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Legislative Proceedings.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

CONDENSED REPORT.

WEDNESDAY March 10, 1852.

MESSAGE OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE LIEUT. GOVERNOR CONCERNING MR. MOONEY'S BILL, TO COMPEL PROPRIETORS TO RECORD THEIR TITLES.

The Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY, delivered the following Message from His Excellency, the Lieutenant Governor:

MESSAGE

A. BANNERMAN, Lieutenant Governor.

In the Journal of the House of Assembly, of the 8th instant, the Lieutenant Governor observes, that "An Act to require Landlords, or Claimants of Rent, to put the Title by which they claim, on record, in the proper Offices of Record in this Island, was read a third time, passed, and sent to the Council by Mr. Mooney."

The Lieutenant Governor on the perusal of Statutes recently published, page 337, that an Act with precisely the same Title, was disallowed by his Majesty, King William the 4th, in 1832.

The Lieutenant Governor would, therefore, refer the House of Assembly to their Journals for 1831, Resolution (F.) where they will find an Instruction from Her Majesty to the Lieutenant Governor, which it will be his duty to obey; the Instruction is as follows:

"It is our further will and pleasure, that you do not re-enact any Law to which the assent of us, or our Royal Predecessors, has once been refused, without express leave for that purpose, first obtained from us, upon a full representation by you to be made to us, through one of our Principal Secretaries of State, of the reasons and necessity for passing such a Law."

GOVERNMENT HOUSE, March 10, 1852.

Mr. PALMER. I was not present when the Bill passed, or I should have opposed it; and I think, its principle objectionable, and quite concur with His Excellency in his reasons as expressed against it. Nevertheless, the Message is of a novel character; and directly tends to a positive violation of the privileges of this House As long as I have had the honour of a seat in the Assembly, I have never, until now, known such a course to be pursued by the Representative of the Sovereign. I fully subscribe to the justness of the observations contained in His Excellency's Message; but I must decidedly protest against the time and manner which he has chosen for their enunciation. He is only one branch of the Legislature; and he cannot, without a positive violation of the privileges of parliament, directly interpose his opinion concerning any measure in progress through either of the other two branches. entertain all due respect for His Excellency, both in his private character and legislative capacity; but I cannot allow the respect to which he is justly entitled from me in either point of view, to outweigh the obligation under which I lie, to endeavour to preserve inviolate the privileges of parliament. The proceeding of His Excellency, on the present occasion, is certainly most extraordinary and unjustifiable; and I will not allow it to pass without recording my protest against it. It is altogether unprecedented. No previous Governor ever presumed directly to interpose his opinion with a view of arresting any measure in progress through the Legislature, however improper and unjustifiable he may have deemed it: and if we allow this Message to be entered upon our Journal, we shall thereby be establishing a very dangerous precedent, as respects the privileges of the people. The views which His Excellency entertains concerning the Bill to which his Message refers, are perfectly correct; but the only proper time to declare them to the Legislature is, when the Bill shall be laid before him for his sanction. I do not make these remarks under the influence of any political feeling against His Excellency, who, as the Representative of Her Majesty, is held in as high respect by me, as by any other individual of the community; but I maintain, that if any member of this House, who values the privileges of the people, to protest against such undue interference as is attempted by the present Message of His Excellency, and to oppose its being entered upon the Journal of the House.

Hon. COLONIAL SECRETARY. I imagine His Excellency has sent this Message to the Assembly, influenced by the supposition, on the part, that we must be guided, not by the Royal Instructions, he is prohibited from giving his assent to the Bill in question, because the Royal Allowance has already been refused to a Bill for the same purpose as the present one. I can scarcely conceive, that the only object of His Excellency, in sending this Message, is to apprise us of the restrictions imposed upon him, by the Royal Instructions, with respect to such measures; and to avoid his being obliged to refuse his assent to a Bill passed by the two Houses of the Legislature. The Bill itself is a highly proper and necessary one. It is a Bill which ought to have been passed into a law long ago; and I can conceive no other reason for its not having become law, but the opposition made to it, at Home, by and on account of, proprietors who have not good and sufficient Titles to the lands claimed by them in this Colony.

The Hon. the SPEAKER suggested, that the proper time for discussing the character of the Message, would be, when the Journals should be read next day. He himself did not hesitate to pronounce the Message altogether unconstitutional. In having reference to what had been already done by the House, it was, he said, in its dictatorial character, a work of supererogation. It could not then, as His Excellency must have known, reverse what had been done by the Assembly with respect to the Bill in question; and, therefore, it seemed to him, that the only object His Excellency could have in view, was swaying the other House in their action on the Bill; than which, nothing could be more unconstitutional. The proper time, however, for considering the character of the Message, he was bound to say, would be on the reading of the Journal on the morrow. The subject matter of the Message would not properly belong to the House until then. Before that time, it could be regarded only as belonging to His Excellency and his advisers.

Hon. Mr. COLES. The proper time for taking into consideration the Message of His Excellency, is, I maintain, the present, and not to-morrow; and in opposition to the opinion, both of the honorable the Speaker and the honorable and learned member for Charlottetown, I also maintain, that the Message is not unconstitutional. His Excellency, by this Message, has shewn very great consideration for the House. He saw that the House were proceeding to pass a Bill, to which the Royal Allowance had been already refused, without having obtained Her Majesty's permission for the re-introduction of the measure; and the step taken by His Excellency has, evidently proceeded from his desire to put the House into the proper course, and to prevent a nugatory result to their labours, with respect to the Bill in question, which might have been the case, had His Excellency confined his knowledge of the Royal Instructions, as affecting it, to his own breast. In consequence of the information conveyed to us, by this Message of his Excellency, we are placed in a situation to address Her Majesty this Session, on the subject of the Bill, setting forth the necessity for its allowance, instead of having to postpone that step until the next Session of the Legislature, as would have been the case without the timely intimation given in His Excellency's Message. It is in no way unconstitutional, and neither is it at all derogatory to the dignity of the Assembly, for the Governor, at any time, to lay before them all, or any portion, of the Royal Instructions by which he is bound to act, with respect to legislative measures, in his capacity of Her Majesty's Representative; and least of all, can it be so, when the object must evidently be, to apprize the House of the course to be pursued by them for the attainment of any end which they may have immediately in view. The Message is as far removed as possible from dictation. It is the mere intimation of a fact, which it seems His Excellency supposes the House to have overlooked or forgotten; and he reminds them of it, only, that they may have time, before the close of the Session, to remedy the omission occasioned by their oversight or forgetfulness of it. The Bill to which the Message has reference, is precisely the same, and has the same title, as one which was formerly passed by the Legislature, and from which the Royal Allowance was withheld; and, as Her Majesty's permission for the re-introduction of the measure has not been sought and obtained, it cannot receive the sanction of His Excellency, even although passed by the two Houses of the Legislature. The manifest intention of His Excellency is, to put the Assembly in a position to process the complete passage of the Bill next Session. His Excellency's desire, is to co-operate with the representatives of the People in all measures for the public good; and unlike some of his predecessors, one of whom took occasion to shew his face, through the half-opened door of the President's room, to intimidate members of the Legislative Council, to intimidate them from voting in favour of a Bill to which he was opposed, His Excellency only requires to be correctly informed concerning any measure, calculated to promote the general interests of the people, that he may help to promote it. This, I maintain, is the proper time for the taking of His Excellency's Message into consideration, and for the adoption of that course which a due consideration of it will clearly suggest; and which, I think, is to agree to a short Address to Her Majesty, setting forth the justice and necessity of a law to compel Proprietors to put their Titles on record, to be accompanied, by a copy of the Bill for that purpose agreed to by this House, and praying Her Majesty's permission to introduce it next Session. But as regards the course which I, individually, have pursued with respect to the Bill, I beg leave to remind the House, that on the second reading of the Bill, I apprised the House of the position in which His Excellency would be placed, with respect to it, should it be carried through the two Houses, and that when it was passed, I was not present.

Mr. MONTGOMERY. I cannot conceive of what use His Excellency's Message can now be to this House. The Bill to which it refers has been passed by us; and is now before the Legislative Council, and beyond our reach.

Hon. COLONIAL SECRETARY. His Excellency's object, I repeat, in sending us this Message, was to respect to the Bill, by putting us into the right track. With respect to the tone in which the honorable the Speaker has alluded to His Excellency's Advisers, I assume, that he was of opinion, that they did not possess the confidence of the House. If he do think so, I would advise him to get a Resolution to that effect moved; and, if it be carried, he will soon be gratified by their resignation.

The Hon. the SPEAKER explained, that he had before intimated to the House, that by passing the Bill, they would be calling upon His Excellency to do that which, by the Royal Instructions, he was prohibited from doing. He intended, that he had said, it was derogatory to His Excellency to send such a Message to the House; but admitted, that he had said, and was persuaded, that the proceeding was unconstitutional. He further added, that he believed, such a step had never before been taken by any Governor of the Colony, except by Sir H. V. Huntley, with respect to an account of Dr. Holdkirk for public medical services. However clear the Royal Instructions were to His Excellency, they could not be more so to him, than they were to the Assembly, who were in possession of them, as well as himself; and such a Message to the Assembly concerning a passing Bill, was, in his opinion, at once supererogatory and unconstitutional.

Hon. Mr. POPE. The opinion of the Speaker is uncalled for, unless he be appealed to, and except with respect to a breach of privilege, he has no right to obtrude his opinions on the House on any measure, before the subject is put into the hands of the Clerk, merely to afford himself an opportunity of arraigning the advisers of the Government. The Message of His Excellency is not a matter of privilege, it does not relate to any Bill in progress in this House, and it should not be considered by the House with closed doors; I do not wish any thing which affects the interests of the people to be debated upon in secret. When Sir Alexander Bannerman came to the Colony, he was well informed concerning the course which had been pursued by some of his predecessors in the Government, particularly, as respected the nature and object of their Private Despatches; and so disgusted was he, with the disclosures made to him on that head, that he declared he would never write a single despatch; but would consult with the people, communicate with their representatives, lay his instructions, if necessary, before them, and shew them openly what course of policy he meant to pursue. The sending of the Message which has just been read to the House, by the Hon. the Colonial Secretary, is, I take it, in perfect unison with the declaration of His Excellency to which I have just adverted, and is a proof of the friendly spirit by which His Excellency is now actuated, by which, we shall have the best chance of obtaining our object. If the course taken by His Excellency had dictated to the House, it would have been a breach of privilege; but it is not, as it has been represented by the honorable the Speaker and the honorable and learned member for Charlottetown, any assumption of a right to dictate to the House. I would be the first to oppose any undue interference with the proceedings of this House; but His Excellency's Message is of a totally different character. It is the first time that any Governor of this Colony, so far as I know, has voluntarily afforded assistance to the Assembly, in suggesting, or treating upon, a Bill on their own responsible sense and good feeling. I, as well as the Hon. Mr. Coles, however, called the attention of the House to the fact, that by the Royal Instructions, His Excellency is precluded from giving his assent to any Bill, from which the Royal Allowance has been formerly withheld, unless its re-introduction into the Legislature shall have been authorised by the Royal permission; and, at the same time, I advised the honorable member, Mr. Mooney, to follow up the object of his Bill, by Address. If he do, he will, I believe, have the support of His Excellency; and I am sure, he will have that of His Excellency's Government. We are here to do public service without regard to the majority, to be hoped to gain a little now and then; but but little, for the people, from the Government and the majority, he would gain nothing by joining the minority. From the Government and the majority, he hoped to gain a little now and then; but from the minority, he could not, under any circumstances, expect any concessions, having for their object, the improvement of the condition of the people generally. He was very proud, that he had ferreted out the Bill to compel Proprietors to register their Titles, and been directly instrumental in causing its re-introduction, and as it had now passed the Assembly a second time, he was very sanguine that, if properly forwarded by a respectful address for its allowance. The honorable members of the Government to whom he had alluded, had told him that his intended reintroduction of the measure would be nugatory; but he, however, persevered, notwithstanding their disapprobation of his intention; and the Bill had been passed by the House; and, a way having been pointed out to him for securing its final success, he would not be slow to pursue it.

Hon. Mr. COLES. I was not in the House when the Bill passed. If I had been present, when the Bill was reported, agreed to in Committee, I would have opposed its arrest in progress there, and have recommended the adoption of an Address to Her Majesty, briefly setting forth the necessity and justice of the measure, and praying Her Majesty's consent for the reintroduction of the Bill, in the next session of the Legislature: and this is the course, which I expected would be pursued by the House, at that stage, with respect to it.

Mr. M'AULAY. He was not, he said, so conversant with the usages of the House as some other members of it; but he was not so ignorant of the relative duties of the different branches of the Legislature, as not to know that His Excellency's Message was a direct violation of the privileges of the Assembly. If the Governor were to be permitted to interfere with measures in progress through the Legislature, or to dictate, either to the one House or the other, it would be quite as well, he thought, for the representatives of the people to go home, and leave His Excellency and his advisers to dispose of all public business, as they might think best. With respect to the Bill itself to which the Message had reference, it was not to be supposed that the Governor could, know how it would affect the general interests of the people, as well as those who had been longer in the Colony, and were consequently better acquainted with the sentiments and peculiar circumstances and position of the people in general, with respect to the proprietors and their titles; and, therefore, to him (Mr. M'AULAY) the interference of His Excellency—setting aside all consideration of its unconstitutional character—appeared to be very injudicious. The Titles of Proprietors had often been called in question by the tenantry; a record of them had long been demanded; and he (Mr. M'Aulay) believed that much dissatisfaction on that subject would continue to be felt throughout the Colony, until they should be remedied. The hon. member, after having taken up the Royal Instructions, and read that portion of them to which His Excellency's Message referred, proceeded further to observe upon what he considered the precipitancy of His Excellency, in meddling with a mere Bill, in question, remarking that the Bill was in the hands of the Legislative Council, and that as it was impossible for His Excellency to know what alterations it might undergo before they had done with it—subject to it might not be altered altogether in title and form—and whether it would, in the end, come within that class of Bills to which, by his instructions, he was precluded from giving his assent—it was quite clear that his interference, however objectionable on a constitutional point of view, was quite as much so on account of the time at which he had chosen to make it.

Mr. MONTGOMERY. His Excellency's advisers had made no objections to the proceedings of the Assembly, with respect to the Bill, and had not, by a vote upon it, at any stage, attempted to prevent its being carried through the House. If they knew that the Bill had been unconstitutionally introduced, it was their duty to arrest it—it was their duty to prevent the passage of any unconstitutional measure; and, if they had done their duty, with respect to the Bill in question, they would not only have prevented the passage of an unconstitutional measure, but they would have prevented a breach of the privileges of the House by the unconstitutional Message which had just been delivered to it.

Mr. YEO. However unconstitutional the Message may be, it is harmless enough in itself. It cannot undo what has been done; and, in fact, it amounts to no more than this: "You have done wrong; take care not to do so again."

Mr. WEIGHTMAN. He supported the Bill, because he believed it to be a just and necessary one. He was aware of the Royal Instructions; but he thought that an Address from the Assembly to Her Majesty, setting forth the necessity and justice of the measure, would be moved and adopted to remedy the irregularity attendant upon the reintroduction of the measure without Her Majesty's consent.

Mr. DOUSE. He was at a loss to understand the conduct of the Government, with respect to this Bill. He was surprised that, after having allowed the Bill to pass, they should object to it; and, in order to intercept it, advise His Excellency to an act of unconstitutional interference. He thought, that such proceedings on the part of the government member would not fail to shew to the people, that they were occasionally swayed by other considerations (whatever they might be) of more weight and moment to themselves, than an open and fair discharge of their duty to their constituents.

Mr. MOONEY informed the House, that the Bill was still in his possession. The reason of its being so, he said, was, that for three days, the two Houses had not been sitting at one time; and consequently, he had had no opportunity to take it up.

Hon. Mr. COLES again stated, that he was not in the House when the Bill passed; and that therefore, he had not had an opportunity to arrest the progress of the Bill on its being reported agreed to in Committee, by proposing a suitable Address to the Throne to Her Majesty. The honorable member then moved, that the Order for carrying the Bill up to the Council be discharged, and that a Committee be appointed to prepare and frame an Address to the Queen, praying Her Majesty's permission for the reintroduction of the measure.

Mr. M'AULAY would willingly second the motion for the appointment of a Committee to prepare the Draft of an Address to Her Majesty in support of the Bill.

Mr. PALMER. If we agree to the motion which has just been made, we shall, in my opinion, sanction the interference of His Excellency. Such a step as this is unconstitutional, I maintain, he positively wrong. The Bill, although it is not, ought not to be in the hands of the Legislative Council; and this House has no right to retain it, with a view to future action thereon, merely because the Government members have not had time to take it up to the other House, has, for three or four days, neglected, or had no opportunity to do so. If the Bill be now sent up to the Council, as it ought to be, we cannot tell how they may deal with it: they may make very material alterations in the body of the Bill; and with a new title, refer it back to this House, for their concurrence; or they may wish to have it printed, so that it may not be passed, before all parties interested shall have had full information concerning it. The evil to be apprehended from the adoption of the course proposed, must, I think, be quite evident to the whole House. It would, undoubtedly, be establishing a precedent for most unconstitutional interference by one Branch of the Legislature with another, in allowing the Representative of the Sovereign to pronounce upon a legislative measure before its passage, amounted to, in the regular parliamentary course, for his assent or rejection. But as to whether the Message shall be allowed to appear upon the Journals of the House or not, that is, comparative a question of little or no moment. Not so, however, the motion of the honorable member, the Leader of the Government; for to act in pursuance of that motion, would be practically to acknowledge the right of one Branch of the Legislature to dictate to another; and would, on the part of this House, amount to a most culpable surrender of the privileges of the people; for it would be impossible to say, how far it might hereafter be carried. I, therefore, think it the duty of the House to express their dissent from the principle involved in the Message, however favourable an interpretation they may be disposed to put upon the motives by which it has been dictated. As to the Bill itself, I do not approve of it, and I do not intend to support it, had it been in the House when the question was put upon it. But I am quite willing to give His Excellency credit for wishing to see all things done constitutionally; and I do not incline to censure him for any intention to violate the privileges of this House by the Message under consideration. The blame rests wholly with his Advisers. Had they done their duty in this House, there would have been no occasion, no necessity, for such a Message. But their duty they had not done. They had rather slept upon their posts. They had allowed the Bill to pass through all its stages, without once dividing the House upon it. If they had really intended to shew that the introduction of the measure was irregular, and unsanctioned by them, they should have recorded their votes against it. But to allow them now, without expressing, to carry their motion for discharging the Order for carrying up the Bill (which has been so strangely delayed) to the Council, would be to consent to the creation of a most dangerous precedent for future violation of the privileges of the popular Branch of the Legislature; and I hope every faithful representative of the people in this House, will rise up and oppose it.

(To be continued.)

The American Board have recently opened a mission upon the Micronesian Island, near the equator, 3,000 miles southwest of the Sandwich Islands, where the gospel has never been preached. The inhabitants are said to be mild, amiable, and unwarlike, who give a higher rank to their women than any other heathen nation. They have no idols, no temples, no regular priesthood, and pray to and worship the spirits of their ancestors. They have heard from sailors the great change in the Sandwich Islands, and the advantage of it, and have sent for teachers to come and improve their condition.

A Missionary in India writes:—"I am more than ever convinced that METHODISM is better adapted than any other system to convert the world. It seems especially adapted to meet the spiritual wants of a new country; for it supplies agencies that no other system adopts, makes available every particle of talent that a Church may contain, and with the greatest facility strikes forth its roots in every direction."

UNITED STATES.

(From the Halifax British North American, May 5.)

The R. M. S. *America*, arrived from Boston, this morning at about 3 to 4 o'clock.—She had 50 Passengers on board, 20 of whom were for Halifax, and brought dates to the 28th inst.

The only news besides that previously received, is the arrival of Kossuth at the Capital, where he was received with great honors. On his way he stopped at Worcester, Springfield, &c., at all of which places he was most enthusiastically received.

The Steamer *Northern Light*, two weeks later from California, and the *Franklin*, from Havre, both arrived at New York on the 27th inst.

The news from the mines was very cheering, and gold dust coming into San Francisco in large quantities.

No other news of importance.

Kossuth arrived at Jersey city on the 20th, where he was received by the military and city authorities.

An alarm of fire on the morning of the 23d, brought out the firemen, soon after which flames burst out of the National Theatre, which in a short time was totally destroyed, with several buildings adjoining.

The Hudson, at Albany, on Tuesday again inundated the Pier, and flooded the cellars in the vicinity, to the serious interruption of business.

The steamer Pocahontas from Arkansas, bound to New Orleans with 2,360 bales of cotton, took fire on the Mississippi, and burned to the water's edge. Boat and cargo total loss. Ten persons were either burnt or drowned.

The N. Y. *Mirror* states, that Madame Kossuth has written a work on America, which will shortly be published in that city.

DOVER, N. H.—The Cocheco river had risen to an unusual height, the water, to the depth of three feet, overflowing the wharfs and doing much damage.

Dwight Johnston, an extensive produce dealer in New York, suspended payment on the 23d.

Texas advices report a violent Tornado in the lower part of Washington County. The corn and cotton crop have been seriously injured by the frost.

The Brazos river has overflowed the whole country through which it runs, doing immense damage.

Burnett's furnishing warehouse at Cincinnati has been burnt. Insured for $20,000.

Three whale ships with valuable cargoes, arrived at New Bedford on the 22d inst.

From almost every part of the country, advices reach Boston announcing more or less destruction occasioned by the overflowing waters.

A destructive fire occurred at Springfield on the morning of the 23d, destroying five or six fine stores.

A New Planet has been discovered at the Royal Observatory, Naples, by Professor de Gasparis. This is the fifth discovered by this gentleman.

During the last five months, 85,000 cases boots and shoes have been shipped from Boston, and 120,000 bales of cotton received.

A new piece of the value of two shillings, stg., called a Florin, has been issued from the mint.

Mr. Calhoun's son is reported to have died with cholera, also twelve negroes. The disease broke out among a gang in Georgia.

There were 534 Girls at sea, on board ships arriving in the port of New York during the year 1851.

Louis Napoleon issues public documents in his own name as President of the Republic, and no longer in the name of the people.

A plan for a suspension bridge across the St. Lawrence at Quebec, is before the Common Council of that city.

Young potatoes and onions appeared in the New Orleans market a week ago. Strawberries were also in abundance on the 25th ult.

A great freshet has occurred at San Antonio, Texas, recently, by which several lives were lost.

FROM HAVANA.—Dates from Havana to 15th instant have been received at New York.—The affray represented, in the telegraph despatch from New Orleans, to have taken place between English and American sailors, was between them jointly on the one part, and Spanish sailors on the other. Twelve were finally called to the aid of the latter, and succeeded in bayoneting one Englishman and one American. The American was supposed to be mortally wounded. It is said, that English and American sailors always fraternize with each other, when they have any third party to contend with, of sufficient importance to deserve their attention.

The new Governor General of Cuba had arrived. Much regret was expressed at the removal of General Concha.

Intelligence from Austria states, that the Prime Minister is dead. He died from a stroke of apoplexy. He was the bitter hater of Hungary, and the persecutor of the Protestant missionaries in that country. Kossuth has one enemy less now, but there are plenty more of such men in Austria.

A Spanish lady, writing from Washington, says of Henry Clay: "I am not able to give you an adequate idea of his state. His *eye* alone shows how *sick and dead!* His fingers are a skeleton,—the countenance cadaverous, yet withal, his mental faculties are unimpaired and as vivid as ever."

ILLUMINATING LIGHT HOUSES.—Dr. Gesner, of Halifax, N.S., as has been mentioned in our columns in Vol. 6, discovered, in his geological surveys in New Brunswick, valuable deposits of asphaltum, which, by an improved apparatus and mode of treating it which we witnessed in this city, produces a most beautiful illuminating gas. He has applied it to the purpose of making a brilliant light in lighthouses upon the coast. The lighthouse at Meagher's Beach, Nova Scotia, has been placed by government under his charge. He has illuminated it at a charge of $100 per annum, making a saving of $250 per annum. The Doctor proposes to furnish the other houses in the province on the same terms. He also states, that he can erect light along the shore, without expensive houses, by raising poles and placing the lights upon them.—*N. Y. Scientific American.*

THE JAPAN EXPEDITION.—Mr. Webster's instructions to Com. Aulick, who has charge of the Japan expedition, explains the objects of this undertaking in the subjoined passages:—

It is the President's opinion that steps should be taken at once to enable our enterprising merchants to supply the last link in that great chain, which unites all nations of the world, by the early establishment of a line of steamers from California to China. In order to facilitate his exertions, it is desirable that we should obtain from the Emperor of Japan permission to purchase from his subjects the necessary supplies of coal, which our steamers, in their out and inward voyages may require. The President has thought it proper to invest you with full power to negotiate and sign a treaty of amity and commerce between the United States and the Empire of Japan.

It is important that you should secure in our vessels the right to enter one or more of the ports of Japan, and there to dispose of their cargoes either by sale or by barter, without being subjected to extravagant port charges; and even more important is it that the government of Japan should bind itself to protect American sailors and property which may be on their shores.

FROM RIO JANEIRO.—A letter from the Seamen's Chaplain at Rio de Janeiro, dated March 14th, says—

"The yellow fever is raging in the shipping. It has been particularly fatal to seamen from northern Europe. Until recently no Americans were taken; but now, many are down with it, and some have been taken to there long homes. Fifty vessels are in the port of Rio Janeiro, on the 1st of February, and the disease was still more fatal thus far in the month of March.

"I HAVE THE READING OF IT EVERY WEEK."—It not unfrequently occurs, when persons are asked, if they will subscribe for a newspaper, or if they already take it, that they reply "No! but neighbour B. takes it, and I have the reading of it every week."—Such often add, that they like the paper, and sometimes they say they consider it "the best paper they know of." They are benefited by the toils, perplexities and expenditure of those who receive nothing from them in return. Reader, if you feel reproved, just send your name and take the paper yourself, not forgetting to pay for it.