feelings of the majority of the people's representatives; but, as in the opinion of his Excellency and his Executive, an opinion very likely formed on the suggestions of the noble Secretary for the Colonies, we believe his Excellency will adopt the first alternative to dissolve the house, and give the people an opportunity, by the choice of representatives, to inform him what side they take on those important questions, which he has submitted to the consideration of the present House of Assembly.

Omitting, at least, for the present, to go into the merits or demerits of the proposition made by the Government to invest in the Executive the power of initiating the money grants, and which, as it would cause an essential change in the House of Assembly's present mode of proceeding, would place matters in future on a completely new footing; there is one feature of the debate which then took place that strikes us as very peculiar and singular, judging even from the uniform pre-

ceding conduct of the house,—we allude to the refusal of a Loan, on the part of so many members, for the establishment of works or the maintenance of the Provincial credit.

We are ready to admit that constituted as the house is at present, and managed as money matters are, the house expending the public money, appointing their own commissioners to expend their money, and then closing the parliamentary scene by auditing their own accounts. Whilst this is the case it is prudent on the part of the Assembly to find fault with the Colonial Secretary to offer a Loan; a loan, under such circumstances, would be most unwelcome, for, as it would take a considerable portion of the Provincial revenues, at least for a few years, to pay the interest on the loan together with some of the principal, if any the public expenditure should be curtailed, economy and retrenchment should be introduced, and as a necessary consequence, commissions and appointments would not be those fine and lucrative employments they are found to be at present. But the conduct of the majority in the celebrated division, justifiable or unjustifiable, they have, by their repudiation of the principle of seeking a loan acted with very great inconsistency.

Not long since, as the journals show, they passed a grant of one thousand pounds to explore the line of canal, between the Bay of Fundy and Bay Vert, which has been so long a subject of intercommunication, between the Parental and Provincial Governments, besides they gave some two hundred pounds a year to a Geologist to explore the mineral resources of the country.

Now, in passing those grants, they must have in view the establishment of public works, or their conduct must be unaccountable, and not only so but highly injurious, in throwing away so much of the public money to no purpose, and if they had in view public works, they have consented to the principle of a Loan virtually, since no public work, and especially if the magnitude of the Bay Vert canal could be even commenced without a very large Loan, and therefore, in the repudiation of the principle of seeking a Loan in the debate alluded to, they have acted most inconsistently. But members may be excused for not consenting to a Loan, from the present state of the Provincial revenues.

Either the financial state of the Province is in a condition to warrant the receiving of a Loan with safety and utility to the Province, or it is not, and if not, the question then is, whether they can be put in such a state, and ought not every exertion, every personal sacrifice be made by the Legislature to put the financial state of the Province in such a favorable position.

The general opinion in the Province is, that the improvement of the country has been hitherto retarded, that as long as matters are conducted as at present, the resources of the country will never be sufficiently developed, and consequently, that the general prosperity will not be advanced consistently with what a proper development of her means would afford. Such being the state of public opinion, it is evident some great change ought to take place in the present system adopted by the House of Assembly in managing the public affairs; and as the surest and safest way, and which has borne the test of long experience to settle a country, increase its population, and provide for their comforts, is the establishment of public works, and which are now so generally looked for, and as such works can only be put in operation in this Province, at least, on any useful and extensive scale, otherwise than with the aid of Loans, received on the Province credit, we confess we are unable to find out any good reasons which should justify any man or body of men to go in direct opposition to the principle of asking or receiving a Loan.

Another objection raised against a Loan is, that it would burden the Province with a heavy debt. In answer to this we would say, in the first place, that a debt contracted in the promotion of useful works, where care and economy are bestowed in their management, seldom or never becomes oppressive. And secondly, there is no country or colony with which we are acquainted, that has been made prosperous without incurring a debt. When a country possessing rich resources is properly managed, its improvements made to advance, and regulated by good and wholesome laws, its public debt, no matter how great, seldom interferes with individual prosperity. We believe there is no state of the neighboring republic so deeply immersed in debt as Ohio, and yet there is none that can keep pace with it in its advances to prosperity and independence; only think of 1,400 brick houses being built together one season, and in one city, and not less than from twenty to five and twenty steamboats.

But it will be said, taxes will be increased to pay the debt, granted, that does not show that the Loan would be oppressive. If Loans would be the means to establish works, and that the result of these works would be a great share of prosperity to the country, by reviving trade, extending commerce, and increasing population, it would be easier for the Province to pay 60 per cent. under such circumstances than five at present.

Oh! but, after all, a national debt is a great evil; the debt of England is frightful to contemplate! pretty argument this is, for rejecting a Loan. It does not become those who have constantly on their lips expressions of loyalty to England, who are such sticklers for glory, and power, to be finding fault with her national debt, which contributed so much to her strength and greatness. All this lament about the national debt seems to be a mere device to throw dust in the eyes of the multitude.

We see then, no good and substantial reasons, even under existing circumstances, to go against the principle of Loans; on the contrary, it is our opinion, this country will never prosper without them, and therefore,