

direct change of opinion on the part of some of its members, and led to the striking out of the return of his own fees and those of the Private Secretary into the Treasury. This was nothing less than a direct violation, both of the privileges of the Legislature and of the people, and a positive infringement of the freedom of the House. But his Excellency's violation and infringement of popular rights was not confined to his unconstitutional interference with members of the Legislature during a session, and his unjustifiable attempts to prevail upon them to adopt a line of action in consonance with his wishes. He had even, in a most arbitrary and tyrannical manner, brought the power with which he fancied himself to be invested, to bear against the freedom of elections; and in one instance, that of a gentleman holding an appointment in the Ordnance Department here, he had endeavoured virtually to deprive a freeman of his elective franchise, by threatening him that, should he vote against the Government candidate, he would report him at Head Quarters. In another instance, to a gentleman whom his Excellency had been in the habit of frequently inviting to his table, he manifested his displeasure at his having voted for Mr. Lord, at the last Election for Charlottetown, by omitting to include him among the number of invited guests at Government House in future. Such unwarrantable interference with the liberties of the people, I feel satisfied not one of his Excellency's friends will be bold enough to step forward and defend; and yet, were a General Election to take place to-morrow, I think it very probable that his Excellency, in order to defeat the party at present having the majority in the House of Assembly, would not hesitate to employ the most unconstitutional and unjustifiable means, through the agency of the officials and others, to secure the return of all candidates opposed to Responsible Government; and, in such a case, it was not impossible that, by such means, he might succeed in giving his friends a majority in another House.

(To be continued.)

## CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

"I hope, therefore, soon to learn that you have adopted the same course, and that you will use the powers of Self-government with prudence and moderation, and thereby prove that you are worthy of the rights now to be conceded to you."

SIR,—

The above extract from Mr. Hume's Letter should not be allowed to pass into oblivion, and I am of opinion that the Assembly should vote a sum sufficient to defray the expense of taking his portrait, with the above extract underneath it, to be placed in the Legislative Library, not only as a memorial of the worth of the man, but also to commemorate the introduction of Self or Responsible Government into the Island; and I have not a doubt if he was solicited in a proper manner, but that he would comply with the request of the House, and allow his portrait to be taken. I have been informed by a former Speaker many years ago, that the then House of Assembly voted a considerable sum to have the portrait of the Colony Agent in London at that time taken, which was done and was then in the possession of the Hon. Mr. Birnie; so you see there is a precedent for it;—further, to aid the prosperity and well-being of the Island, and to extricate it from its present difficulties, I beg to propose that the first Act, of prudence and moderation, to be passed by the Majority of the Assembly and the Governor, should be intitled "An Act of oblivion for all past political offences," and that all parties who have the good of the Island at heart should unite and give their cordial assent and co-operation to the establishing and working or carrying out of Responsible Government, so that the inhabitants of the Island in general may have their expectations realized concerning it, by receiving lasting benefits therefrom; for if the system is not to be wrought in good faith, with prudence and moderation, there is very little good to be expected from it. Trusting that it will be wrought in such a spirit, I must conclude, as we are very busily engaged in sowing and planting.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

AMICUS INSULAE.

St. Peters, May 21, 1850.

## Colonial and American Intelligence.

### NOVA SCOTIA.

The Halifax and Windsor Railway is an enterprise of great interest and importance, and is now fairly started. A Company has been formed under very favourable auspices. It is supposed that shares to the amount of more than £50,000 will be taken in the city of Halifax.

**DESTRUCTIVE CONFLAGRATION.**—We regret to learn that the extensive Warehouse and Steam Mill on the Dartmouth side of the harbour, owned and occupied by Messrs. H. Y. Mott & Son as a Broma and Chocolate manufactory, &c., were totally destroyed by fire about 10 o'clock on Thursday evening. A fire engine, suitably manned, proceeded by the Steam Ferryboat from this city to the scene of destruction, but arrived too late to render any effectual assistance. The property was partially insured.—Halifax Guardian.

### CANADA.

Dr. Boutillier, M. P. P., of St. Hyacinthe, Canada, has sent to the Office of the Lower Canada Agricultural Society, a sample of dry peat, very similar in consistency and appearance, to Irish peat or turf, and, we have no doubt, would burn well in grates, and make a pleasant fire. We have not tried it in a stove, but suppose it would answer well. This peat is more like that of Ireland than any we have seen in this country. The Canadian peat or moss is generally very brittle, and when dug out crumbles down by exposure, into small particles; but this sent by Dr. Boutillier is not so, but adheres very closely together, and in fact would make very good turf for fuel. At no distant period, it is very probable, that we shall be glad to have turf to make use of, and some of our moss could not be applied to a better purpose, as the land would be better after some of it was taken off, provided it could be drained, which in general is possible. Hand turf is made in Ireland, from the wastes of cut-away bog. This waste is something similar to our natural moss, as it will not adhere, until worked into a sort of pulp, by wetting it, and working it with the feet of horses or oxen. It is then formed by hand into shapes, larger than bricks, and set on the ground to dry. When partly dried, it is set on the ends, a few together, until it is perfectly dry and fit to be carried home, and secured for use. This sort of turf is excellent quality for fuel, and very lasting. We believe our moss is quite capable of being converted into good material for fuel, particularly in grates. There is no fire more pleasant than one made of good peat; it has no unpleasant smell, and is not so soiling as coal. Larger grates would be necessary than those made use of for coal.—Montreal Agricultural Journal.

**TRIAL OF McLEAN.**—Wm. McLean's trial for the murder of Robert McElva, of Clarke, occupied the Court 36 hours. The Counsel for the Crown made out a much stronger case than was expected, and the defence called no witnesses. Mr. Garrett, the prisoner's Counsel, merely made a speech, which, although a good one, appeared to have no weight with the Judge, who charged dead against the prisoner. The Jury after an absence of ten hours brought in a verdict of guilty, without a recommendation to mercy. There is therefore no doubt that the unfortunate man will be hanged. Yesterday McLean was sentenced to death; the sentence was most eloquently pronounced by Judge Sullivan and deeply affected the numerous listeners. The execution is to take place on the 29th of this present month of May. We infer from the sentence that there is not the utmost possibility of a reprieve and commutation of the sentence. We must not omit to mention that the Judge and Queen's Counsel, (both appointed for their able advocacy of radical principles,) spoke in the very highest terms of the Orangemen of Clarke who brought the criminal to justice, who is not only a member of their body, but an officer of their lodge.—Coburg Star.

Mr. Rochon the lucky French Canadian, whose recent return from California with great riches we have already noticed, says that he would advise persons who can get a comfortable living in Canada to remain here. The chances are ten to one against their getting a fortune in California. Here and there an individual succeeds—he mentions Mr. Victor Beaudry and Mr. Oliver as the only successful Canadians he has heard of—while the majority endure a toilsome life, and are not so well off as they would have been in their own country.

Dr. Kelly having retired from his office of Surgeon to the Naval Surveying Department, in the Gulf and River St. Lawrence, is succeeded by Dr. Stratton, favourably known as a writer on the meteorology, climate and diseases of Canada.

### UNITED STATES.

The Canadian Reciprocity Bill has again been debated in the House of Representatives, and referred to the committee of the whole. The official correspondence between the State department and the British Minister was also presented. A motion was also debated in reference to throwing open the coasting trade to the commerce of Great Britain, and subsequently laid on the table.

**GREAT FLOOD IN THE MISSISSIPPI.**—This river has overflowed its banks for hundreds of miles, inundating the country round, and causing much destruction of property.

A horrible fire occurred at the Isle de Carman, the most important commercial place in Yucatan, on the 18th March. Handbills had been placarded for some days previous, announcing that the town would be fired.

In the principal street, 120 houses and the parochial church were destroyed. The loss is estimated at three hundred thousand dollars. A large number of families immediately left for Campeachy. This is the second fire which has recently desolated Yucatan.

There has been a gold mine discovered in Brown county, Indiana. Mr. Walker, of Cincinnati, has arrived at the diggings with a lot of his gold washers. They are going at the work in earnest. We learn that about a hundred hands are at work, and succeeding well.—Salem Democrat.

**THE CUBA AFFAIR.**—Washington, 18th.—The Spanish Minister has applied to President Taylor for aid to prevent the Cuba expedition, which was granted.

**AN INSURRECTION.**—New Orleans, 16th.—The New Orleans Delta has news of a violent insurrection among the negroes of the adjoining Islands of Guadeloupe. They burned the Government House and attempted to break open the prison and set the convicts free. The Governor with a body of troops left to put down the insurgents.

**ANOTHER AWFUL TRAGEDY.**—An extra from the Bangor Whig Office states that in Atkinson, Piscataquis county, on Monday last, Mrs. Hutchinson, formerly of Glenburn, in a fit of derangement cut the throats of three of her children and also her own. Two of the children are dead, and it is thought that Mrs. Hutchinson will not recover. The youngest child will probably survive. Mr. Hutchinson, on his return from labour to his house, found his family in this deplorable condition. Mrs. Hutchinson has always borne a good character, but has been subject to occasional fits of derangement.

The Evansville (Ind.) Journal says, that there is a young man named Masterson, awaiting his trial at Rockport, in that State, who possesses the remarkable faculty of being able to throw a stone with almost the precision a man can send a bullet from a good rifle.—He can go into the woods and kill as many squirrels with "dorricks," as an experienced hunter can with his gun. A drunken man was pursuing a brother of his with a knife in his hand, when Masterson threw and struck the fellow on the back of his head, killing him instantly. He says he intended to strike the arm of the drunken man, to knock the knife from his hand, but his own arm was caught and the object frustrated.

Mr. W. Bradley of Springfield, in this county, informs us that saleratus bound upon corns for a few weeks, with occasional changes, will effectually cure them. He has given it a fair trial, and would recommend it as an infallible remedy to those afflicted.—Madison Argus.

The well known William Lyon McKenzie has returned to Canada, and is about to become the editor of a newspaper in Toronto.

The steam ship *City of Glasgow* arrived at New York on the 3rd instant, having made the passage from the Clyde in 16 days.

**DUTIES PAID BY THE CUNARD STEAMERS SINCE THE NAVIGATION ACT.**—The amount of the duties paid by the three British (Cunard) steamers that arrived at this port during the quarter just closed, was \$610,969 25, averaging \$203,656 42 each. The Navigation Laws came into operation on the 1st of January, 1850, since which time these steamers have brought over large quantities of French and other continental goods. It is safe to say that each of these cargoes was in the neighbourhood of a million of dollars.

The *Boston Post* says that a great calamity has befallen his country. No women are now to be found in it,—they are all gone—become extinct, and are superceded by things called Ladies!

The Indians of New Mexico, and some American buffalo-hunters, have lately had several bloody rencontres, in which the Indians have been generally victorious.

**LATER FROM CALIFORNIA.**—There were no fewer than three arrivals from Chagres, bringing passengers from California, at New York on Tuesday. They brought \$2,800,000 in gold dust. The following are items of news from the gold region:—

The day previous to the sailing of the *California* the Collector of Customs in San Francisco was notified that the monies collected for duties must be paid over to the State Government in accordance with a resolution passed by the Legislature, and steps were being taken to form an independent government. Com. Jones, it is said, is about to take active measures to prevent it. A law has passed the Legislature imposing a tax of \$25,00 on every foreigner who works in the mines. The rains had ceased—every thing betokened a revival of the accustomed activity in business circles. The emigration from the States is beginning to pour in on our shores in one unbroken column, and our steamers are crowded to their utmost conveyance of passengers and freights to the various cities and towns in the great interior valleys and to the different mines. Our accounts from the mines are reliable, and all concur in stating the inexhaustible quantities of the precious metal. In fact, it is the opinion of the oldest miners, those who have spent the last winter in the mountains, that the same ground worked over last year will be far more productive this, while at the same time additional and extensive directions are being opened, which will give employment to hundreds of thousands for generations to come.

**THE FEVER AT RIO JANEIRO.**—Reliable accounts from Rio Janeiro to March 24, represent the mortality by the African or yellow fever as very great, the deaths having for some time averaged 150 per day. Since the disease made its appearance the number of deaths had been fully 8,000 in that city, which is estimated to contain between 250,000 and 300,000 inhabitants.

A date of the 23d, from another source says:—The fever which had been prevailing for the past five or six weeks on shipboard, to a fatal extent, is now rather on the decline, but on shore it is rather on the increase.