

UNITED STATES.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—ROBBERY OF THE PATENT OFFICE.—On Monday afternoon, 20th inst., some audacious thief entered a small room in the Patent Office, at Washington, adjoining the National Gallery, by means of false keys, and stole articles the value of which is estimated at from fourteen to fifteen thousand dollars.

They also took the pearl necklace, which was presented to our Government some two or three years since by the Emperor of Muscat, valued at several thousand dollars, though not considered worth as much as the snuff box. They completed their spoils by taking the gold scabbard of the sword which had been presented to Commodore Biddle by the Viceroy of Peru, some ten or fifteen years since, during the troubles in South America.

Louis Philippe, the King of the French, has written a letter to the American People, through their President, Mr. Tyler, thanking them, in the warmest terms, for the cordial hospitality and respect with which they received his beloved son, the Prince de Joinville; and to President Tyler he expresses his sincere obligations for the distinguished manner in which he received and entertained the Prince.

The 221st anniversary of the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth, Massachusetts, was celebrated at that town and various other places in the United States on the 22d of December.

Albany, Dec. 31st.—We understand that Gov. Stewart, in his preparations for the New-Year, has substituted Lemonade and Cold-water, for Punch and Wine. This is a bold innovation, but one which the spirit of the times demanded. The Temperance cause has a right to claim an example from the highest authorities.

NEW YORK, January 8.—The Br. schooner Emerald, (formerly owned in Picton) Captain Crawford, arrived on Thursday night last from Halifax, and came to anchor in the North River, off Rector-street wharf, and last night, at 12 o'clock, a large field of ice drifted against the vessel, which caused the vessel to drag the anchor.

GOVERNOR FAIRFIELD AGAIN.—This somewhat celebrated officer entered on another term of office, as Governor of Maine, at the commencement of this year. His Message, dated January 7th, has the following passage respecting the Boundary dispute:—

"It is with pain and mortification that I found the boundary question still among the standing topics of the annual executive message. If, from this circumstance, as well as from the whole history of the case, you can discover any indication on the part of Great Britain, other than of a settled determination never to peaceably yield a large portion of the territory in controversy, you will be more fortunate than I have been. The course which, under this view, the general government should pursue, to my mind, admits neither of doubt or hesitation.

"This survey, however long its completion may be delayed, Great Britain in no way participating in it, and being instituted for the satisfaction of our own Government, cannot justify a single day's delay on the part of Great Britain, to agree upon a joint commission to run the line according to the treaty of 1787, and thus put this long vexed question for ever at rest.

"John Fairfield having been again installed Governor of Maine, has, in his Message to the Legislature, renewed his blistering relative to the Disputed Territory. It is admitted on all hands, that it is now high time this vexed affair of the Boundary Line was set at rest, but we question whether the state of the finances of Maine, as detailed by Mr. Fairfield, are such as to warrant his vain proposition, in case the General Government should not meet his expectations in the matter."

CANADA.

MELANCHOLY EVENT.—The Montreal Herald furnishes the following paragraph:—

"The verdict of the Coroner's jury on the body of the late Mr. Uniacke, of the 71st Regt. is 'accidental death.' Mr. Carew, of the 70th Regiment, who was the cause of taking the life of his brother officer, will be admitted to bail, and go through the customary form of the law, by being tried for the deed by a jury of his countrymen at the ensuing criminal term. It appears that the officers at mess had parted so freely at the table, and had used liberties with Mr. Carew, which, under other circumstances, they would not have done, and that he threatened to shoot at them if these liberties were persisted in. His threat was not heeded, his fowling piece was discharged unintentionally, and its contents were lodged in the leg of the deceased, about two inches below the groin. Mr. Uniacke fell back in the arms of Captain Jones, and every assistance which could be procured was had. Twelve shots were extracted from his body on the post mortem examination, one of which had ascended to the interior of his stomach, causing inflammation, which produced death. As may be well imagined, Mr. Carew and all concerned in this unfortunate catastrophe are plunged in the deepest grief. Mr. Uniacke repeatedly expressed his conviction that Mr. Carew had not the slightest intention of shooting him, and spoke to him and of him in the most warm and affectionate manner. The deceased joined the 71st Regiment on the 24th April, 1838, was a native of Ireland, an only son, heir to a fortune of about five thousand a year. We hope his melancholy end will prove a warning to all who are in the habit of making practical jokes, or who allow their passions to get the better of their judgment."

NOVA SCOTIA.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.—Provision for the expenses of this body, similar to that made for the other branch of the Legislature, was subject of discussion in former Assemblies, and, if we mistake not, was recommended to the favourable consideration of the Lower House, by the late Lieutenant Governor. The matter seems to lie in a narrow compass. Should persons be paid for legislative services?—Is the country in a state which will enable an Upper House to serve without payment of expenses?—Is there any essential difference between the Lower and Upper House, which would make payment proper for one and not for the other?—Do considerations of public benefit require that such difference, if it exist, should not be held important, but that both branches should be placed on equal terms in this particular?—The first question is answered by the ex-

isting state of things. The country has decided, and we believe wisely, that, in one set of instances, persons so employed shall be saved from actual loss by their attendance on public business; and they, alone, shall not be asked to "go a warfare on their own charges"—that the constituencies shall not be limited in their choice of representatives by mere considerations of pecuniary ability; but that the farmer or mechanic, who has mental and moral qualifications, without those of monied wealth, may be enabled to spend two months in the metropolis, attending to the business of his County or Township, if his neighbours believe him to be the best person to represent their interests and opinions. The second question has been answered, it would appear, in a satisfactory manner. The choice of the Executive, in arranging that branch, was much limited, on a late occasion, by persons declining to accept the honour, on account of the consequent expense. Some who attended in the Council Chamber, have made intimations that they could not continue to do so,—and persons well acquainted with the country, declare that much difficulty must continue until provision be made. On the third question, we may remark, that considerable difference does exist. The Upper House has attached to its seats, rank and title, which men, everywhere, estimate as worth money. No check is held by those who pay all expenses;—the officers are not elective by the people; the term of service is not four years, but, generally speaking, during life or good conduct—removal resting with the Colonial Office or the Governor. The Legislative Councillor has to pay about £30 only for his mandamus; the member of Assembly, often, is put to five or six times that expenditure in an election. The payment of a Legislative Councillor would make a seat in the Upper House, for many reasons, more desirable than one in the Lower, and would place extended patronage, for which much intrigue and struggling might ensue, in the hands of the Executive. These include important distinctions, which may well excite some hesitation on the part of those who act, immediately, for the people.—But the last question bears strongly on the one just considered, and if it be answered in the affirmative, may, together with previously expressed points, include something approaching to a negation of the difficulty. If the Legislative Council, to a great extent, represents the country,—if it be desirable that the Executive should not be more hampered in his choice, than the constituencies in theirs,—if the best men should be the sole object, not the best and wealthiest,—if the rich and the poor Legislative Councillors should feel on equal terms in their Chamber,—if each should be equally free from embarrassing feelings respecting the expense which attention to public concerns causes,—if the public could more freely demand and scan the services of Councillors by saving them from loss while about public business,—then the last of our series of questions would appear answered in a way which greatly lessens, at least, the objections stated,—and another, which consists in the addition to the public burdens, that would be consequent on the alteration. The last mentioned point has scarcely been touched on in these considerations,—it is of importance, as well as the propriety, on other grounds, of adding to the number of any paid offices; but these seem of secondary consequence, compared with the mode and temper by which persons who are charged with public affairs perform their duties; five hundred pounds sterling, or a thousand, might be easily saved or lost, by a careful or negligent step in those who manage the business of a country. Besides, gentlemen resident in Town, and having private means, need not avail themselves of the provision.—Novascotian.

HALIFAX, Jan. 18th. NEW EXECUTIVE COUNCILLOR.—The Hon. William Young took the Oaths on Thursday last, as a Member of the Executive Council.

A REMARKABLE ESCAPE.—The arrival at Le Have of the schooner Cherub, on Tuesday last, was quite a pleasing though unexpected occurrence. She sailed from Lunenburg for Boston, with a load of cordwood and two or three passengers, last October, and nothing further was heard of her, by the friends and relatives of the crew and passengers, till she returned. It appears the vessel was driven by a storm to Barbadoes, where the cargo of wood was sold at £3 per cord, and thus she made a more lucrative trip than if she had succeeded in getting to Boston.—Recorder.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PICTOU AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

PICTOU, Nov. 23, 1841.—The Committee having met this evening on the business of the Society, resolutions to the following effect were passed:—

- 1st. That Peter Macgowan, Esquire, Secretary of the Central Agricultural Society, Charlottetown, be requested to purchase for the Pictou Agricultural Society, 20 bushels of the best old bald wheat, and 50 bushels best white oats. That Mr. Hector Mackenzie, of Flat River, P. E. Island, be requested to purchase 50 bushels of Tea Wheat, and 50 bushels of black oats, best quality. [These gentlemen have accordingly been notified of the above resolution, by the Secretary].
- 2nd. The Committee being convinced of the beneficial tendency of premiums on agricultural productions, resolved to have a scale of premiums drawn up, to be submitted to the Society at its Annual Meeting, on the 19th of January, 1842. Martin J. Wilkins, Esq., Mr. J. Lamb, Daniel Hockin, Esq., and Mr. Israel Stiles, were accordingly appointed a committee for this purpose.

JANUARY 7, 1842.—The Committee met this evening. The secretary having read a letter from Tims Smith, Esq., intimating that the Central Board have concluded not to order any further importations before the meeting of the Legislature; and also notifying the Society that there is a probability of procuring better clover seed from the United States than from Great Britain, it was resolved, that the Central Board of Agriculture be requested to purchase 200 lbs. of clover seed in Boston, for the Society—to be procured in time for next spring's use.

It was resolved, that a bill for £17 be remitted to Mr. K. M'Kenzie, Charlottetown, P. E. Island, to defray the cost of seeds purchased for the Society by Mr. H. M'Kenzie.

The Colonial Herald.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 29, 1842.

OPENING OF THE LEGISLATURE.

TUESDAY, JAN. 25th, 1842.

About 3 o'clock, this day, His Excellency Sir Henry Vere Huntley opened the Legislative Assembly of this Island with the following Speech to both Houses:—

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

It is my peculiar province and happiness to open this session, by congratulating you upon the Birth of a Prince, Heir apparent to the Throne of the British Empire, and also upon the perfect restoration of Her Majesty to health; these are blessings which will call forth the expression of your profound thankfulness to the Almighty, and of your warmest loyalty towards our Gracious and excellent Sovereign.

Amongst the subjects of public interest which will claim your consideration, I have especially to call your attention to the Education Bill, which expires this session. It is as unnecessary for me to descant upon the important influence which instruction has upon society, as it is for me to point out how truly it becomes the duty of those who possess education to assist in its extension—deception, bigotry and crime diminish under its increase. I also recommend to your examination the system by which the Central Academy is governed, with the view of ascertaining whether, by alteration in that Institution, it might not gain a higher position in the public estimation.

The replies which have been received from Her Majesty to your several Addresses of the last Session will be laid be-

fore you; I shall also take occasion to submit other matters, as they may arise, by Message.

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

The Public Accounts and Estimates for the current year will be placed before you; and I rely upon your voting the necessary supplies.

I must direct your attention to the danger to which the Records, and other Documents relating to this Colony, are exposed, for want of proper buildings wherein they can be lodged in safety—to construct which, it appears, an additional grant is requisite; this subject merits your earliest consideration.

The prosperity of this Colony being mainly dependent upon Agriculture, I would place that pursuit before your notice. I therefore recommend the consideration of measures tending to draw the chief efforts of the inhabitants towards the reclamation of the forest lands; and although I doubt the soundness of that policy which encourages one line of industry at the expense of others, yet I would suggest the advantage of offering encouragement to the importation, by private individuals, of improved breeds of farming stock, and seeds employed in husbandry, by admitting them free of duty.

I have to place again before you the subject of the proposed Asylum for "Insane persons and other objects of Charity." I trust this measure, so long contemplated, will be now completed, for I will not believe it possible that you will continue to withhold so necessary a shelter from this afflicted class of our fellow creatures, towards which our Gracious Sovereign has so readily and largely contributed, upon the ground only that the 'curatorial powers' claimed by you over the projected Institution have not been acceded to; more especially, when this claim is declared by Her Majesty's Government to be an "encroachment" upon the rules which should separate from each other the functions of the Executive Government and those of the Legislative bodies, and to which you have already been informed Her Majesty's Government cannot be parties.

Although, in the last Session, you considered the distressed condition of these sufferers, and granted a sum of money towards their support, yet, as you have no guarantee whatever for the proper application of this money, they have been doubtfully provided for.

By the Census just completed, I am informed that there are on this Island seventy-eight insane, thirty deaf and dumb, and twenty-nine blind persons—a statement that, I feel confident, will accelerate the consideration of this question.

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

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

As my chief desire is the prosperity of this Island, so I gladly avail myself of this opportunity of earnestly assuring you, that I shall at all times be ready to concur with you in all measures appearing practically conducive to that end.

In the House of Assembly, immediately after the delivery of the Speech, the following Committees were appointed:—

To revise the Journals.—Messrs. Thomson, Palmer, Le Lacheur.

To draft an answer to the Speech.—Messrs. Thomson, Palmer, Hon. J. S. Macdonald, Clark, Hon. Mr. Pope, Hudson, D. Macdonald.

Engrossed Bills.—Messrs. D. Macdonald, Longworth, Palmer.

Good Correspondence.—Messrs. Palmer, Hon. Mr. Pope, Clark, Montgomery, Longworth.

Public Accounts.—Messrs. Longworth, Thomson, Palmer, D. Macdonald, Gorman, Yeo, Fraser.

Private Bills.—Messrs. D. Macdonald, Macintosh, Clark, Palmer, Maclean.

Expiring Laws.—Messrs. Palmer, Hon. J. S. Macdonald, Hon. Mr. Pope.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1842.

Mr. Thomson, from the Special Committee appointed to prepare and report the draught of an Address, in answer to the Speech of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor to both Houses, at the opening of the present Session, reported the following draught of an Address, as prepared by the Committee:

To His Excellency Sir HENRY VERE HUNTLEY, Knight, Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief in and over Her Majesty's Island Prince Edward, and the Territories thereto belonging, Chancellor, Vice Admiral and Ordinary of the same, &c. &c. &c.

May it please your Excellency;

We Her Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects, the Representatives of the people of Prince Edward Island, in Colonial Parliament assembled, most respectfully thank your Excellency for your Speech at the opening of the present Session.

With heartfelt sentiments of respect and devotion we join with your Excellency in your congratulations upon the Birth of a Prince, Heir apparent to the Throne of the British Empire, and also upon the perfect restoration of Her Majesty to health—blessings which demand our profound thankfulness to the Almighty, for his protecting care, which have filled all hearts, throughout every portion of these realms with confidence and joy, and call forth feelings of the warmest loyalty and attachment to Her Majesty.

Few subjects of public interest claim our attention more particularly than that of Education. We shall, therefore give our best consideration to the examination of the system by which the Central Academy is governed, with a view to its improvement, and in order that it may be rendered more useful to the Colony, and thereby attain a higher position in the public estimation. The House of Assembly will also give Education generally that consideration which the great importance of the subject demands, well knowing that the best interests of the Colony are chiefly dependent upon the intelligence of its Inhabitants, and that "deception, bigotry and crime diminish under its increase."

All communications which your Excellency may be pleased to make during the Session shall receive our best attention.

When the Public Accounts and Estimates are placed before us and audited, we will vote such supplies as the state of the Finances will admit of, and the public exigencies require.

It is matter of deep regret to the House of Assembly, that the numerous public works required in this Island have, up to this period, so far trespassed upon its resources as to leave in abeyance a matter of such importance as the keeping of the Public Records in a place of safety. The House of Assembly will, at an early day, deliberate on the expediency of granting a further sum, to make the contemplated Building of such an extent as to meet the growing wants of the Colony.

We fully concur with your Excellency, that the prosperity of this Colony is mainly dependent upon its Agriculture,

and we beg to assure your Excellency, that any measure calculated to promote its advancement will receive our cordial support.

We sincerely regret that the establishment of an Asylum for "Insane persons and other objects of Charity," has been so long delayed. This House can have no wish to encroach on the prerogative of the Executive, or to assume its functions, and will, therefore, with a view of meeting the objections entertained by Her Majesty's Government, give this subject that reconsideration which its great and increasing importance demands.

We rejoice to be informed that your Excellency's chief desire is, the prosperity of this Island—to which great end, we beg to assure your Excellency that no opportunity will be omitted on our part to co-operate with your Excellency in every practical measure conducive to its welfare and advancement.

Ordered, That the said draught Address be now committed to a Committee of the whole House.

After some time spent therein, the Chairman reported, that the Committee had made some progress, and had directed him to move for leave to sit again—which the House agreed to.

Mr. Secretary Haviland delivered the following Message from His Excellency the Lieut Governor:—

H. V. HUNTLEY, Lt. Governor. The Lieutenant Governor takes the earliest opportunity of submitting to the House of Assembly, in Her Majesty's name, a Bill to render valid certain proceedings of the Executive Government of this Island.

The Lieut. Governor also lays before the House a Copy of a Despatch from the Right Honorable Lord Stanley, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, explaining the necessity of such a measure.

Government House, 26th January, 1842.

The House again resolved itself into a Committee of the whole, on the further consideration of the draft Address prepared by the Special Committee in answer to His Excellency's Speech—and after some time spent therein, the Chairman—Mr. Thomson—reported, that the Committee had agreed to the same, without making any amendment thereto.

Mr. D. Macdonald moved in amendment, that the Sixth paragraph of the Address be left out, and the following substituted in lieu thereof:—

"We fully concur with your Excellency, that the prosperity of this Colony mainly depends upon its Agriculture; and we beg to assure your Excellency, that it will be our first and chief object to give our attention to such measures as will give the inhabitants an interest in directing their efforts to reclaim the forest lands."

The House divided on the motion of amendment:— Yeas: Messrs. D. Macdonald, Fraser, Dalziel, Le Lacheur, W. Dingwell, Macintosh—6.

Nays: Clark, Messrs. Macfarlane, Longworth, Montgomery, Palmer, Forbes, Macneil, Hon. Mr. Pope, Hudson, Thomson, Yeo, Hon. J. S. Macdonald, Beck, Maclean, Gorman—15. So it passed in the negative.

Mr. Speaker having then put the question, "Is it the pleasure of the House that the Report of the Committee be received?"

It was resolved in the affirmative. Mr. Dalziel moved, that the House do come to a Resolution, as followeth:—

Resolved, That no Petition, praying aid for Roads and Bridges, or for any object of a local or private nature be received after Monday, the 21st day of February next.

Mr. Clark moved in amendment to the proposed Resolution, to leave out the words "Twenty-first," and insert the word "Fourteenth" in lieu thereof.

The House divided on the motion of amendment. Yeas: Messrs. Clark, D. Macdonald, Macintosh, Fraser, Dalziel, Le Lacheur, W. Dingwell, Macfarlane, Longworth, Montgomery, Palmer, Forbes, Macneil, Hon. Mr. Pope, Hudson, Thomson, Yeo, Hon. J. S. Macdonald, Beck, Maclean.

Nay: Mr. Gorman. The main motion as amended, was then carried. Then the House adjourned.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 27th.

Resolved, That a Committee of eight Members be appointed, to consider the expediency of amending the Acts for establishing the Boundary lines of Counties and Townships, and to report by Bill or otherwise—with power to send for persons, papers and records.

Ordered, That the Hon. Mr. Pope, Mr. Clark, Mr. Montgomery, Mr. Gorman, Mr. Yeo, Mr. Palmer, Mr. Thomson and Mr. Rae do compose the said Committee.

Ordered, That Mr. Thomson have leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Act for regulating the laying out and altering of Highways. He accordingly presented the said Bill to the House, and the same was read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

Mr. Palmer reported from the Committee appointed to examine what Laws have lately expired, or are near expiring.

Ordered, That the said Report be now committed to a Committee of the whole House.

After some time spent therein, the Chairman reported, that the Committee had made some progress, and had directed him to move for leave to sit again—which the House agreed to.

A Message was received from the Legislative Council, informing the House that the Legislative Council had passed a Bill intitled "An Act to confirm and render valid certain proceedings of the Executive Government of this Island;" to which they desired the concurrence of the House of Assembly;—and the said Bill was read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

The House again resolved itself into a Committee of the whole, on the further consideration of the Report of the Special Committee appointed to examine what Laws have expired, or are near expiring; and after some time spent therein, the Chairman reported progress, and asked leave to sit again—which was agreed to.

A Message was received from the Legislative Council, communicating the following Resolution:— "Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to join the Committee of the House of Assembly, to keep up a good correspondence between the two Houses of the Legislature, and to report their proceedings from time to time—with power to send for persons, papers and records.

"ORDERED, that the Hon. Mr. Brecken, Mr. Holl and Mr. Young do compose the said Committee."

The House again resolved itself into a Committee of the whole House, on the further consideration of the Report of the Special Committee appointed to examine what Laws have lately expired, or are near expiring.

Mr. Palmer, (the chairman) reported, that the Committee had come to three Resolutions—which being again read at the Table, were agreed to by the House, and are as follow:—

1. RESOLVED, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that it is expedient that an Act intitled "An Act for the regulation of the Public Wharf of Charlottetown," and continued for two years by an Act passed in the Second year of her present Majesty's Reign, be further continued and amended.

2. RESOLVED, That the House be recommended to order a Bill to be brought in, to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to the qualifications of Jurors.

3. RESOLVED, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that it is inexpedient to continue the Bounty heretofore granted on Vessels engaged in the Fisheries of this Island. Ordered, That Mr. Palmer, Mr. Longworth and Mr. Maclean be a Committee to prepare and bring in a Bill, pursuant to the First of the above reported Resolutions.

Ordered, That the Hon. Mr. Pope, Mr. Palmer Mr. Thomson, Mr. Longworth, and the Hon. J. S. Macdonald be a