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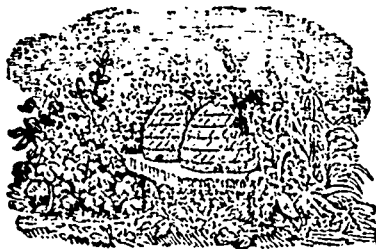
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VOLUME I. PROTOU, N. S. WEDNESDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 10, 1836. NUMBER XXXVIII.

THE BEE

IS PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY MORNING, BY JAMES DAWSON,

And delivered in Town at the low price of 12s. 6d. per annum, if paid in advance, but 15s. if paid at the end of the year;—payments made within three months after receiving the first Paper considered in advance; whenever Papers have to be transmitted through the Post Office, 2s. 6d. additional will be charged for postage.

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January 6, 1836. if

NOVA-SCOTIA.

PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT.

From the Novascotian.

The Currency—British Sterling.

JAN'y 25. The House resolved itself into Committee of the whole, Mr. Morton in the chair, to consider the old subject of the Currency—when a string of Resolutions was offered by Mr. Stewart—and the question upon the first, which went to establish British Sterling, as the standard of value and money of account in this Province, having been put:

Mr. W. H. ROACH objected to it, upon the ground that if Currency was converted into sterling, and the nominal amount of the salaries paid to the Judges, and other public officers, reduced, they would bye and bye, be coming with a claim for an increase, and probably have their claim allowed. They would say to the Legislaturo, we have now to give a Sterling shilling or pound for what formerly cost but a shilling or pound Currency, and therefore you must give us more to make up the difference. If Sterling were adopted, this would be one of the consequences before ten years went round. The farmer would also accuse them of changing the value of his farm—formerly he would say it was worth £500—now I can only get £400 for it. Besides—could they show him that Sterling had been adopted as the currency of any other Colony, under the firmament! of Great Britain? It had been for many years used in Newfoundlnd—but it had been found inconvenient; they had, he believed, discontinued it, and adopted a currency of their own. He knew that this House would not pass any bill without making the proper deduction in the Judges salaries, but another house might come back, and pay them as much in sterling as they now received in currency.

MR. HUNTINGDON denied that the measure would have any such effect. All Countries had some standard of value, and they might if they pleased take any saleable commodity and measure money and every thing else by that—no matter what it was. Coins will always pass according to their value in the general market of the world, which is regulated by the quantity of gold or silver they contain. So long as you adopt a fair rule of conversion, no difficulty can arise—no injustice can be done. From our earliest infancy we are taught to reduce every thing to pounds, shillings, and pence. We now count them in Currency, and if we adopt Sterling, we shall just have as many of them as we are able to buy. It is impossible for us to go back to old Halifax Currency, for there is no such thing in existence. The relative values of gold and silver have been changed by British enactments, since that was our standard—and both the doubloon and British silver have been raised by common consent, and the sanction of this Legislaturo. We cannot undo what has been done here nor at home; and, therefore, we must adapt our standard to our present situation. The Spanish Dollar, which was the basis of old Halifax Currency, is becoming scarce, as the Spanish and Portuguese have lost the possession of the Mines—and the Mexican Dollar, which was formerly less esteemed, is coming up. The South American Doubloon has also come up to a higher relative proportion with dollars and cents; as the

Spanish Doubloon has disappeared. It is plain therefore, that every element of our old Halifax Currency is in a state of constant fluctuation. As to persons sustaining any actual loss by changing currency into sterling, there can be no real danger of that—there will only be a nominal rise of prices. The matter will be soon perfectly well understood—whereas, if you continue to base your currency, as some gentlemen wish, on the price of Bills of Exchange, it will be rising and falling every day. If you wish to act wisely, measure every commodity by a standard which is permanent and easily understood, not by a rule that is purely ideal and liable to constant fluctuations.

MR. YOUNG thought it would be time enough to go into the details of the plan when the other resolutions came to be discussed. The two questions before the Committee were, shall we or shall we not have a standard value? If that were decided in the affirmative, then they must determine what that standard should be. What coin—of what country? And these were plain practical questions. The moment our law expired, fixing the British shillings at 1s 3d, all was in confusion. It is plain, therefore, that we must have a standard—and provided we have one, fixed and immutable, it is of little consequence what we have. I have never heard clearer views of this subject delivered on the floor of the House, than those given by the hon. gentleman from the county of Shelburne, Mr. Huntingdon. Fix the Sovereign, the Doubloon, or the Guinea, and all other Coins will fluctuate round it. Even if the Gold, of which it is composed, falls in value, the virtue of the standard is still preserved, because it falls in the same proportion in the general market of the world.

If this be clearly understood, it enters into the very essence of this debate. I am satisfied then that we ought to have a standard—and the question at once occurs, what standard? Sho'! we have any other than the coin which is stamped, and issued and guaranteed, by the mighty Empire of which we form a part, and over which the highest order of science presides? We have this as a pledge of its weight and purity—and the faith of the British Government, as a security for its stability and redemption. Formerly the American Eagle contained too large a proportion of gold—of late they have been recoinced, and that portion taken off. If there be, at any future time, any cause disturbing the relative values of the gold and silver in the British coins, the mother government would immediately do the same. This is the advantage of taking the pound sterling for our standard. But it is said that we can have nothing fixed, because the exchange will rise and fall with the demand. It is true that Bills of Exchange may fluctuate, but the coins cannot. If, then, these are the opinions of a majority of the Committee, let us go to sterling at once. The next difficulty is as to the rate at which the conversion is to take place. Some, it would appear, are ready to vote against the measure, because there are fears pressing upon their minds, that if we adopt sterling as the money of account, and measure of value, we shall raise the salaries of public officers, and all other debts, public and private. But we shall not do that—if an officer gets now £400, or the Chief Justice gets £850 sterling, the question for us to decide will be, how much is that worth in currency at

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the present time—and whatever it is really worth let that to pass. Those who are now paid in sterling receive the money in dollars at 4s. 4d. and of course they dispose of these in the market for whatever they will bring. If we fix the proportions fairly, and establish them by law, there can be no difficulty. If I thought that by any means mode, or perversion of the mode of conversion, the learned member wished or intended to pay these officers more, I should vote against him—but that cannot be the case. The Bill will no doubt carefully provide that justice shall be done to all parties. I will appeal to all who hear me and ask, if we do adopt the proposition formerly made by the Master of the Rolls, and make the £100 Sterling equal to £125 Currency, could there be any injustice, if we paid officers in the one instead of the other? I will proceed no further than in rating the British Coins—I would neither fix the dollar—nor the doubloon—let them fluctuate according to the demand. If we can fix the British Coins by a decided majority there can be no difficulty. In opposing the Resolution, with a view to bring back old Halifax Currency, Gentlemen will be acting as wisely as if they attempted to build a stately fabric on the moveable surface of a lake. The first breeze that ruffles the waters, disturbs that on which the building is to rest—and to erect a permanent structure on such an unsubstantial foundation, would be the extreme of madness. So if we base our currency upon a thing which is in itself unstable, we shall be subject to eternal fluctuations. As we have no mint and no coinage of our own, let us adopt the standard fixed by our Mother Country, and for which her interest and her honour are pledged to mankind.

27th. Mr. BELL presented a Petition from the town of Halifax, numerously signed, praying that British sterling be adopted as the basis of our currency, when a debate commenced which dragged its slow length through this and the following day. All the topics urged on Monday were gone over again and again. We do not think it necessary to report this discussion—yet but little was said that was new, and a great deal that was sufficiently tiresome; we shall content ourselves with giving an abstract of the arguments used by the two contending parties. The Resolutions at first went to fix the payment of past obligations at 15 British shillings for the pound currency. To this it was objected, that creditors who had lent their money in doubloons—or had sold their property, expecting to be paid in that coin, which had for fifteen years formed the basis of our currency, would be subjected to a heavy loss. The answer given was, that in reality no loss would be suffered, because, though doubloons, being bought and sold as bullion in other countries, fluctuated in price, the amount of pure gold in sovereigns rated at 25s. and doubloons at £1 Halifax currency, was so nearly equal, that in reality the debtor would pay and the creditor receive a fair equivalent, whether the debt was discharged in the one or the other. That 50 sovereigns containing 904 3/4—100 grains of pure gold, and 25 doubloons 901 25—the creditor would in reality get a trifle more, if paid in sovereigns, or the silver which would buy them at the mint, than if he were paid in doubloons—a difference however, so slight, as to throw no serious difficulty in the way of such an adjustment. But then it was urged by Messrs. Lawson, Umacke, and Deblow, that the sovereigns and the British coins could not be had—that it was true, shillings and pence had flowed in here during the last few years, in consequence of their being rated above their value; but as the balance of trade was so largely against us with England, the moment British coins became relatively rated, they would all fly off, and leave us with nothing in which debts could be legally paid. To this it was answered, that the same arguments had been formerly used to prevent the country coming to cash payments; it being then said, that we could not supply ourselves with any coin at all, or conduct our business but in paper redeemable in nothing. That the labour of every country was equal to supply it with all the money necessary to carry on its business—and of the particular coins which by law were made the standard of value and money of account. That we had no mines—no mint—and yet coins of every nation were found here. Of course we could only procure these by sending abroad the products of our labour as an equivalent; and that the labour which brought us the dollar and the doubloon, would bring us, in quantities equal to our wants, the sovereign, the crown and the shilling. But, said the other side, British money is of more value here than it is in England, because the Commodity requires £101, 10s for a Bill on England of £100. Of course was the reply, the cost of transportation must be paid by any country wanting coins, from every other country from which they are to be brought. The Spanish Dollar—the Columbian Doubloon—even the American Eagle, which has to cross the Bay of Fundy, is burthened with this expense; but what does that prove?

To obviate the objection about subjecting the Creditor to loss, by compelling him to receive payment in British coins, the friends of the resolutions agreed to give to all creditors, for one year, the option of demanding the doubloon at £4. An outcry was raised against this. It would give the creditor a great advantage—it would stimulate every man having a debt owing to him to collect it within 12 months, in order that he might make a profit by selling his doubloons in a foreign market; and it would oblige those who had contracted obligations in British money at 25s. to pay in what could not be had but at a very heavy premium. To this it was replied, that we had now but a choice of paths out of the dangerous position in which past blunders had placed us—that each had its difficulties and objections, but that we must choose, and that which presented the least ought to be taken. That in the arrangement of a question so complicated, a trifling injustice might be done to some class of persons, but that, as in all such cases, the few must give way to the paramount objects of the safety and security of the many. That no great injustice could be done to either debtor or creditor, so long as precisely the same amount of the precious metals was made the medium of settlement between them. The opposition, when asked what remedy they would apply, stated their desire to go back to the old Halifax currency—which was the currency of all the surrounding Colonies and of the United States, &c. and which would simplify our operations with them, and obviate the difficulty about the scarcity of coins. To this it was objected, that old Halifax currency would be 15 British shillings to the pound—so that all the debts contracted by the community to the Banks in British shillings at 16 to the pound currency, would have to be discharged by 18, thus giving them an advantage over those who owed them of £10 on every £100. That this was a proposition, a thousand times more monstrous than either the loss they proposed to inflict on the creditor, by paying him in British coins, or the risk they were willing to subject the debtor to of paying in doubloons. Finally the Resolutions were carried by a majority of five, and a Committee appointed to prepare a Bill.

30th. The British Sterling Bill having been read a second time, Mr. Uniacke moved that it be deferred to that day three months; and after a good deal of discussion, the Motion was carried and the Bill lost—the names standing:

For the motion:  
Messrs G. Smith, Rudolf, Lawson, W. H. Roach, Budd, Delap, Johnston, Morse, Clements, Cochran, Umacke, Deblow, Dodd, Lent, Homer, Harris, Crow.  
Against the motion:  
Messrs C. Roche, O'Brien, Croighton, Wier, Archibald, Lovett, Bell, Stewart, Morton, Huntingdon, Oxley, Dickson, Doyle, Chipman, Young.  
And thus, as the Speaker expressed it; the House were "as you were."

County of Annapolis.

In our last, we noticed that the Petition from the County of Annapolis, to the King against the Bill for dividing Halifax County, was sent down to the House on Tuesday the 21th ult. on which occasion Mr Smith and others denounced the conduct of the Petitioners as highly insulting to the House. It was made the order of the day for Friday the 29th, to take this subject into consideration.

It being the order of the day to-day to consider the Governor's Message, and the Petition from Annapolis County on the subject of the division of the County of Halifax, these papers were taken up and read, and a motion made to refer them to a select Committee. Messrs. Smith, Uniacke, Lawson, and Doyle, declaimed against the petitioners, and the people at the Colonial Office, for listening to them. Mr. Doyle was anxious that the false and groundless charges made in the petition, against the House generally and himself and his Colleagues from Cape Breton in particular, should be answered, and shown to be without the shadow of a foundation. The Petitioners had made it matter of complaint against the Assembly that they had been defrauded of their rights, inasmuch as the Township of Wilmot had not been allowed a member, according to the provisions of the old statute bearing on the representation. But as well might the Townships of Chester, Louisburg, Caneau and others complain, for they were all included in the same clause. But if there was blame any where, it lay with the Executive for not acting upon that statute, not with the Legislature for passing a new law which did not affect their rights in the slightest degree; and certainly did not deprive them of any which the old statute conferred. As a proof of the injurious tendency of a preponderance of Eastern members, it was stated that cordage, grappels, &c. which they use, in ship building,

had been burthened with heavy duties—now the fact was, that himself and his colleagues, and other gentlemen representing the Eastern Counties, had voted against these impositions, and used all their influence to defeat them; while they were opposed in their efforts by many of the western members, aided and abetted by some from this very County of Annapolis. He did not think that it comported with the dignity of the House to entertain the subject at all—neither the message nor the petition should have been permitted to lie on the Table at all—but as they had been read, and an order of the day made for taking them up, he was anxious that an answer should be given to the slanders the latter contained. Messrs Stewart, Young, Wilkins, and others concurred in the opinion that the petition was unworthy of notice, and that it was beneath the dignity of the House to enter into any explanation of their conduct—or any defence of a bill which had received the deliberate sanction of the three branches. The Petitioners, who had failed to address either branch during the passage of the Bill, had been guilty of a gross insult to the combined Legislature, by attempting to defeat a useful measure by making false and improper statements to His Majesty's ministers. On the other side it was urged, that they had the right to petition—that the Annapolis Bill having been deferred, they conceived it to be their only chance for obtaining justice; and that if the subject was to be referred to a Committee, the Petitioners ought to have an opportunity of making their defence. Mr. Huntingdon thought the people of Bridgetown had as good a right to abuse the House as any body else; and in no quarter did they get more than in the County of Halifax. It having been urged as a complaint against the Petitioners, that they referred to a pledge made by the House, when passing the Bill, that it would divide the County of Annapolis, Mr. Johnson explained that they meant nothing more than that there was a moral pledge held out in the act itself that justice would be done to the other counties. Mr. Wilkins said he had taken some pains to ascertain the mode of dealing with Bills at home; and found that while they were all referred to a competent legal authority, the King's assent was only withheld from one of three causes: 1st—If they contained any thing at variance with the Royal instructions. 2d—If repugnant to the Common or Statute Law; and, 3d—If expressed in terms so defective as to be insufficient to carry out their obvious aim and intention. But that a Bill should be delayed because it did not refer to and provide for some different and distinct object, altogether unconnected with the design of it, was entirely unprecedented. It having been determined to refer the subject to a select Committee, Mr. Stewart was named as the chairman, but begged to be excused. Messrs. Croighton, Doyle, Young and others were then named, but all declined, and it being found difficult to obtain a committee, a motion was about to be put to discuss it in committee of the whole. Mr. Uniacke protested against this course, as it would in effect be compelling the majority, who had already determined upon a reference to a select committee, to submit to the minority who had voted against them. The Speaker interposed, and finally Mr. Uniacke and two other Gentlemen were appointed.

Division of Shelburne County.

A Bill had been introduced by Mr. Huntingdon for Dividing this County, and increasing its Representation, and was read a second time on Thursday 26th January.—The usual motion was made for committing the Bill to a Committee of the whole house, when Mr. Lawson moved as an amendment that the Bill be dismissed; after some discussion a division took place upon the amendment, which was lost; when the original motion for committing the Bill was put and carried, 16 to 13. On Monday 1st February, the House in Committee on this Bill, Resolved, 16 to 13, that the further consideration of the Bill be deferred to that day three months.

The Fisheries.

Wednesday, 27th—A Bill having been introduced by Mr. Umacke for the protection of the Fisheries, it was this day read a first time, when the Speaker called the attention of the House to the provisions of the Convention made between His Majesty and the United States, on 20th Oct'r. 1818, when the following discussion took place.

MR. UNIACKE referred to a case argued by the Solicitor General in our Courts, who contended for an American Vessel caught within the line, that we had not the power to protect our Fisheries under the Convention and the English Statute. The point was

not decided, as the vessel was condemned for having also been engaged in illicit trade.

Mr. DODD explained the manner in which American Fishermen surrounded the shores of Cape Breton. It was not to be expected that much aid would be had from the poor settlers along the coast, because they had an interest in selling their fish and purchasing supplies free of duty. It was the general Merchant who was compelled to suffer loss.

Mr. UNIACKE said that he had offered in the Bill a great bounty to the Seizing Officer—by simplifying the process by which the condemnation should be made, and ensuring to him one portion of the value. Formerly the expenses were great—the proceedings tardy—and the party making a seizure, was not sure what he would get, or whether he would realize anything. He believed there was a disposition on the part of the British Government to allow us to have a Provincial Vessel, similar to the protection of the Fisheries. Formerly when a vessel or two were taken for breach of Convention, the Americans raised a clamour, which had probably reached the ear of Government, and it appeared to him that since then but little zeal or activity had been displayed by Officers on this station. Although there are a number of cutters and small vessels included in the West India and North American Command, they are seldom seen here at all. So careless were the American Fishermen last season, that they actually followed the schools of fish into the harbours—breaking them up—and preventing them from going into the Sains.

Mr. DEWOLF said that complaints having been made of the number of American fishermen in the Bay of Fundy, some of them were seized by the men of war last summer—but nothing was done with them. They were merely warned not to come there again—but they got new registers, and were back on the same ground in a few days.

Mr. HOMER stated the manner in which they frequented the Western Harbours for the purpose of procuring bait. He also referred to the statement made to him by a young fellow who had gone round to the Gulf in an American vessel on a fishing voyage, to prove the extent of depredation committed.

Mr. DOYLE only regretted that what the members were now stating on all sides of the house they had not said a few days ago in their address to the Governor. His Excellency had congratulated them on the flourishing state of the Fisheries—where he got his information he could not tell, but he certainly regretted that, after responding to that part of the Speech, they would now be compelled to tell the Governor that our Fisheries were in a wretched condition. When the Chieftaco was employed she did no good. As to the Cruizers that were sent into the Gulf, they spent half their time in Pictou Harbour, and were only useful to take the honourable members from that quarter and their friends on fishing excursions. There were at one time this summer 90 American vessels in one harbour on the North shores of Cape Breton—ostensibly procuring wood and water—when in fact there was very little of either within 90 miles of the place. It was quite a common thing for the P. E. Island officers to come over to Cape Breton to collect their light duties from American vessels; he denied that our fisheries had been prosperous the past season—a good deal of Fish had been exported from Halifax, but the bulk of it had come from Gaspé and Newfoundland; and regretted that in now proceeding upon this Bill they were about to give the lie to themselves, and retract the opinion expressed in their answer to the Governor.

Mr. BELL remarked upon the injurious character of the Convention. In signing it, the Commissioners had given away our natural rights. And as even what was left to us, was continually violated with impunity, without any effective interference from the British Government, it was high time that we began to protect ourselves. What we wanted were a few small armed vessels that could be actively employed, and would do the duty. To him it appeared that there were very few officers of the Navy that would zealously perform this service; he did not blame them—it was perhaps natural enough for them to prefer ease and pleasure—and that they should try to get over a troublesome duty as easily as they could. But if we had a few persons engaged in this business, who, from being natives of the Province, had an interest in its welfare—who knew where the evils lay, and could promptly apply a remedy—these would be better than any Admirals, Captains or Midshipmen. After some further conversation, the Bill was referred to a select Committee, consisting of Messrs. Uniacke, Homer, Johnston, Smith, Wilkins, Dodd, and Doyle.

**Judges' Fees.**

Mr. MORTON presented a Petition on the subject of Agriculture, which was laid on the table. Also, another, praying for the abolition of the Judges' Fees, a copy of which we subjoin, for the examination and imitation of the country at large:

To His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Nova Scotia, the honorable His Majesty's Council, the Speaker and members of the House of Assembly.

We the Subscribers, Inhabitants of said Province, having long viewed with dissatisfaction the distress occasioned to the most necessitous part of His Majesty's subjects in this Province, by the fees taken by the Chief Justice and the Judges of the Supreme Court (which, in accordance with the report of those gentlemen, amounts to upwards of a Thousand Pounds per annum) without being sanctioned by the laws of this Province. And taking into consideration the ample Salaries the Chief Justice and Judges of the Supreme Court annually receive; and being of opinion that the taking such fees is improper and unconstitutional, and attended with many evil consequences; do most anxiously but humbly request that you will, if it cannot be otherwise effected) forward an address to our beloved Sovereign, praying that such improper and illegal fees may no longer be continued, and that His Majesty's loyal subjects of this Province may be subject to no other or greater taxes than are laid upon them by the laws and statutes of the said Province; and your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

Mr. DOYLE was anxious that a day should be named for the consideration of this subject. During the recess he had had sundry discussions with members of the Bar, and others upon it, and as they had failed to convince him of the legality or propriety of the exactions, he was desirous that members should come prepared to examine and dispose of the question. The learned member from Cumberland he believed had prepared himself to defend them—but if, as this petition stated, and he believed, they were illegal and unconstitutional, it was quite time they were abolished. Mr. Morton had made no motion, because he had reason to believe that other petitions would be sent in on the same subject—but if no other member took the matter in hand, he should of course make a motion to try the sense of the House.

Mr. YOUNG introduced a Bill to divide the County of Sydney and increase its Representation.

Mr. LAWSON referred to the Treasurer's Account Current, and showed that there was a balance in the Treasury of £6956 11 6. Mr. Young was not aware that there was so large a balance in the chest, and thought it should have been applied under the existing Act to extinguish a part of the Funded Debt. The Speaker explained that nearly £4000 had been paid in within a very short time. He glanced over the Account, and showed that there were several large sums—£2000 to the Cornwallis Bridge—and others, that were now paid and would not have to be met again. Messrs. Wilkins, Dewolf and Shey asked and obtained leave to go home, on business connected with the Windsor Bridge.

**Tuesday, February 26.**

Several Petitions were presented in favour of continuing the Grant to the Eastern Stage Coach Company, which were referred to a Select Committee.

Mr. W. H. ROACH moved for a Return exhibiting the amount of Spirituous liquors introduced into and consumed in this Province during the last ten years.

He alluded to the formation of the Temperance Societies, and wished to ascertain whether there had not been a gradual decrease in the consumption of ardent spirits and wines, in order that the advantage of these Societies should be tested by facts. Mr. Lawson explained that such a return could not be furnished—because as one year ran into another—and was affected by the amounts of drawback, bonds outstanding, &c.; it was impossible to ascertain the consumption of any particular year. All that could be had, Mr. Roach might furnish himself with consulting the tables in the Journals. Mr. Doyle wished to know for what purpose the information was required. It was usual for a member in moving for returns, to state what motion he intended to ground upon them. The motion was lost 13 to 10.

Mr. ARCHIBALD introduced a Bill for reducing the law expenses in Causes where Confessions of Judgment were given. Mr. Bell presented a Petition from Sarah Irwin, praying some compensation for the loss sustained, by the Commissioners of Streets half burning her house.

Mr. UNIACKE presented a Bill to consolidate and amend the laws relating to offences against the person. Several improvements had, he said, been introduced into the Criminal laws of England, which he was desirous should be embodied in our own. The Bill was received and read a first time.

**HALIFAX, Feb. 3.**

**MECHANICS INSTITUTE.**—If any thing were wanting to prove the estimation in which this Society is now held throughout the Province, it would be found in the sacrifices which men

—the most eminent for science and literature—make to give it the aid of their talents, and the protection of their countenance and support. On Tuesday Evening, Dr. McCULLOCH, who had come all the way from Pictou for the purpose, gave a very able and interesting Lecture on Chemical Affinities, illustrated by a great number of brilliant and happy experiments. We never saw the Room so crowded indeed so crammed, for with all the care taken to provide extra seats nearly one hundred persons were compelled to stand, and there could not have been less than 400 in the room; 40 or 50 had to return home, being unable to effect an entrance. We have no time to speak of the Lecture—nor are remarks necessary, addressed to a people, among whom the Doctor's talents are so well known and so highly appreciated. It is sufficient to say that it was chaste and unpretending—calculated to do good by conveying instruction, and exciting a taste for his favourite science. Many of the experiments were very beautiful. We have understood that Dr. McCulloch contemplates paying a visit to St. John, New Brunswick, during the Academic vacation, for the purpose of giving a short course of Lectures in that city. That he will experience the most liberal encouragement from our public-spirited neighbours we have not a doubt—and shall be happy to hear that the taste for such exhibitions which some gentlemen are endeavouring to excite there, has been fostered by the Doctor's visit; and that ere long we shall have to remark the regular Meetings of a Mechanic's Institute, in science and utility rivaling our own.—*Novascotian.*

**JUST PUBLISHED,**

And for Sale by the Subscriber, Price 6d.  
THE NOVA-SCOTIA SONGSTER,  
being a selection of Scotch, English, Irish, Love, Naval and Comic Songs. JAS. DAWSON.  
Pictou, February 10, 1836.

**For Sale.**

**AN Excellent Lot of LAND** situate on the Road leading from the Middle to the East River of Pictou, adjoining the Lands of Alexander Horn. For Terms, which will be made liberal, please apply to

**JOHN MCKENZIE.**

West River, Pictou, 8th Feb., 1836.

**SEEDS,**

Growth of 1835.

The Subscriber has received his usual supply of Garden, Field, and Flower SEEDS, among which are 1500 lbs. of American red clover seed, 20 bush. timothy seed, dwarf and pole peas and beans, &c. Feb'y 1836. JAMES DAWSON.

Those disposed to cultivate red clover for the seed, are informed that J. D. will give 10d per lb for any quantity they can raise, if it be well cleaned. J. D. has for sale, a few barrels American AP-PLES, of superior quality.

**ON CONSIGNMENT.**

**6 CASKS** Herbert's Liquid and Paste SHOE BLACKING—cheap for Cash. Apply to the Subscriber. JAS. DAWSON.  
Pictou, 16th September, 1835

**FINAL NOTICE.**

**ALL** persons indebted to the Estate of the late WILLIAM MORTIMER, Esq., will please to take notice that unless they make immediate payment to the subscriber, legal proceedings will be instituted against them without distinction.

Nov. 4. MARTIN J. WILKINS.  
if

**TO LET.**

Entry Immediately.

**THE** Premises lately occupied by Mr. J. Romano as a SHOP and DWELLING. For particulars apply at this Office.  
if Pictou, July 10, 1835.

## AUCTION OF REAL ESTATE, AT PICTOU.

By virtue of the Act of this Province for the more easy Redemption of and Foreclosure of Mortgages,  
**THOS. H. GIBBS, Plaintiff,**

In the Cause of **JOSEPH CHIPMAN, Adm'r. of the Estate of John Jameson, late of Pictou, deceased,—Def.**

**TO be Sold at Public Auction on the premises, in the Town of Pictou, on Monday, the 23rd day of February, at 12 o'clock noon, by the Deputy Sheriff of the District of Pictou, the following Lands and Premises:**

**All** that certain lot, piece or parcel of Land, situate, lying, and being, in the Town of Pictou, formerly part of the farm lot of George Smith, Esq., and abutted, bounded, and described as follows, that is to say:—Beginning on the North side of Spring street, at the point formerly the South-east corner of the said George Smith's farm lot; thence to run North one hundred and twenty-seven feet; thence North 25 degrees West, fifty feet; thence South one hundred and twenty-seven feet, to the North side of Spring street aforesaid; thence South 76 degrees East, along said Street to the place of beginning, being the lot of Land sold by the said George Smith to James Kitchen, jun'r., and sold by James Kitchen, jun'r. aforesaid, to one William Kitchen, and by him to the said John Jameson. **TERMS OF SALE**—Ten per cent. of the purchase money to be paid down, and the remainder on delivery of the Deed.

**J. W. HARRIS,**  
Dep. Sheriff of Pictou.

**J. BLANCHARD,**  
Plffs. Attorney.  
Pictou, 16th January, 1836.

### TO BE SOLD

#### BY PRIVATE CONTRACT,

**That valuable and well known property, near the centre of the town of Pictou, part of the real estate of the late John Dawson, Esquire, deceased; consisting of the Eastern half of the**

#### LARGE HOUSE AND LOT,

at present occupied by Mr. James Skinner and Dr. Martin, and the lot and wing adjoining, occupied by Mr. Thomas Fraser, as a paint shop.

This property admeasures, on Water Street, forty feet, on Kempf Street, eighty feet, and can be disposed of in one lot, or divided, and sold in two lots. A warranted title will be given, and terms of payment liberal.

For Particulars, please apply to  
**ABRAHAM PATTERSON.**  
Pictou, 18th Dec'r, 1835. *tf*

### TO BE SOLD OR LET.

**THAT** commodious new **HOUSE**, on Water st., adjoining the property of Ross and Primrose to the east. It is divided into two self-contained sets of apartments, each containing a Kitchen and frost-proof Cellar on the ground floor; a SHOP 20 feet by 16, and a Parlor on the second floor; a Dining Room and Drawing Room, in the third floor, with the addition of a bed-room to one end; two good bed-rooms in the attic story. Possession can be given early in May.

#### ALSO:

**THAT** two-story House on Water st., at present occupied by Yarnel Brown, and as a Printing Office. This House is well finished and has a never-failing spring of water in the cellar.

Terms of purchase of either of the above will be made easy. For particulars apply to  
**JAMES DAWSON.**

January, 1836.

### NAILS, ON CONSIGNMENT.

**THE** Subscriber has received, ex Sch'r ADLE, from Montreal, a large consignment of best bending or tough Cut Nails, of all sizes, from 2lb. or shingling, to 30lb per thousand, and which he now offers wholesale or retail, very low for cash. These nails have been pronounced superior to any wrought nails for house work, wherever they have been introduced.  
**JAS. DAWSON.**  
December 1.

### TO BE LET,

WITH IMMEDIATE POSSESSION,

**THAT Dwelling HOUSE, and GARDEN, and also the SHOP, lately occupied by Mr James Beaton, tailor. The house is well adapted for a small family. For Particulars apply to the Subscriber, who offers**

#### FOR SALE,

1. **That valuable LOT of LAND, on Sutherland River, Merigonish, formerly possessed by Hugh Skinner, containing 200 acres, and on which there is one of the best MILL SEATS in the Province.**

2. **That HOUSE and LOT on Colerain Street, situated between Messrs. Adamson's and Mr. Kenzie's properties.**

3. **A LOT of LAND, containing 120 acres, on Mount Dalhousie, bounded on the East by land belonging to Mr John Robertson, W. R.**

4. **A LOT of LAND, containing 71 acres, on Scotch Hill, bounded on the North by land belonging to Mr Thomas Lowden.**

A liberal Credit will be given.

**T. H. B. G. TAYLOR.**  
13th December, 1835. *m-m cc-3*

### POSITIVE SALE.

**TO BE SOLD AT PUBLIC AUCTION, at the Court House in Pictou, on the 10th day of April next, at the hour of twelve o'clock, noon, all the Real Estate of WILLIAM MORTIMER, of Pictou, Merchant, deceased, consisting of the following Lots:**

1. **DWELLING HOUSE, STORES, Wharf, &c. in the Town of Pictou, comprising an excellent Mercantile Establishment.**

2. **TWO LOTS on the West of the above-mentioned house, sixty feet front each, with water extending to the channel of the harbour.**

3. **A LOT on the East of the building used as a store by the late Mr. Mortimer, fronting twenty-five feet on Water street, and extending south to the channel of the harbour.**

4. **A LOT situate in the Town of Pictou, on the south side of Water street, bounded on the west by a line parallel with the house formerly in the occupation of Mrs. Mooring, thence eastwardly 25 feet, extending south to the channel of the harbour.**

5. **A WATER LOT, situate in the Town of Pictou, beginning at the south-west angle of James Dawson's store, on the south side of Water street; thence westwardly 76 feet to a lot the property of the late William Mortimer—extending south to the channel of the harbour.**

6. **A LOT OF LAND situate in the Town of Pictou, beginning at the Lot now in the possession of John Davis, thence north 123 feet to Church street, thence west 42 feet, thence south 123 feet to Water street, thence east along the line of said street 42 feet.**

7. **A LOT OF LAND situate on the North side of Pictou harbour, known as 'Battery Hill,' containing 22 acres. This field will be sold in small lots, according to a plan of the same that may be seen in the office of the subscriber.**

8. **A LOT from 30 to 35 ACRES, being the rear of the one hundred acre lot, of which the last mentioned lot forms the front. This will be sold in Lots of 5 or 10 acres to suit purchasers, according to a plan of the same to be seen in the office of the subscriber.**

9. **THAT LOT OF 29 ACRES (with 19 acres to be added to it in the rear) on which a new and commodious house has recently been erected—this lot of 29 acres is nearly all under the plough—completely fenced and in good cultivation.**

10. **A LOT OF LAND situate in the suburbs of Pictou, near the house at present occupied by Mrs. Sarah Mortimer, bounded on the east and south by the harbour of Pictou.**

11. **THE EASTERN END OF GREAT CARRIBOO ISLAND, adjoining the lands of Messrs Harris, containing 54 acres.**

12. **A LOT OF LAND situate in Chance Harbour, being Lot No. 18 of the Grant to the late 82nd Reg't, containing 100 acres, formerly the property of John Cameron.**

13. **A LOT OF LAND situate on the West side of the Middle River of Pictou, beginning at a stake on the bank of said River, and bounded by the lands of Samuel Archibald, William Porter and James Porter, containing 27 acres. Also—a LOT adjoining the above, containing 25 acres.**

14. **A LOT OF LAND on the East side of the Middle River, in the 2nd Division of Lands on the said River, being John Porter's share or third part of Land granted to John, James, and William Porter, containing 116 acres.**

15. **A LOT OF LAND situate on the East side of the Middle River, containing 20 acres, formerly the property of Robert Matheson.**

16. **A LOT OF LAND fronting on the Middle River, known as Brydon's Lot, containing 160 acres, more or less.**

17. **A LOT OF LAND situate on Mount Thom, fronting on the main road leading from Truro to Pictou, being part of a Lot of Land granted to the heirs of the late Thomas Harris, Junior, containing 300 acres.**

18. **A LOT OF LAND situate on the East side of River John, beginning at the south angle of Land granted to William Rankin, containing 250 acres—formerly the property of Murdoch McLean.**

19. **A LOT OF LAND situate on the West side of Tatmagouche River, being Lot 28 on a plan of the estate of the late Col. Desbarres, Esq., containing 100 acres. There is on this lot a new and commodious dwelling house.**

20. **A LOT OF LAND situate in New Annap, fronting on the south bank of the French River of Tatmagouche, containing 300 acres. On this lot there is a saw Mill.**

21. **A LOT OF LAND situate in part of the River John, bounded on east and south by lands owned by William McConnell, on the west by lands of Alexander Logan, on the north by lands of John McKee and John Geddie, containing 300 acres more or less.**

22. **A LOT OF LAND situate upon the forks of River John, bounded on the north by lands granted to Windsor College, on the south and west by lands granted to James Marshall and John Marshall, containing 300 acres, being the whole of a tract granted by Government to John Moor and Susan his wife.**

**TERMS OF SALE.**—A deposit of ten per cent. and a handsome credit for the balance, to be made known at the time of sale.

**MARTIN J. WILKINS.**

Sole Executor and Devisee.

Pictou, 24th Nov. 1835. *if*

### FOR SALE

AND IMMEDIATE POSSESSION GIVEN:

**TWO ROOMS and part of the CELLAR, in that house formerly A. G. Mackay's, adjoining the residence of Mr. Geo. Craig, on the upper side of Church Street.**

ALSO:

**ALL that HOUSE lately occupied by John Adamson, on Water Street.**

ALSO:

**ALL that HOUSE lately in the occupation of David Reach, Esq. This House is calculated for two families, and can be had in separate divisions or in whole.**

The Rent for the two first mentioned premises will be required to be paid monthly, and for the last quarterly.

Apply at the Office of the Subscriber.

**THOMAS DICKSON.**

December 12 *b-c.*

### NOTICE.

#### THE SUBSCRIBERS

**HAVE REMOVED** to their **NEW STORE**, immediately opposite Mr. Robert Dawson's, where an extensive and general Assortment of **PRIME GOODS**,

will be kept (by them as usual) constantly on hand  
**W. & J. IVES.**  
Nov. 13, 1835. *if*

### SEEDS,

Growth of 1835.

The Subscriber has received his usual supply of Garden, Field, and Flower SEEDS, among which are 1500 lbs. of American red clover seed, 20 bush. timothy seed, dwarf and pole peas and beans, &c. Feb'y 1836.

**JAMES DAWSON.**  
Those disposed to cultivate red clover for the seed, are informed that J. D. will give 10d per lb for any quantity they can raise, if it be well cleaned. J. D. has for sale, a few barrels American AP- PLES, of superior quality.

**A Few Copies of THE COMPLETE FARMER and RURAL ECONOMIST, for sale at Office. Price \$2 each. [Oct. 21.]**

[FOR THE BEE.]  
TO THE LAWYERS.

GENTLEMEN,—From a wish to promote your well-being, and from the goodness of Mr. Dawson, who says he is willing to publish any thing that is for the good of the country, I now give you information that nearly concerns both. As I am a quiet, simple kind of a body, I hear folks' minds quite freely, and they never think it will go farther, but I must let you know that the most of the farmers and some others in the country say that there should be no Lawyers in the House of Assembly but one or two. They have been speaking about it this two or three years, but not long since, a man Howe, in Halifax, said something about this in the newspapers that put them all in a *keewee*, and seemed to give them great courage: what think ye did I hear one say the other day? That it would look far better to see a dozen jolly Farmers jogging down to Halifax on their basened nags, than as many Lawyers in their Carriages, Barouches, &c.—they say that you purposely make ambiguous and intricate laws to give yourselves employment—that you are not acquainted with the state of the country, and that you do not give yourselves much trouble about it—that you should explain and assist in putting the laws in execution, but that you should not be the makers of them—that there could be plenty of farmers of competent knowledge and intelligence found in the country to see to its internal concerns, and men engaged in the commercial and mercantile lines to see after its external affairs, who would be contented with less wages than you get, and that the balance might be laid out on roads and bridges and other things of that kind; they even say that you advise the issuing of paper money, that you may get a hold of some of it yourselves—that you assist in getting too high fees to those in public offices in hopes that by and by you will fill them yourselves,—and moreover, that if things be carried on for a little while longer in the way they have been, the country will be ruined; and a good deal more of the same kind that I shall not tell you now, but may afterwards if this seem to be of any service to you. In the mean time I shall tell you what arguments I have used to try to persuade them that they are wrong.—Such as, that it looks far better to see gentlemen riding in carriages with fine horses and drivers, than farmers hobbling on country ponies with a bag behind them with oats in the one end, and bread and cheese in the other to feed on by the way—that if the laws were all plain, folks would not know that you were scholars, and they would not be respected—that if you do not know the state of the country, it is not for want of opportunity, as a great many of the country folks are often in conference with you (I cannot say what about, for although I respect the Laws, I never yet have consulted a Lawyer)—that you surely study the good of the country, for the people in it employ you often, and pay you well for it—that there are none so fit to make laws as those always engaged in them, and that you know best about explaining your own laws, for what might be made by farmers would not need much—that I have little doubt but plenty of farmers and merchants would be got to take the business in hand, but when met they would be like what the quakers are sometimes, sit and look at one another—that the man Howe, in Halifax, would have no long fine speeches to fill his Newspaper, and that if they were contented with less wages themselves, they would be for taking down the wages of others, and then poor people would not have a dollar to spend on rum or any thing of that kind, and that they would have to work all the time, and could not spend two or three days to frolic now and then—that as to paper money, I do not know much about it, but as the doubloons have disappeared, and most of the dollars, and they do not know much about sovereigns on this side the water, and do not seem to care about them, if bits of printed paper do as well they are lighter to

carry—that the finding fault with the high fees to public officers, proceeds from a narrow mind, and that it is laudable to wish to rise higher in life; and as to the last objection, I tell them plainly it is nonsense, as I am sure that the Law is the only thriving trade in the country, seeing you have got the most of the money amongst your hands, building fine houses, and can afford to live better than they can themselves, and that it would be better for us all to turn lawyers. But all that I can say appears to have little effect upon them.

Now as it seems there is an Election at hand, and you know the most of them have votes, I think it would be well for you to take a ride through the country and speak very frankly to them, and ask all about the Roads and Bridges, and speak to them of the scarcity of money, and give them a hint that if you have any thing to do with the management of public affairs, you will do your endeavours to get money on the by-roads.

Do sure and have plenty of rum at the Election, and make great long speeches, and promise fairly to have every thing put to rights.

I remain, Gentlemen.

Your humble Servant,  
TATLER.

[FOR THE BEE.]  
TO DELTA.

DEAR DELTA,—I am sorry that you so much misunderstood my meaning as to imagine that I wished to substitute ridicule for argument, particularly as my sentiments respecting canine rationality are but little at variance with your own. Ridicule, indeed! How could I violate every feeling of humanity, by treating, with ridicule, animals who have so much claim to our sympathy as this poor neglected untaught race, whose language has been considered beneath the study of the Lords of Creation, and who are consequently incapable of making their sorrows known, through this vehicle of communication! I must, however, differ from you in your opinion that dogs possess no principle of conscience.—Do you think that a dog is ignorant of doing right, when he drives the swine from the potatoe field; or that he is not conscious of having done wrong, when, as if in confession of his fault, he cowers at the feet of his master. In this sentiment you cannot imagine me to be going the whole hog, nor would I wish to be considered doggedly obstinate in any of my views on this subject. But, what! "reason little inferior to that of man," and no rational power of distinguishing right from wrong!! Surely, my Dear Delta you are not serious in this sentiment.

But you do not consider reason as the test of accountability—reason, by which the absurd principles of mathematics may be understood—reason, by which the laws of nature are investigated—reason, which draws the true bounds of political right, and declares that virtue is the legitimate parent of happiness,—reason, no test of accountability!! You certainly do not assert what you mean. Without reason the Heathen nations would not be able to discover the existence of the Deity, and consequently could have no apprehensions of a being to whom they should be accountable. Yet we are told, by indubitable authority, that they are amenable for their conduct—they are judged by the light of reason which they possess. By a parity of reasoning must we not imagine that a similar fate awaits heathen dogs, and would it not be commendable to erect institutions for the Education of dog-preachers?

Do you remember of having read that the Ouran Outang possesses all the external organs of speech. No doubt this species of monkeys possess, like dogs, a language of their own (and speech, they say, is the proprium of reason)—though I do not recollect of ever having seen any of their grammatical treatises; nor can I boast of an acquaintance with monkey grammarians. When they emerge from their present state

of barbarism, the literature of their tribe may perhaps rise to no despicable pitch. In the meantime, such philanthropic or philo-monkey spirits as yourself might, by some effort of genius, contribute greatly to the development of their rational powers, by establishing some efficient mode of Education.—Proceed my Dear Delta, in the good work.

I am, yours, &c:  
GAMMA.

AGRICULTURE.

[FOR THE BEE.]

PRACTICAL OBSERVATIONS ON THE STATE OF AGRICULTURE IN NOVA SCOTIA, AND THE MEANS OF ITS IMPROVEMENT.

ON THE CHARACTER OF NOVA-SCOTIA.

MR. DAWSON,

Sir,—That Nova-Scotia has a poor character is a fact well known to the most of its inhabitants, but that it is deserving of that character is matter of doubt with some, and I for one am pretty sure that it is a calumny.

Any person who is indifferent as to character, is lost to all sense of virtue and honour: this, to a certain degree may be applied to any society or body of people. As an inhabitant of Nova Scotia I must say that I feel indignant when I hear it mis-called, as it often is; and as an individual I now contribute my mite to have it fairly represented. As it is of importance in correcting any error, or putting that to right which is wrong, to investigate the cause, I shall try to point out what I conceive is part of the cause, (it would take too long to point them all out) and in doing so it will be necessary to go back for a considerable length of time. It was from the earliest navigators that visited this country that the people of Britain had their information about it, and, as far as I know the parts of it they visited were the most stern and forbidding in its aspect, and likely enough to make a strong impression on the mind unfavourable to the whole; at the same time it is well known that all their relations are made in vivid colours, so they said it was either a rock or a swamp, enveloped in continual mist; this was a pretty generally received opinion there until some thirty years ago, when some gentlemen, upon mercantile business, made it known that a fair representation had not been made, but as few of them were practical farmers it is not to be supposed that they were the most qualified to do it justice, and as the trade betwixt Britain and this country is chiefly in timber, those from there trading hither, have little opportunity of seeing any of it, but those parts where farming is little attended to; at the same time, it is well known that most of the labourers employed about loading vessels with timber are addicted to rum-drinking, and not the most polished in their manners or appearance; so they do not give the most favourable account of either the country or its inhabitants. It is a common saying that as well kill a dog as give him a bad name, so I have little doubt but the name this country has got has been a serious injury to it, having prevented a good many farmers, with capital, from coming to it that otherwise might, at the same time retarding the progress of improvement amongst those who are here. As the relative value of any thing may be fairly ascertained by comparing it with another thing of a like kind, we shall contrast this country with that which the most of us is best acquainted with, namely, Scotland, and see what the result will be: and first, as to their respective geographic situations, Nova Scotia has the advantage by about 10 deg. of latitude, so our days are not so long in summer, or our nights in winter, by something more than two hours; as the hard winters in Nova Scotia are often spoken of, we shall next compare them. As we all know what they are here, I shall say little about them; it seems that for some years back the winters

UNITED STATES.

FRANCE AND THE UNITED STATES.  
ANOTHER "BLAST OF WAR."

In Senate—Monday, January 18—The Special Message.

To the Senate and House of Representatives.

GENTLEMEN—In my message at the opening of your session, I informed you that our charge d'Affaires at Paris, had been instructed to ask for the final determination of the French Government, in relation to the payment of the indemnification secured by the treaty of the 4th July, 1831, and that, when advices of the result should be received, it would be made the subject of a special communication.

In execution of this design, I now transmit to you the pages numbered from 1 to 13 exclusive, containing, among other things, the correspondence on this subject between our charge d'Affaires and the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, from which it will be seen that France requires, as a conditional precedent to the execution of a treaty unconditionally ratified; and to the payment of a debt acknowledged by all the branches of her government to be due, that certain explanations shall be made, of which she dictates the terms. These terms are such as that government has already been officially informed, cannot be complied with; and, if persisted in, they must be considered as a deliberate refusal on the part of France to fulfill engagements binding by the laws of nations, and held sacred by the whole civilized world. The nature of the act which France requires from this Government, is clearly set forth in the letter of the French minister, marked No. 1. "We will pay the money," says he, when the government of the United States is ready on its part to declare to us, by addressing its claim to us, officially in writing—that it regrets the misunderstanding which has arisen between the two countries—that this misunderstanding is founded on a mistake—that it never entered into its intention to call in question the good faith of the French government, or to take a menacing attitude towards France"—and he adds, "if the Government of the United States does not give this assurance, we shall be obliged to think that this misunderstanding is not the result of an error."

In the letter marked No. 6, the French Minister also remarks that "the Government of the United States knows that upon itself depends henceforward the execution of the Treaty of July 4, 1831."

This pretension is rendered the more unreasonable by the fact that the substance of the required explanation has been repeatedly and voluntarily given before it was insisted on us a condition—a condition the more humiliating because it is demanded as the equivalent of a pecuniary consideration. Does France desire only a declaration that we had no intention to obtain our rights by an address to her fears rather than to her justice? She has already had it frankly and explicitly given by our Minister accredited to her Government, his ratification by me, and my confirmation of it officially communicated by him, in his letter to the French Minister of Foreign Affairs of the 25th of April, 1835, and repeated by my published approval of that letter after the passage of the bill of indemnification. Does France want a degrading, servile repetition of this act in terms which will involve an acknowledgment of her assumed right to interfere in our domestic councils? She will never obtain it. The spirit of the American people, the dignity of the Legislature, and the firm resolve of their Executive Government, forbid it.

While, however, the Government of the United States was awaiting the movements of

the French Government, in perfect confidence that the difficulty was at an end, the secretary of State received a call from the French charge d'Affaires in Washington, who desired to read to him a letter he had received from the French Minister of Foreign Affairs. He was asked whether he was instructed or directed to make any official communication, and replied, that he was only authorized to read the letter, and furnish a copy if requested. The substance of its contents, it is presumed, may be gathered from Nos. 4 and 6, herewith transmitted. It was an attempt to make known to the Government of the United States, privately, in what manner it could make explanations apparently voluntary, but really dictated by France, acceptable to her, and thus obtain payment of the twenty-five millions of francs.

Copies of papers marked Nos. 9, 10, and 11, show an attempt on the part of the French charge d'Affaires, to place a copy of this letter among the archives of this Government, which, for obvious reasons, was not allowed to be done.

It will be perceived that this letter of the French Minister of Foreign Affairs was read to the Secretary of State on the 11th of September last. This was the first authentic indication of the specific views of the French government received by the Government of the United States, after the passage of the bill of indemnification. Inasmuch as the letter had been written before the official notice of my approval of Mr. Livingston's last explanation and remonstrances could have reached Paris, just ground of hope was left, as has been before stated, that the French Government, on receiving that information in the same manner that the alleged offensive measure had reached them, would desist from their extraordinary demand, and pay the money at once. To give them an opportunity to do so, and at all events to elicit their final determination, and the ground they intended to occupy, the instructions were given to our charge d'Affaires which were adverted to, at the commencement of the present session of Congress. The result, as you have seen, is a demand of an official expression of regrets, and a direct explanation addressed to France, with a distinct intimation that this is a *sine qua non*.

All diplomatic intercourse between the two countries is suspended—a state of things originating in an unreasonable susceptibility on the part of the French government, and rendered necessary on our part by their refusal to perform engagements contained in a treaty, from the faithful performance of which, by us, they are to this day enjoying many important commercial advantages.

It is true that this unequal position of affairs should cease, and that legislative action should be brought to sustain executive exertion in such measures as the case requires.

In the altered state of the questions in controversy, and under all existing circumstances, it appears to me, that, until such a determination shall have become evident, it will be proper and sufficient to retaliate her present refusal to comply with her engagements, by prohibiting the introduction of French products, and the entry of French vessels into our ports. Between this and the interdiction of all commercial intercourse or other remedies, you, as the representatives of the people, must determine. I recommend the former, in the present posture of our affairs, as being the least injurious to our commerce, and as attended with the least difficulty of returning to the usual state of friendly intercourse, if the Government of France shall render us

in Scotland have been milder than usual, but I shall speak of what I have seen. It is now over twenty years since I left that country, and became a denizen of this, consequently have a chance of being acquainted with both; and from a pratty careful observation since I came here, I think there is as great a quantity of snow falls in the interior of Scotland as does in Nova Scotia, and is generally drifted about with a stronger wind which makes it more disagreeable, the frost here is much more intense, and in ordinary of longer duration; but I have seen it, different winters there, three months frost and snow without intermission, and, although I did not see it, I had it from good authority that the people going to church crossed the the river Doveron seventeen successive Sabbaths on the ice; and I can safely say that there were four misty days there for one here. As to the proportions of the different countries susceptible of improvement, this has decidedly the advantage; it is generally allowed that there is not more than one third of Scotland fit for tillage, whereas this country has not much over a third but might be tilled. As to the quality of the soil it is not easy to say which has the advantage, there being so little done here to prove it, but as far as I am capable of judging there is a greater proportion of what might be arable land here good, than there: the Lothians, the Carse of Gowrie, Easter Ross, the Boyn, &c. are excellent tracts of land, but this is but a small part of the whole, and there is much but indifferent, and some very poor. I do think the section of this country lying between the Gut of Canso and Wallace harbour, might be made (and I have no doubt will be made) to maintain a more dense Agricultural population than the same extent in any part of Scotland. From the superior mode of culture now practised in the old country, I have no doubt: but the average returns of crops are greater there now than here; but I can remember since eight returns from the seed of oats upon infield, and four on the outfield, was the average—so that the general average was six returns; barley was much about the same; and as to wheat, I do not remember, there was very little raised in the part of the country I was most acquainted with.

If we had the means of ascertaining the returns here, I have little doubt but they would equal, if not exceed the above; as to hay, I am confident heavier crops are raised here than I ever saw there. The most valuable of the esculent roots can be raised in this country easier than they can in Scotland; the potatoe, which is deserving of the first place, may compare with, I believe, any in the world; and carrots, beets, parsnips, may be raised to any extent, with little trouble; and we can raise a variety of garden vegetables, such as pumpkins, squashes and cucumbers, that they cannot bring to maturity in the open air at all, consequently it is only the very rich that can afford such luxuries: I have seen the sowing of clover and flax seed tried there, but it did not answer: It will readily occur to any one that I have not mentioned turnips, which there is a staple article, I have raised here at the rate of from six to seven hundred bushels to the acre. I shall not carry the contrast farther now, in case I should be thought tedious; what has been said may satisfy any candid enquirer, and to remove prejudice is almost hopeless. What I conceive would answer an excellent purpose in this case, would be, to have a statistical account of the country, drawn up in imitation of Sir John Sinclair's Statistical Account of Scotland: some person would be found in every district who would take the trouble of collecting all the leading facts of the same, which would at once be an excellent fund of information, and might be had at a cheap rate.

Yours truly,

OLD RUSTICUS.

MADEIRA WINE.

10 CASKS, of 15 gallons each, for sale by ROSS & PRIMROSE. 24th Nov.

the justice that is due, and also, as a proper preliminary step to stronger measures, should their adoption be deemed necessary by subsequent events.

The return of our charge d'Affaires is attended with public notices of naval preparations on the part of France destined for our seas.

If this array of military force be really designed to effect the action of the government and the people of the United States, on the questions now pending between the two nations, then, indeed, would it be dishonorable to pause a moment on the alternative which such a state of things would present to us. Come what may, the explanation which France demands can never be accorded; and no armament, however powerful and imposing, at a distance, on our coast, will, I trust, deter us from discharging the high duties which we owe to our constituents, our national character, and to the world.

ANDREW JACKSON.

Washington, January 15, 1836.

C O M M E R C E .

WEDNESDAY MORNING, FEB'Y 10, 1836.

It will be seen by this day's paper, that the House of Assembly have thrown out the Currency Bill; so much time has therefore been lost, and it is in vain the country has looked to it for a settlement of this important question. To us it appears exceedingly simple; all that was wanted, was to affix the value of the coins of the Parent State, as near the present rate of exchange as possible or at any lower rate, and assimilate the value of the coins of other countries to which our commerce extends, to the value of sterling; this would require to be done with some degree of nicety, as an arbitrary assimilation might have the tendency of draining the Province of any particular coin,\* upon which money Speculators might make a profit on exportation; all the coins so assimilated and adopted as the circulating medium, should be made a legal tender to a limited extent, this would prevent mercantile inconvenience, by placing the option in the hands of the payer, as to the coin he should pay in; and the receiver could sustain no injury, as the same option becomes his in turn, when he becomes the payer. It is of no importance at what rate the currency be fixed, provided it be fixed at something, and the assimilation of the various coins of which it is composed, made complete, and a key given, to ascertain the relative value of the bank and other notes, to the altered currency, and every man's claim upon another.

But were all this accomplished, we must not suppose that our currency would thereby be restored to a sound state; this is a result, which, as well as the rate of exchange; depends wholly on the degree of attention which is paid to a leading principle of political economy. If a labourer expend 5s. per day, and earn only 4s. his pockets will not be much troubled with cash over the night; apply this to a nation and the result is obvious. If a merchant, or a number of merchants, export to the value of £4000, and import to the value of £5000, the amount of £1000 will be withdrawn from the circulation by their remitting the

balance in specie; which they must either do or go to a disadvantageous market to procure bills of exchange; here the same result follows as in the case of the labourer, but if in both cases the premises are reversed, the labourer will always have plenty of cash, and the merchants in place of having to remit £1000 in cash, to pay their balances, will draw from the country with which they deal, £1000 of its coin, which goes into circulation in their immediate neighbourhood.

Again, if one set of merchants import to the value of £4000 and another set export to the value of £2000—the importers must either remit wholly in specie, or go to the exporters and procure Bills of exchange for the one half, for which, as Bills are scarce in proportion to the demand, they have to pay a high premium, and the remaining £2000 has still to be remitted in hard coin. In both these cases the circulating medium suffers a diminution; but if the premises be reversed, the importers procure from the exporters, bills to the amount of £1000 at par, or a small discount, and the exporters finding that they cannot sell bills to the amount of all their exports, import the coins of the country with which they deal, for the balance; this goes into circulation, and the result is, that cash becomes plenty.

The foregoing examples will suffice to show, that the true and only source of a sound currency in any country, lies in procuring and exporting the products of its soil, its seas, and its manufactures, to a larger extent than it imports the commodities of other countries. Until, therefore, Nova Scotia can accomplish this, no act of its Legislature can ever restore its currency to a truly sound state; but its merchants and manufacturers, its farmers and fishermen, will continue to be the dupes of bankers and stock jobbers. The state of the currency may also be materially affected by an injudicious system of banking, and this has been the case to a ruinous extent in Nova Scotia; restore this and the balance of trade to a healthy state, and a plentiful circulation of money will follow.

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.**—We have given copious extracts from President Jackson's war Message; it breathes a high tone of national defiance, and we should think, has immeasurably widened the obstacles to an amicable adjustment of the dispute between the two countries.

S U M M A R Y .

**BERMUDA.**—The brig Brilliant, of Belfast (Ireland), Agnew, master, from Honduras, bound to Cork, got on shore at the West End, on the 28th December. Crew and cargo saved. Vessel towed into Hamilton.

On the 31st December, lady Cockburn gave a ball at Clarence Hill, to a very numerous party, who prolonged their stay with her ladyship to the "Wee sma' hour ayont the twal," to usher in the new year.

The ship Mount Zion, from Liverpool, for N York, with emigrants, put into Hamilton in the end of Dec in distress. The acting Governor, the Corporation of Hamilton, and many benevolent individuals, interested themselves in their behalf, and the sum of £84 was promptly raised for their relief.

His Excellency Governor Chapman, accompanied by lady Chapman was to leave England 21st Nov'r, for Bermuda.

The Editor of the Bermuda Gazette says he has received a splendid sweet potato, weighing five and a half pounds. Pahaw! that is nothing, says the Bermudian, we have had one weighing ten pounds.

**UPPER CANADA.**—We perceive by our files of U. Canada papers, that accounts had reached there of the recall of Sir John Colborne, and the appointment of Sir Francis B. Head, which had given general satisfaction. Sir Francis would have reached the seat of government from N. York, soon after the meeting of the Legislature, which was summoned for the 14th January. We sincerely hope he is a liberal and firm minded man, as none other will suit the people of U. Canada. He is said to have discharged the duties of his late office, of Assistant Commissioner of

the Poor Laws of England with great talent, and to reflect much credit on Lord Melbourne, who was the means of bringing him into notice.

By an article in the Morning Chronicle, it would appear, he is to be Civil Governor only, having no higher rank than Major in the Army, Sir John Colborne is to remain in command of the Forces in the Canadas, his Head Quarters being at Montreal.

By a Quebec paper of the 23rd ult., we have received Sir John Colborne's speech at the opening of the Legislature of U. Canada; he appears to take a just view of many topics intimately connected with the best interests of the Colony. He makes no allusion to his removal from office.

Mr. McKenzie has lately published, and circulated gratis, a series of papers under the name of the "Welland Canal," in which he exposes a variety of corrupt and fraudulent transactions, connected with that concern.

A notice in one of the Toronto papers, says, "The Branch of the Commercial Bank in this City, refuse their own notes in payment, and demand specie."

**LOWER CANADA.** The Quebec Gazette says,— "The British Rifle Corps, having dissolved itself, has been re-formed under the name of *The Montreal British Legion.*"

A General meeting of the Quebec Constitutional Association, was held on the 21st January, when nine Resolutions were unanimously carried. Want of room prevents us from laying them before the public this week, but we will copy them into our next. The fifth suggests the expediency of assembling a general Congress of the British Provinces of North America, to consider of the general interests of the said Provinces, with a view of submitting their opinion thereon to his Majesty, and both Houses of Imperial Parliament.

From what we have read of the doings in Lower Canada, we are of opinion, that the men of British Origin in that Province, will not find many kindred spirits in Nova Scotia; they have completely failed to convince their brethren in this quarter, that they are in the truest degree entitled to their sympathy.

**TEXAS.**—The Texans have now completely succeeded in clearing their Territory of armed men. Gen. Cos is killed, his army made prisoners, and the victors have thereby secured a large quantity of arms and ammunition, to protect themselves from further aggression. They were about to proclaim their independence, and a deputation had proceeded to the U. States for the purpose of negotiating for further supplies of arms, ammunition, provisions, and men.

Emigration to Texas was going on extensively.

We request attention to the rules of conduct at Public Meetings, which we have inserted in our last page of this paper, under the title of "Column for Young Men."

**PUBLIC MEETING.**—A Public Meeting has been called, to meet this day, at 12 o'clock, in the Court House, in consequence of a Requisition to the Sheriff, "for the purpose of presenting to His Majesty and His Council, an humble Address on the subject of the Bill recently passed by the several branches of the Provincial Parliament, entitled 'An Act for the Division of the County of Halifax,' and for the regulation of the Representation thereof; and from which the Royal assent has been withheld, in consequence of a Petition from several individuals residing at Annapolis, having been transmitted to the Colonial Office."

**A SERMON.**—We have been requested to intimate that the Rev. Mr. Cooney will preach a Sermon in the Court House, on Sabbath next, (14th) at 7 o'clock in the Evening.

MARRIED.

On Thursday last, by the Rev. Charles Elliot, Mr. Alexander Sutherland, to Miss Margaret Erskin, both of this place.

Same day, by the Rev. K. J. McKenzie, Mr. Charles McDonald, to Margaret Sutherland, both of this place.

DIED.

On the 9th ult. in the 70th year of her age, Margaret, widow of the late Peter Fraser, McLennan's Brook, leaving a numerous circle of friends and relatives to lament their loss.

Near Montreal, The Hon. John Molson, a member of the Legislative Council, L. C. aged 71.

\* To give an instance of the effects of an unjust assimilation of coins.—a few years ago, our mercantile neighbours in Halifax took a whim that they could not receive the Spanish Pistecen at more than ten pence, or six of them for a dollar; the consequence was, that they immediately disappeared, and they added some thousand pounds to the metallic currency of the neighbouring Colonies, while to supply their place here a new issue of paper notes was made. Than this nothing could be more barbarous; for if the superior purity of the silver be taken into account, five Pistecens are a good asset for a Spanish dollar, taking them on an average one with another.



## POETRY.

## THE LUTE.

O! sing again that mournful song,  
The song of other times!  
The music bears my soul along  
To other dearer climes.

I love its low and broken tone,  
The music seems to mo  
Like the wild wind when singing lone  
Over a twilight sea.

It may not sound so sweet to you,  
To you it cannot bring  
The valleys where your childhood grew,  
The memories of your spring.

My father's house, my infancy,  
Rise present to my mind,  
As if I had not crossed the sea,  
Or left my youth behind.

I heard it at the evening,  
Upon my native shore,—  
It was a favourite song with those  
Whom I shall see no more.

How many worldly thoughts and cares  
Have melted at the strain!  
'Tis fraught with early hopes and prayers,  
Oh! sing that song again!

## THE SEA.

The sea, the sea, the summer sea!  
No tempests o'er it sweep;  
But, calm as childhood's gentle rest,  
The placid waters sleep.

The Nautilus, in mimic pride,  
The balmy breezes greet;  
Lo! where it spreads its purple sail,  
And steers its fairy fleet.

The sunset cloud, the crescent moon,  
The rock, the tower, the tree,  
Mirror'd in magic beauty seem—  
The sea, the summer sea!

The sea, the sea, the winter sea!  
When storm-clouds are abroad,  
And tempests howl and billows rise,  
And nature's self is awed.

The thunder rolls, the lightnings flash,  
The skies in anger frown,  
While 'mid the elemental strife,  
The shattered ship goes down,

For 'tis, indeed, an awful hour  
Of dread solemnity,  
When death, with shadowy footstep treads  
The sea, the winter sea!

## COLUMN FOR YOUNG MEN.

ONE of the many things which young people are never taught under any circumstances in this country, is the art of conducting themselves properly at public meetings. A young man rises from boyhood, and finds himself, without any preliminary information on the subject, called upon to take a part in deliberations of a public nature; and it is only after years of painful experience that he attains a knowledge of the forms which regulate society in this, one of its most important functions.

The right of meeting together publicly to discuss matters connected with our social condition, being an invaluable prerogative, it is certainly right and fitting that all young men entering into the busy scenes of life should make themselves well acquainted with the rules which have been established by general consent for the proper conducting of such assemblages. We shall endeavour to point out a few of the chief points to be attended to.

According to usage, a public meeting is not constituted until a person be appointed to preside, or to "take the chair." Without this ceremony, the meeting is a tumultuary assembly, or mob. The first movement is therefore the appointment of a chairman. This functionary, on taking his seat, is for the time supreme in the meeting. His chief duty is the preservation of order. He allows only one to speak at a time, giving the preference to him who has first caught his eye in the act of rising, and giving every speaker a fair hearing. Another of his chief duties is the preventing of speakers from wandering from the subject under discussion; and if they do, he must remind them

to keep to the point. In the execution of these and other duties, he claims the support of the meeting, and all are bound to yield to his reasonable dictates, and help to maintain his authority. In proportion to the firmness, yet mildness of manner, of the chairman, so is the meeting well or ill conducted.

At some public meetings there is no set plan of operations, and a general discussion on the subjects which are brought forward takes place; but at all meetings for specific important objects, there is a previous arrangement among a certain number of individuals to bring forward particular points to be spoken upon. In this case speakers are prepared, and the business assumes the form of the proposal and carrying of a set of resolutions, or motions. The following is the routine of procedure: The chairman having stated the object for which the meeting has been called, an individual steps forward and proposes a resolution by a speech on its merits, or simply propounds the matter, he must be seconded by another individual (with or without a speech), otherwise the meeting cannot entertain his resolution for a moment. If duly seconded, the motion is fairly tabled; it is before the meeting. After a resolution is proposed and seconded, it is the duty of the chairman to ask the meeting if it be carried or not; if agreed to by a general acclamation, or by an obvious majority, he pronounces the word "carried," which settles the point, and the business proceeds by the bringing forward of the other resolutions in the same manner. It is unusual for any member of a meeting to oppose the passing of a resolution, unless he have a better to offer in its stead. If he have, and if he wishes "to take the sense of the meeting" on the subject, he has a right to be heard. Yet this can only be permitted, provided the meeting has been called in general terms. For instance, if the inhabitants of a town or district generally be called, in order to consider of the propriety of such and such measures, in that case every one is entitled to give his opinion, and to oppose the formal resolutions brought forward. But if the meeting be described by advertisement to consist of those inhabitants or others only who agree in the propriety of such and such measures, then no one is entitled to intrude himself on the deliberations who professes opinions contrary to the spirit and end of the meeting. An intimation to this exceedingly delicate point often creates serious heartburning and disturbances; and, on that account, committees who call public meetings ought to be very particular in the terms of their announcements.

As much regularity is necessary in respect of opposition to motions as in their proposal and carrying, the counter motion of an opponent is called an amendment, which, to be available, must also be seconded, it drops, but the oppose, may place his protest on record, that is to say, if the discussion be in a corporation or other meeting, where books of the minutes or transactions are kept. On being seconded and discussed by those who wish to speak upon the subject, the matter is brought to the vote by the chairman, but not until both the mover and amender have replied, if they please to do so. After they have spoken, not another word can be uttered, and the vote is taken, a majority carrying. If the votes be equal in number, the casting vote of the chairman carries. There is another way of suppressing a resolution, which is by "moving the previous question." This signifies, to return to the point at which the business of the meeting stood previous to the tabling of the motion, or means, in other words, to do nothing on the subject. But this must also be seconded, and put to the vote in opposition either to the motion or amendment, or to both. The routine is generally to place it in opposition to both; if carried, the matter is settled; if not carried, the order is next to place the motion and amendment against each other, and vote.

Such is an outline of the mode of procedure at public meetings, and it is particularly desirable that attention should be shown to the preservation of regularity. At all public meetings there is a strong tendency "to go out of order." By this expression it is meant that speakers are under a constant liability to wander from the point under discussion. They are apt to digress into other subjects, and confuse their auditors, and there getting impatient, are equally apt to interrupt them, so that a single irrelevant observation may lead to hours of idle debate or colloquy, or "speaking to order," as it is termed, and thus the harmony of the assembly be destroyed. Those who attend these meetings should therefore have a regard for the following regulations:—If they speak, they should keep closely to the subject in hand. If they be listeners, they should preserve a strict silence. It is ungentlemanly, not to say disorderly, to utter any sound or make any observation on what a speaker is saying. The speaker must on no account be interrupted, so long as he keeps to order; and if not in order, it is the chairman's duty to check him. It is likewise disorderly to speak more than once, except in replying before the vote is put, or except it be the

rule of the assembly to permit it. Sometimes persons who have spoken rise again to speak as to "a matter of form. This is allowable; but in speaking as to form, the merits of the case should not be introduced. On this, however, as on every other point, there is a perpetual tendency to go out of order, and hence the absolute necessity for appointing a chairman well acquainted with the forms of public deliberation, and who has the strength of mind to insist on order being preserved.

At all our public assemblages, a certain degree of courtesy is used, both among speakers and listeners. On an individual rising to speak, he addresses himself politely to the chairman, and the chairman in return politely mentions the name of the speaker; by which means the audience are made acquainted with the gentleman who is about to address them. When the discussions of the meeting are over, the chairman closes the business with a few observations, and then dissolves the assembly by leaving the chair. When any dispute arises in the course of the business of the meeting upon points of form, it is customary to appeal to the usages of the House of Commons for an example to be followed.

## ADMINISTRATION NOTICES.

ALL Persons having any just demands against the Estate of the late

JAMES CARR,

of Carriboo River, deceased, are hereby requested to render the same duly attested, to the Subscribers, within eighteen calendar months from this date; and all persons indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment to

MARY CARR, Administratrix.  
ROBERT McCONNEL, Adm'r.

Pictou, Dec. 26th, 1835

ALL persons having any just demands against the Estate of

JOHN McDONALD,

late of Douglass, County of Hants, Schoolmaster, deceased, are hereby requested to render the same duly attested within Eighteen months from the date hereof, and all persons indebted to the said Estate are requested to make immediate payment to

ARCHD. FRASER, } Admrs  
WM. URQUHART, }

Douglass, Nov. 4th, 1835. b-10

ALL persons having any Legal Demands against the Estate of

ROBERT BROWN,

Blacksmith, late of Middle River, deceased, are hereby notified to render their accounts duly attested, to the subscribers within the space of eighteen calendar months from the date hereof; and all persons indebted to said estate, are requested to make immediate payment to

MARGARET BROWN, Adm'r.  
THOMAS KERR, } Adm'rs.  
THOMAS McCOUL, }

4th November, 1835. ca-m

## TO PARENTS AND GUARDIANS,

NOTICE is hereby given that the Trustees of the PICTOU ACADEMY having appointed a teacher for the lower departments in the Institution, he will open his class on the 1st December next. The various branches stated in former advertisements, will as formerly be taught.

By order of the Trustees.

JOHN McKINLAY,

Pictou, 10th Nov., 1835, if Secretary.

## ON CONSIGNMENT.

6 CASKS Herbert's Liquid and Paste SHOE BLACKING—cheap for Cash. Apply to the Subscriber. JAS. DAWSON.  
Pictou, 16th September, 1835

## AGENTS FOR THE BEE.

Charlottetown, P. E. I.—Mr. DENNIS REDDIN.  
Miramichi—Revd JOHN McCURDY.  
St. John, N. B.—Mr. A. R. TRURO.  
Halifax—Messrs. A. & W. McKINLAY.  
Truro—Mr. CHARLES BLANCHARD.  
Antigonish—Mr. ROBERT PURVIS.  
Guysboro—ROBERT HARTSHORNE, Esq.  
Tatmagouche—Mr. JAMES CAMPBELL.  
Wallace—DANIEL McFARLANE, Esq.  
Aricat—JOHN S. BALLAINE, Esq.