

bring down during the present session any measure to provide for the liquidation of the debts of Municipal districts of Lower Canada, as guaranteed by the Provincial Parliament under an Act passed in the 8th year of Her Majesty's reign, chap. 77.

In reply to Mr. Lafontaine, Mr. Cartier said that the schedule of salaries was under consideration for final deliberation.

In reply to Mr. Rykert, Hon. J. A. Macdonald said there would be no further issue of arms to volunteers until the whole subject of the Militia was considered.

In reply to Mr. C. Cameron, Hon. John A. Macdonald said the subject of the payment of interest on the Government bonds was under the consideration of the Government.

In reply to Mr. Simpson, Hon. J. A. Macdonald said it was not the intention of the Government to introduce during the present session any measure touching the charter of the Bank of Montreal, particularly those of the Clifton Bank and the Western Bank of Canada.

In reply to Mr. Robitaille, Hon. Mr. Galt said it was considered necessary that certain tide waters should be retained in Gaspé district.

Mr. Bureau moved an address to His Excellency, praying him to lay before the House a statement of the expenditure incurred by the Seigneurial Tenure Commission, from the date of appointment to the 31st December last.—Carried.

Mr. Langevin moved an address to His Excellency, praying him to lay before the House a statement of the bounties paid to Canadian fishermen, and of the number of vessels which have been entitled thereto since last statement laid before Parliament; also the number of vessels to which bounty has been refused, and the reasons of such refusal.—Carried.

Mr. Bureau moved an address to His Excellency, praying him to lay before the House a statement of the correspondence between the Imperial Government and the Government of Canada, relative to the arrest of Mason and Slidell by the Government of the United States, and copies of all correspondence between the Canadian Government and any other persons with reference to said arrest. 2nd, copies of all correspondence between the Imperial Government and the Government of Canada relative to the Canadian militia or to its organization.

Hon. Mr. Cartier said there was no such correspondence.

The motion was then withdrawn.

Mr. Bureau moved an address to His Excellency, praying that he will lay before the House a copy of the Royal instructions received by His Excellency on assuming the reins of government of this colony.—Carried.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

The Speaker took the chair at three o'clock.

The following Bills, among others, were introduced and read a first time:—

By Mr. Benjamin—Bill for the protection of hotel-keepers in certain cases.

By Hon. Mr. Siotte—Bill relating to testimonial depositions; also, a bill for the more expeditious determining Contested Elections; also, a bill to abolish chap. 3 Consolidated Statute, and to provide more effectually for the encouragement of Agriculture, and of Arts and Manufactures.

By Mr. Rankin—To amend the Petty Trespass Act of Upper Canada; to amend the Bill respecting suits for penalties under laws for the sale of intoxicating liquors.

A Committee of the House, in conjunction with a Committee of the Council, then proceeded to wait on His Excellency with the address of condolence to Her Majesty, adopted yesterday by both Houses.

Hon. Mr. Allen laid on the table the report of the Postmaster General.

Hon. Mr. Galt laid on the table the trade and Navigation returns.

In reply to Hon. Mr. Siotte, Atty. Gen. Macdonald said the Militia Bill and the Bankruptcy Bill would be introduced to-morrow.

Hon. Mr. Rose asked whether the attention of Government had been drawn to the recent report of the Committee of Commerce of the House of Representatives of the United States, and resolutions of the Legislature of the State of New York on the subject of the reciprocity Treaty, and whether it is their intention to take any action on such report?

Hon. Mr. Galt said the subject had come under the notice of the Government, and they had no objection, if the Hon. gentleman moved for papers to lay them before the House.

Mr. Wallbridge moved for a return of the survey of the harbour at Wellers' Bay on Lake Ontario, and the report made thereon by authority of the Commissioner of Public Works.—Carried.

Mr. Bureau moved an address to His Excellency, praying that out of the revenue arising from the sale of Crown Lands, and from timber licenses in this Province, the permanent annual sum of three hundred thousand dollars, over and above all charges and expenses of management, may be set apart for the purpose of promoting the colonization of the wild lands of the Crown, by construction of roads and bridges, to render these lands accessible to those who may be desirous of settling thereon.

The Speaker said a resolution for an appropriation of money could not be introduced, except with the consent of the Government.

The motion was then withdrawn.

Mr. Simard moved an address to His Excellency, praying that he will lay before the House a statement showing in detail, the sums of money expended up to the 31st December last, on account of public buildings in course of erection at Ottawa, to whom said sums had been paid, and for what services; also, copies of all contracts passed for the erection of the said buildings or in connection with the erection, and information respecting any modification, change, or extension of the original plans in order of construction, which may have been ordered, authorized or substituted, and effect on contract of such modifications and changes.

Hon. Mr. Cauchon said that in a few days, all papers relating to the subject would be laid before the House.

The motion was then withdrawn.

Quebec, April 9.

The Speaker took the chair at three o'clock.

The General Committee of Elections were called to the table, and the Speaker appointed Friday, the 26th inst., as the day of their first meeting.

On motion of Mr. Benjamin, a list of members eligible to serve on the Election Committee, was referred to the General Election Committee.

Hon. Mr. Allen brought up a message from His Excellency, transmitting, for the information of both Houses of Parliament, a copy of a despatch received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, enclosing an order of Her Majesty in Council, dissolving an Act passed by the Legislature of Canada in 1861, intitled "An Act to give jurisdiction to Canadian magistrates in respect to certain offences committed in New Brunswick by persons afterwards escaping to Canada."

Atty. Gen. Cartier brought up a report of the Select Committee appointed to report the Standing Committee of the House.

On motion of Atty. Gen. Cartier the usual resolutions were agreed to in regard to the adjournment.

members whose elections were contested being required to withdraw whilst the subject of their return was under consideration.

Mr. Dunkin brought in a bill to amend chap. 15 of the Consolidated Statutes of Canada, relating to education in Normal and Common Schools.

Mr. Crawford—To amend the registry laws of Upper Canada.

Mr. Harcourt—To repeal the second section of an Act intitled "An Act to diminish the number of licenses issued for the sale of intoxicating liquors by retail, so far as relates to the town of Cayuga, county of Haldimand."

On motion of Mr. Dunkin, the time for receiving petitions for private bills was extended to the 5th of May; for receiving private bills to the 12th of May; and for receiving reports of private bills to the 26th of May.

In reply to Mr. Siotte, Atty. Gen. Macdonald said the Militia Bill and the Bankruptcy Bill would be printed and ready for distribution in a day or two, and it would be undesirable to go into a discussion of these measures until they were fairly before the House.

With regard to the Militia report, a statement would be printed, containing an estimate of the expense of the plan, supposing the House to agree to its being carried out.

There would also be an estimate of the amount which Parliament would be asked to vote for this service during the present session.

Hon. Mr. Rose moved an address to His Excellency, praying that he will be pleased to cause to be laid before this House any correspondence on the subject of the recent report by the Committee of Commerce, of the House of Representatives of the United States, on the Reciprocity Treaty, and of any other documents touching the working of the Treaty.

Mr. Siotte said that the objections raised in the report of the Committee of the United States House of Representatives, Mr. Rose lauded the commercial policy of the Government, especially the removal of the tolls on the canals.

Mr. Galt argued that the objections raised by the Committee to the way in which the treaty had been carried out were unfounded, and defended the policy of the Government. The trade of the St. Lawrence had greatly increased during the past season. The Canadian commercial policy was more liberal than the American, and he had no apprehensions of the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty.

Mr. Sanfield Macdonald congratulated himself on having concurred in the policy of removing the tolls on the canals.

Mr. McDougall reminded the House that Mr. Macdonald did not speak the sentiments of the people of Upper Canada. He pointed out that the policy of the Government was specially adopted to foster the interests of Montreal to the detriment of the rest of the country, but declined to enter into a discussion of the subject, and condemned the Government for bringing on a debate on a matter for which members were unprepared.

Mr. Hillyard Cameron thought the thanks of the House were due to Mr. Rose for bringing the matter up.

BOGUS BANKS.

Mr. Simpson asked for a Committee to enquire into the affairs of the Clifton Bank and the Western Bank of Canada.

Mr. McDougall reminded the House that the Opposition predicted evil consequences when the charters of these Banks were granted. Ministers yielded to the solicitations of their supporters, and the predictions of the Opposition were verified.

Messrs. John A. Macdonald and Galt defended the Government, and laid the blame upon the House.

Finally, Mr. Simpson found that his motion was based on facts stated, and the matter was allowed to stand till after the recess.

After debate, the motion was agreed to. On motion of Hon. Mr. Rose, a return was ordered to be made of licenses granted to Insurance Companies, and other matters relating to such companies.

Mr. McDougall moved that a vote of censure be passed on the day were disposed of, and the House adjourned at a quarter before six, until three o'clock on Thursday, the 24th inst.

The following bills were introduced and read a first time on Monday:

To amend the law in respect to Separate Schools.

To amend the Lower Canada Municipal Act, in respect to its provisions relating to intoxicating liquors.

To abolish the property qualifications of members of the Legislative Assembly.

To amend the law relating to interest.

To amend the Act relating to Lessors and Lessees.

To amend the 92nd Chap. Consolidated Statutes of Canada respecting Boards of Art and Manufacture.

To amend the law respecting seduction and maintenance of illegitimate children.

To render valid certain assessments already made in Upper Canada.

Bill relating to Mortgages in Upper Canada.

To amend the Common Law Procedure Act.

To provide for the inspection of wheat and grain.

To amend the Act relating to Fire Insurance Companies not incorporated within the limits of the Province.

To provide for the incorporation and registration of Joint Stock Companies.

To provide for the regulation and inspection of Gas Metres.

To provide for the protection of Squatters on Crown Lands.

It is reported on good authority that Mr. Galt has intimated to his colleagues that if further aid is not granted to the Grand Trunk, he must retire from the Cabinet. It is also reported that the Leader of your city, has been asked by the Government to order of construction, which may have been ordered, authorized or substituted, and effect on contract of such modifications and changes.

Hon. Mr. Cauchon said that in a few days, all papers relating to the subject would be laid before the House.

The motion was then withdrawn.

was taken, and the House adjourned at six o'clock, there being no business to transact.

The report of the Militia Commission recommends that the active force shall consist of 50,000 men, and the reserve of the same number.

The Active Force will be composed of city volunteer militia corps, and active battalions of the regular militia in rural districts.

The artillery and cavalry will be distributed throughout the force, and the infantry organized in battalions.

The Province will be divided into military districts, and these will be divided into regimental divisions, each furnishing one active and one reserve battalion.

Each active battalion will have one Adjutant with a pay at the rate of \$250 per diem, and one staff sergeant at \$300 a year.

The training time is usually to be 28 days and officers are to receive one dollar per day and non-commissioned officers and privates 50 cents per day during training.

The officers and men of the field batteries of artillery and the cavalry are to receive one dollar per day for horses. Arms and accoutrements are to be provided for artillery and cavalry and clothing to the regular militia men while on drill. The volunteers are to receive \$3 per annum in lieu of clothing.

There is to be an annual muster of the Secondary Militia, and absentees are to pay a commutation fee.

The militia when called out are to be subject to the articles of war.

Sailing men are to be formed into marine companies, and to be exercised with heavy guns during the winter months. Drill grounds and armouries are to be provided by the Government.

The cost of this force will be considerably more than a million of dollars per annum.

toor force—the only visible manifestation of a military spirit in the province—was totally ignored.

The result might have been foreseen. The Report is as unfavourable as any report could be to the most hopeful movement of the day. It does not deign to notice the sacrifice which members of volunteer companies have already made, the toll they have encountered the difficulties they have overcome, the freezing indifference of patronage they have experienced. It has not a syllable in its composition by way of praise for the efforts already made by volunteers, or by way of encouragement for the efforts they should be asked hereafter to make in their country's cause. On the contrary, the Report quietly but effectively extinguishes the movement—without even an apology, or a word in palliation, or a promise of better things to come, snuffs out of existence, the element on which the province should rely for its protection in the hour of danger.

In the cities, volunteer companies may continue to drill, subject only to regulations which may, or may not be acceptable. In the smaller towns and villages, however, they will be impossible, if the Militia Bill enforce the recommendations of the Report. The injustice of a measure which thus discards creditable enterprise, and pooh-poohs to death a spirit which the statesman should steadfastly encourage, is apparent. Companies have been organized all over Upper Canada, whose members have expended money in the purchase of uniforms, and have attained to creditable degrees of proficiency in drill. Yet because the military members of the Commission, regular and militia, think proper to take ground against "independent" organizations, and in favor of a system foreign to the genius and temper of every inch of soil on this continent, these volunteer companies are passed over with a silence more offensive than attack.

The inexpediency of this feature of the Report seems clear. Beyond question, any trustworthy military force, raised in this country, or on this continent, must be voluntary in its character. You cannot hope to fight successfully in these latitudes with an army formed by drafts upon the population. Conscription may serve in Russia or Austria, but it will be a failure here, let whosoever may attempt it. And therefore it is desirable by every possible means to foster the volunteer companies, instead of extinguishing them in the manner proposed in the Commissioners' Report.

The following is a statement of the probable cost of the New Militia force of Canada.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

1. Adjutant General, \$3,000 per annum; 2. Deputies do, each \$2,400; \$4,800; 3. Inspecting Field Officers, salary and travelling expenses at \$2,000 each, \$4,000; and 10 clerks, with office contingencies, &c., say \$10,000..... \$21,800

ADJUTANT AND STAFF SERGEANTS.

33 Adjutants in Upper Canada, at \$2 a day each, \$22,000; 27 do in Lower Canada, at \$1.70 each, \$45,900; 27 do in Lower Canada, at \$2,000 each, \$54,000; 100 allowance of 50 cts. a day to 60 Adjutants for travelling expenses \$11,250..... 72,960

OFFICERS AND MEN.

5,000 Officers, say \$28 each \$140,000; 45,000 men at 50 cents a day each for 28 days drill, \$620,000; 760,000 HORSES FOR CAVALRY AND ARTILLERY 7 Batteries in Upper Canada, each 40 horses at \$1 a day each for 14 days, \$5,600; 16 do in Lower Canada, at \$1.60; 16 troops in Upper Canada, 50 horses each \$1 a day for 14 days, \$11,200; 11 do in Lower Canada, \$7,700..... 24,180

\$178,840

These figures are for the annual charges. We have not the cost of outfit or establishment to begin with. What this will be is not stated in the report, but we make the estimate in the following manner, deducting for the materials already in the country:—

ARMORIES AND ARSENALS.

Construction of 9 Armories or Arsenals in Upper Canada, say \$40,000; ditto 10 in Lower Canada, say \$45,000..... \$85,000

ARMS AND AMMUNITION.

Purchase of 30,000 Enfield rifles and Accoutrements, at say \$10 each, \$300,000; Ammunition for ditto say 3,000,000 rounds, \$30,000; Purchase of 3 four-gun batteries of Artillery, with harness &c., at say \$10,000 each, \$30,000; Ammunition for ditto, \$10,000..... 370,000

CLOTHING, &c.

45,000 Suits at say \$10 each, \$450,000; 30,000 Knapsacks, at say \$1.50 each, \$45,000; 30,000 Great-coats, at \$2 each, \$60,000; Bagles, Drums, Pioneer's Tools, &c., say \$10,000..... 565,000

CONVEYANCES.

For Freight, Repairs, and incidental expenses, say..... 40,000

Rifles are calculated to last for 10 years, and clothing for 4 years. There will also be wear and tear of the armories and arsenals, artillery and ammunition spent. A very considerable portion of this sum of \$1,060,000 must therefore, be spread out as an annual charge.

To set against this there is the revenue which will be derived from the sale of Commissions, which may be stated as follows:—547 Ensigns and Cornets at \$5 each, \$2,735; Lieutenants, 650 at \$6 each, \$3,900; Captains, 637 at \$8 each, \$5,096; Majors, 120 at \$9 each, \$1,080; Lieut. Colonels, 60 at \$10 each, \$600; Colonels, 26 at \$20 each, \$520; Staff Officers, say 40 at \$15 each, \$600; in all, \$15,431. To this must be added fees for substitutes, which may possibly yield considerable revenue.—There is also the revenue from the Ordnance Lands, which will come to be considerably more than at present. What the yield for the past year was we cannot tell until we get Col. Coffin's report.

At present, as a rough statement, the annual charge that will be entailed on the Province will be set down at \$1,000,000 in time of peace.

Mr. Cyrus Field has returned by the *Asia*, in full hope that the telegraph cable across the Atlantic will soon be laid. The feeling in England appears to be strongly in its favor; and a company has offered to lay it for the bare cost, reserving all profit until the wire are in full working order.

We publish, to-day, the details of a great battle which has been fought, in South Western Tennessee, between the Federal forces under General Grant, and the Confederates under Beauregard, in which the latter experienced defeat after heavy loss. The report makes no attempt to depreciate the pertinacity and courage exhibited on both sides; and it is more than probable that the conflict at or near Pittsburgh Landing will be found to be the most important event of the campaign. Having evacuated Corinth, we presume that General Beauregard has led his retreating troops in the direction of Memphis, a distance of about 75 miles, and where the next strong stand will undoubtedly be made.

The *Merimac* has again come out of Norfolk Harbor, and been operating slightly on Northern property. The first day of her re-appearance she quietly took possession of three small Federal vessels, fired a round at the *Monitor* and went back to Craney Island. "What the night 'may bring forth,' telegraphs General Wool, 'I am unable to say.'"

"All is quiet on the Potomac." The stereotyped phrase is a little altered to-night. Gen. McClellan reports that the roads are improving. We may soon be prepared to hear of another great battle as the Confederates are said to have 100,000 men at Yorktown.

Another great struggle is impending in Eastern Virginia. According to the telegraph, General Johnston—killed the other day in Tennessee, and killed once before somewhere else—has arrived at Yorktown, to command the Confederates; and the Federal Generals are pushing forward preparations for an attack, with all the advantage of vast and, seemingly in exhaustible resources. East and West, the war now displays terrible proportions. There has been nothing like it in the history of civil conflicts.

The current annual report of the Commission of Crown Lands has just been issued. It appears from this report that within the year 257,933 acres of Crown Lands in Upper Canada have been sold, and 30,800 acres have been granted gratuitously on Colonization Roads. In this section of Canada there are 2,021,229 acres of Crown Lands in the market. The amount of sales of Crown, Clergy, Common School, and Grammar School Lands of both Provinces for 1861 is \$705,491. The total revenue from Public Lands collected in 1861 is \$808,649. The Commissioner furnishes details of the new management of land sales and the economical results which have followed the closing of the older agencies. He also recounts that a saving in the expenses of management of the more advanced free grant roads has been effected by withdrawing the salaries of agents and paying them a commission upon the sales of land in the adjoining townships. The saving thus effected is about \$8,500 per annum, and by the abolition of the old agencies about \$7,500. The report contains the following:—Taking advantage of the occasion which the unhappy strife among our neighbors affords us, two additional government agents have been despatched to Great Britain and Ireland and the continent of Europe, and they have been instructed diligently seeking homes in the new world such advantages as Canada affords, while they have warned to hold out no false hopes of success, but strictly to make known the truth.

The election contest in Toronto is a very keen one. Mr. Byres cannot be prevailed upon to withdraw from the field, notwithstanding the very great influence and pressure which has been brought to bear upon him. Both candidates and their respective friends are now canvassing actively with results which indicate that the polling will be very close. The polling takes place on Thursday and Saturday, the 17th and 19th inst., the Friday being good Friday, which intervenes between these two days. Toronto is represented to be in a state of great excitement as to this election.

At a meeting of the New York Chamber of Commerce last week, Mr. S. B. Ruggies announced that the British Government had ten gunboats in the Ottawa river. Mr. Ruggies is mistaken, the number of gunboats there is ten thousand, each mounting 100 Armstrong guns, carrying 300 lb. shot and shell, ten miles, and the engines are of such peculiar construction that the boats can be propelled as fast over land as through water.

The U. S. Senate has passed the bill abolishing Slavery in the District of Columbia, and providing the compensation to the owners at the average rate of \$300 per head. During the discussion of the measure the most valuable of the slaves have been removed from the district, so that emancipation will free few slaves, capable of supporting themselves, although it purges the Seat of Government from the institution.

The nomination of candidates, at Toronto, took place on the tenth instant, about 3,000 persons being present. The show of hands is said to have been so nearly equal that the sheriff could not decide as to which of the candidates had a majority. A Poll was then demanded.

A Parliamentary Committee was appointed to examine into the state of the Western and Clifton Banks, concerning several damaging statements as attributed by the declarations of Messrs. Street and Simpson, M. P.'s, have recently been circulated.

Intelligence from Ottawa seems to indicate that James Stead, Esq., will be elected by acclamation for the *Ridgeway* Division. He has received very numerous signed resolutions from the Committee of Carlton and Renfrew.

On Saturday last the house of the Widow Bailey, was totally consumed by fire, with all its contents.

Arrival of the Asia.

New York, April 12.

The Royal Mail steamship *Asia* from Liverpool at 9 a. m., on the 29th, and from Queenstown on the afternoon of the 30th ult., arrived here last evening.

The City of New York reached Liverpool on the evening of the 28th.

The *Bourras* arrived at Southampton on the 27th.

In the House of Commons on the 27th, Sir F. Smith gave notice that he should call attention to the recent naval engagement between the *Merimac* and the *Monitor*, and ask whether, in consequence of its result, the government would not suspend the construction of iron plated ships until the question of iron plated gunboats had been considered.

It was suggested that the Lord Mayor of London would call a meeting to consider the terms of an address of thanks to Mr. Peabody for his munificent gift for the poor of London.

The government had determined to appoint a Royal Commission to enquire into the present state of the Volunteer force.

Lord Palmerston had so far recovered from his attack of gout as to be present at a Cabinet Council, on the 25th ult.

Fraser, the Marquis de Lavallette had reached Paris from Rome, and there were some doubts as to his returning to Rome, owing to the difference existing between him and Gen. Goyon.

ITALY.—The Official Turin Gazette publishes a decree ordering the amalgamation of the southern army with the regular troops. In case of war, the government will not deprive itself of the assistance of volunteers, who will, however, be disbanded when hostilities have terminated.

GREECE.—Late advices from Athens give a report that the King had signed an amnesty to the insurgents at Nauplia. Arrests nevertheless continued to be made.

Intelligence from Syria confirms the news that Nauplia had surrendered.

ALEXANDER MORRIS, ESQ.

M. P. FOR SOUTH LANKA.

Mr. Morris said he should endeavor to come to the consideration of the question now before the House, in no spirit of party or of faction. He thought the question was too grave and important a one to be so treated. The position in some respects was peculiar, which he occupied, was one which enabled him perhaps to look at this subject more calmly than some members who were not situated as he had been. For he had been sixteen years a resident of the Lower Province, and yet he had the honor, unsolicited, of being called to represent a constituency of Western Canada, with a population of 20,000 souls. When thus called upon to take a part in the deliberations of the nation, he had felt it to be his duty to consider this important question in order to see whether some settlement of it might not be arrived at. And he could not help expressing his regret that at this, the first meeting of the Parliament now constituted, was made in the Speech from the throne, of any plan of settling a question which had for so long a period agitated this Province. [Hear, hear.] He should feel it his duty to vote against the amendment which had been submitted by the hon. member for St. Hyacinthe, because he did not think it would be right for him or for this House to commit themselves to the declaration, that there should be no consideration of any question affecting the representation of the people of that Province.—He did think it was the duty of the gentlemen who had been entrusted with the administration of the affairs of this Province, when they found that a question of this nature had been so long before the country, to consider that question, and to come before the House and at least tell them that they had been endeavoring to arrive at some plan for its solution. [Hear, hear.] He did not profess to advocate Representation by Population, pure and simple as a remedy for the difficulties under which we labored. But he thought that a readjustment of the representation had become a necessity, and that in that readjustment we were bound to look at the various interests of the country, to secure representation for the industry, the manufactures, the commerce, and the wealth of the country, as well as for its mere population. He confessed that his views had undergone per force some degree of modification since he took his seat in the House. It was impossible for any reflecting man, any man who had a heart, to take his seat in this Chamber and see the House occupy the position it did, without feeling that the question now under consideration was one of the very greatest importance. It was impossible to look at the very wide diversity of sentiments existing between the representatives of the two sections of the Province, without seeing that the question was enwrapped with very serious difficulties, but that was no reason why statesmen should be afraid to grapple with it. In British questions as serious has been grappled with and settled, and he had sufficient confidence in the wisdom of good feeling of the members of this chamber, and of the people of this country, to be satisfied that if we came to the consideration of this great question, free from party spirit, we should come to a satisfactory conclusion upon it. He had no doubt that when the member for Rouville [Mr. Drummond] first announced to the House that he would come down with a measure to settle the Seigneurial Tenure in Lower Canada, friends of his told him—his member for Laprairie had threatened with regard to his question—that if he attempted to introduce such a measure he would be driven from the country. But he had introduced the measure and succeeded in settling the question and so he believed it would be with this question. He had confidence that men would be found to meet it fairly, and to come down with a measure satisfactory to the country. It might be the measure of good feeling, which would bring the different Provinces of British North America into a union founded on such a basis as would give to the people of each Province the right to manage their own internal affairs while at the same time managing in common matters of common concern, so as to secure the consolidation of the British power on this continent. Mr. Morris concluded by intimating that he should give his adhesion to another amendment which might possibly be submitted, and which he thought would be more agreeable to his river and constituents and those of his constituents, than the resolution now before the house.

A DANGEROUS LEAP.—On Thursday last, says the *Corwall Freeholder*, four officers were conveying a prisoner named Mattice, charged with housebreaking, from Whitewater to the County Jail in Cornwall. As the train was passing French Mills at the rate of nearly thirty miles an hour, Mattice rushed to the door of the car and leaped out. As soon as the speed of the train had been slackened, the constables started in pursuit, but the fugitive made good his escape and has not since been seen by those who "want" him.

A fire occurred the other day in the grain elevator, situated at the railway station, belonging to Mr. Fisheloh, the Reeve. There were about 7,000 bushels of wheat in the bin, which was injured, but the building was not injured. Loss \$500.

The Federal troops on the coast of Florida and South Carolina are suffering severely from the guerrilla warfare waged by the Confederates. The *Tribune* correspondent gives the following result of an expedition to destroy some salt works at Symina, Florida:

Pulling up Mosquito Lagoon, a narrow creek densely wooded on either bank, they found the salt works, about ten miles from the entrance, destroyed them, and started to return. When about half way down, Capt. Budd halted his sail, and with a fair wind, ran ashore, and other boats, perhaps a mile and a half. Arriving abreast of a small earthwork close to the bank he lowered his sail and pulled in to determine the character of the work, which, in going up, had been passed without trouble. As the bows of the boat touched the beach, from the fort to the woods on both sides a volley of musketry was fired which killed and wounded every man in the boat. Capt. Budd was shot dead at the first discharge. He dropped in the stern sheets of the boat his head hanging over the gunwale, his hat floating down the stream. Capt. Mathar, who was only wounded at the first, sprang from the boat, and rapidly discharging his revolver, attempted to advance up the beach. He fell with twenty fire balls in his body, his face so cut up with bullets that it could not be recognised. The Rebels came out from the woods and fort, took possession of the boat, in which every man was now dead but one negro, wounded in the fort, and retreating again to their cover, opening fire on the second boat rapidly approaching. Mr. Kelley, Paymaster of the Henry Andrews, who was steering this boat was wounded in the hand which held the tiller, the conical rifle ball passing through the breadth of the knuckles, and not breaking the flesh except as it entered and went out. Two men were killed and several others wounded, one of whom afterwards died. Mr. Kelley succeeded in steering her over to the other bank where the wounded men crawled out on the marsh and hid themselves in the grass, still under fire. The other boats were farther astern. When the launch came within range, her howitzer opened fire on the Rebels, but the fourth discharge the launch broke and the gun was washed all the boats, passing through the murderous fire from the opposite bank, finally landed their crews in the marsh, and having thrown over the howitzer in the middle of the stream and taken from the boats the wounded men, the colors, arms, oars, and everything that could be moved, the gallant sailors carried the whole of them through the mud a mile and a half to the shore where the Henry Andrews could be hailed. She had no boat to send but a small dory, and in this the whole force was taken off to the vessel. Of the whole force nine men were killed and eleven wounded.

The same correspondent says that Jacksonville is surrounded by guerrillas, who lately surprised a Federal picket of seven men, and killed them all to death. The Confederate forces in this neighbourhood are daily increasing and their attacks becoming more frequent and daring.

The same correspondent writing from Port Royal, S. C., chronicles the surprise of a company of the 55th Pennsylvania regiment on North Edisto, where they killed only five men escaped being killed or taken.

Several similar affairs have occurred in the same locality, in one of which the Colonel of the 55th, and other officers were taken. The 46th and 47th New York regiments have also suffered severely, their pickets being daily surprised; in the last affair of this kind 100 white and 21 men, and a 6-pounder gun, while on a reconnaissance near Tybee Island.

THE ADJOURNMENT.

The Canadians are a patient people, or the Ministry would have had to stand outside their ears which would startle them even under the walls of the Citadel of Quebec. Parliament was called nearly two months later than the time fixed by the Legislature, but not content with that delay the Ministry detained the members a week while they were cutting off the dead branches of the Coalition tree, and putting on new grafts. The address has been got through comfortably, a great deal of important and useful discussion, by which very important questions have been materially advanced; and the House seemed about to settle down to the serious business of law-making. But that would not suit the Ministerial book. More time must be wasted, the serious work of the session must be put off to a still later period, and a decision will adjourn to-morrow till the 24th inst., and members will spend the fifteen days of an interregnum in kicking their heels at Quebec, or in an equally unprofitable journey to and from their homes. The excuse is supplied by the Easter holidays, but when in Toronto some years ago, the Legislature adjourned for a week or two days at that season, and nobody was one bit the worse. In Quebec it is different, it appears. It requires fifteen days to go through the observances for which only two or three were required in Toronto.

If the Ministry had no evil design in these delays, they would appear the result of childish blundering. But there is a design. If the Ministry survive, the session will be the most wasteful that Canada has yet seen. The men at the helm of affairs cherish the most gigantic schemes of plunder, in which they still hope to be successful. Their prospect will be improved by the postponement of the session to a late period, when members will be weary of Quebec and anxious to return to their homes.—*Globe*.

THE GROWING WHEAT CROP OF ENGLAND.—We have before us a table got up by the enterprising managers of the *London Express*, London, which shows the condition of the growing wheat crop, at 394 places, in 41 counties of England, at the beginning of March. From this it appears that more than the average breadth has been sown, and that in a large majority of cases the crop looks remarkably well. The harvest being large, never was better in March than it is now. Similar statistical information gathered in this country would be of immense importance to all who grow or deal in grain.

The *Winsted Herald*, Connecticut, says:—"The tops of the houses are just beginning to show their appearance above the snow-drifts, up in Norfolk. In some instances the second story windows have already made their appearance."

Captain Wilkinson of the 52nd Regt., stationed at Kingston, died of pneumonia, on Friday night after a brief illness. He had been made himself briefly respected during his short residence in Kingston.

Henry Watson, a married man, has been committed to take his trial at the Assizes, on a charge of rape on the person of Helen Turner. Both parties are residents of the Township of Brampton.

EXTENSIVE FIRE AT DOON.—We regret to have to announce the destruction by fire, about 11 o'clock on Wednesday night last, of Messrs. Perrine's Flax Mill at Doon. The building was first discovered to be on fire, about ten o'clock, and notwithstanding every exertion was speedily consumed. The wind was blowing from the south-west, but it must be heavy.—*Galt Reporter*.

Generals McCall, Gault, and several subordinates officers, are on parol. The latter gentleman is very communicative. He says that our four weeks bombardment killed only one man.

