The Colonial Herald.

the Colony was in worse circumstances; when our Legislature possessed as many intelligent men as ever sat in it; when our revenue was something about £6,000, then they addressed His Majesty, and made proposals to the Home Government, to undertake the payment of the Civil List, upon condition that all the disposable resources of the Colony should be given up; which proposal was rejected by the Home Government. The House were not in this instance to consult the peculiar interest of His Excellency; but that of the Island at large. Under these considerations, he would caution hon. members against being influenced by their personal feelings of regard towards His Excellency.

Mr. THOMSON said, as to the Government House, he thought it rather unhandsome for the learned gentleman who had just sat down to make any remarks as to the colonial expenditure towards the support of that building.

Mr. RAE said, that the learned member (Mr. Palmer) was not out of place in what he stated respecting the expenditure on Government House and Premises, as the country had to pay dearly for that building. The hon. and learned member used one very cogent argument against the adoption of this measure, by comparing the amount required by the Despatch, in addition to His Excellency's salary, with our revenue. This is the fairest criterion by which to judge of our capability to meet this demand. The amount of the salary granted the Governor of New Brunswick is £3000, which is but a small proportion of the revenue of that Province. Our revenue will not increase for many years, and if we get the Land Bill settled, we will require the money in the Treasury, or, at least, the available part thereof, to pay for the lands. If we concede this request, we will be acting like spendthrifts, in squandering away our means. He could not see that it was expedient to incur this expenditure, in order merely to keep up the rank of his Excellency. We can measure our own means, but we cannot measure the dignity of sovereignty in the Colony. He would ask, whether the dignity of Majesty has been degraded heretofore in this Island by the moderate salaries given its governors? Has it been degraded in the person of Governor Young? He would say, it has not, for he always lived in a respectable style. He (Mr. Rae) would willingly give his assent to the measure, if the circumstances of the country would permit. When the Civil List comes upon us—from that time out we will have to pay the Civil List, and also the Governor's salary, and thus subjects of complaint may arise, more particularly so, if Sir Charles's successor should turn out to be less popular than he is. We would then still be heaping coals on the [illegible] to quench. Besides this, it would be establishing a bad principle, in regard to other salaries. We would soon see the Chief Justice, the Treasurer, and the [illegible] say, that we are not able to meet this demand. If Lord John Russell would but look at the papers in his office, he would therein find that our Colony is not able to pay this additional salary. If we had our rights, we might then entertain the question as one of expediency. It is a matter of great importance to the House to maintain a good understanding with His Excellency. He, no doubt, has sympathized with the people, although he may not have followed out the good feelings which he once entertained towards them; but the country will censure us, if we grant this request; if we are to sacrifice the good will of the Government, let us preserve inviolate the trust reposed in us by our constituants.

Mr. YEO could not see why hon. members should object so strongly to increase the Governor's salary. The other public officers of Government are better paid in proportion to the responsibility of their respective offices. No say they, we cannot afford to give him any more. When he (Mr. Yeo) brought in his Resolution for the redemption of Treasury Warrants, a few weeks ago, hon. members said, that there was no lack of money in the Treasury—that the country was somewhat rich; but now, we hear them tell a different tale; now they say it is as poor as Job.

Mr. CLARK said, if we, by disagreeing to the original Resolution, shew an unfriendly feeling towards His Excellency, as asserted by Mr. Yeo, he will certainly have a seat in the Executive, for not shewing his teeth. This would be giving every public officer of the Colony an argument to come forward to the House to have his salary increased, to keep up the dignity of his office, in proportion to his responsibility.

Mr. LE LACHEUR thought that the whole of the present question might be narrowed to one point; namely, whether the Colonial Revenue will permit us to increase His Excellency's salary or not. He thought the revenue was not in a state fit to meet such a demand; he would not, for one moment, wish, that any individual should think that he intimated that His Excellency was not deserving of an increase of salary, or that his establishment did not require an additional salary, in order to support his dignity. He felt persuaded that no former Administrator of this Government possessed more of the esteem and confidence of the people than Sir Charles A. Fitz Roy. But if we grant this sum, we may expect that it will remain a permanent salary—which will be the means of entailing incalculable evils on the colony. Besides this, we may call to mind the fact, that the Colony obtained a separate Legislature on the solemn promise that the Proprietors would, out of their *own* private resources, defray its Civil List. Have they done so? No, they have not. Are we therefore expected by the Home Government to do what they (the Proprietors) neglected to have done? Are we, an oppressed people, to support those great public delinquents—yes, those great paupers—who hold in an unproductive state, the most of the lands in the Colony? Such a course of procedure would be oppressing our constituents in their present deplorable situation, like a half starved horse carrying two pack-saddles. This we, their Representatives, dare not do. He therefore felt himself called on to support the amendment.

The Hon. J. S. MACDONALD said, that he could easily foresee, from what had fallen from hon. members, what would be the fate of his Resolution. It would go to the wall. Much as he regretted this, on account of His Excellency, he regretted it still more on account of the effect he believed it would have on the future welfare of the Colony; for the Committee might rest assured that Her Majesty's Government would not think of continuing or placing a gentleman in a situation wherein the expenses of such office are acknowledged to exceed its emoluments. The amendment, if carried, would have the effect of either drawing down upon us the whole of the Civil List, or the annexation of this Colony to Nova Scotia, to avert which was his (Mr. Macdonald's) sole object in submitting the Resolution; and in doing so, he felt that he had discharged his duty, and would therefore decline saying anything further on the subject.

The amendment was then carried, on the following division:—

YEAS—Mr. Speaker, Messrs. Hudson, Le Lacheur, Beck, Dalziel, Macfarlane, Fraser, Rae, Clark, Macintosh, D. Macdonald, Montgomery, Palmer, Longworth, Forbes, Macneill, W. Dingwell, J. Dingwell, Maclean—19.

NAYS—Hon. J. S. Macdonald, Mr. Yeo, Mr. Thomson—3.

On the House resuming—

The Hon. J. S. MACDONALD moved, that the Resolution be referred back to the Committee, in order that it might receive more mature consideration. He here dwelled on the effects of passing the Resolution.

Mr. PALMER opposed the motion.

Mr. GORMAN said, that being in the Chair during the debate, he had not an opportunity of delivering his sentiments on this important question. He did not agree with every part of the Resolution which had been agreed to. However, he could never consent to give the Lieut. Governor a yearly salary amounting to nearly one-fourth of our whole Revenue, including that part paid by the Home Government. It would be a bad precedent when we shall have to pay our Civil List, as all future Governors will not accept of a less salary than their predecessors. There is no use in speaking of rank in this poor Colony; our Colonial means cannot afford to keep up rank as it is supported in England. The Home Government should send us those men whose rank we are able to support. He had no unfriendly feeling towards His Excellency Sir Charles Augustus Fitz Roy, but he felt it his bounden duty towards his constituents to vote for the amendment.

Mr. J. S. MACDONALD'S motion was then negatived, 3 voting for it, and 19 against it, and the Resolution reported from the Committee, namely, that proposed by Mr. Donald Macdonald, was put and carried.

FRIDAY, March 26.

Mr. Forbes presented a Petition from divers Inhabitants of Rustico, and its vicinity, complaining of the defective state of the Bridge lately erected over Tanner's Creek, both as to materials and workmanship, and being two feet six inches lower than the specification, and praying the aid of the House.

Referred to Messrs. Forbes, Rae, Clark, Macfarlane and Montgomery, to inquire into the allegations therein contained, and to report thereon next Session.

Mr. Clark, from the Committee to whom was referred the several Petitions presented to the House for the encouragement of Temperance, reported as follows:

Your Committee to whom was referred the Petition of the Office-bearers of the "Charlottetown Temperance Society," and the Petition of the "Prince Edward Island Auxiliary Temperance Society," with other Petitions from the friends of Temperance in the Colony, praying the interference of the Legislature for the suppression of intemperance throughout this island, are fully alive to the many evils ensuing from the prevalence of intemperance in every community wheresoever it may exist; and while they acknowledge the justness of the representations of the Petitioners with regard to the pernicious influence of this evil on the general prosperity of this Island and the morals of its inhabitants, your Committee consider that when, unfortunately in a young Colony, as in this, in has happened that such a large proportion of its Revenue has, for so many years, been raised from duties on imported liquors, they cannot safely recommend the adoption of any enactment which would cause a sudden diminution in the revenue of the Colony by a total abolition of the importation of Spirituous Liquors, although they entertain the hope that, by a gradual approach to such a desirable measure, the Legislature may, at no very distant period, succeed in accomplishing it, without any serious effect on the Revenue of the Colony.

Your Committee therefore respectfully recommend the expediency of your Honourable House taking into its serious consideration, at its next Session, the propriety of imposing an additional duty on all Spirituous Liquors imported thereafter into this Colony, and also on all Stills in operation in the Colony; and in the mean time your Committee respectfully recommend your Honourable House to appropriate a small sum of money, to be expended in the publication of such approved works on Temperance as may be recommended by the Office-bearers of the "Prince Edward Island Auxiliary Temperance Society."

Mr. Clark moved, that the said Report be referred to the Committee of Supply.

The Hon. J. S. Macdonald moved, as an amendment, that the said Report do lie on the table, for further consideration.

The House divided on the question—

For the original motion—Messrs. Clark, Beck, D. Macdonald, Rae, Yeo, Hudson, Macneill, Thomson, W. Dingwell, 9.

For the amendment—Hon. J. S. Macdonald, Messrs. Macfarlane, Fraser, J. Dingwell, Gorman, Le Lacheur, Macin-[illegible] regulating their duties, was sent down from the Legislative Council, with several amendments, to which they desired the concurrence of the House.

And also a written message, desiring a present Conference with the House on the general state of the Colony, to which the House agreed.

On the return of the Managers, Mr. Rae reported, that they had met the Committee of the Council, who acquinted them, that the Council had agreed to an Address to Her Majesty, praying Her Majesty to adopt the measure therein recommended, for the settlement of the land question in this Island; and that this Conference was called for the purpose of requesting the House of Assembly to join in the said Address, a copy of which is as followeth:

TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

Most Gracious Sovereign;

We your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Council of Prince Edward Island, in Colonial Parliament assembled, beg leave to approach your Majesty's Throne and person, and most humbly to represent—

That the Lands of this Colony were originally granted in large tracts, of twenty thousand acres each, to private individuals, the greater part of which still remains in the hands of the descendants or Assignees of such Grantees, the majority of the actual settlers on such lands holding as tenants, and not in fee simple.

That if by the purchase of these lands from the porprietors, they were again revested in the Crown, for the purpose of being regranted in small tracts to the tenantry and settlers thereon, it would be hailed by the inhabitants of this Island as the greatest boon which your Majesty could bestow upon them, and would, as your Petitioners conceive, be productive of great and permanent benefits to the Colony.

are at the same time aware that this most desirable object cannot be attained without the advance, in the first instance, of a much larger sum of money than the Legislature of this Colony can command, nor without the free and voluntary consent of the several Proprietors to dispose of their Lands, being first obtained.

therefore most humbly pray, that your Majesty will be graciously pleased to take the premises into your favourable consideration, and cause a negotiation to be entered into with the several Proprietors of land in this Island, to ascertain the prices at which they would respectively agree to dispose of the whole of their lands in this Island, together with the arrears of rent now due thereon, with a view to their being reinvested in the Crown, for the purpose aforesaid; and in the event of such proprietors being willing to accept a reasonable price for the same, then that your Majesty will be graciously pleased to order that the funds necessary for making such purchase be, in the first instance, advanced from the Imperial Revenue, until such advance can be reimbursed to it by the sale of such lands.

at the same time pledge themselves (in the event of such purchase being made), to make such legislative enactments as will tend most speedily to effect a sale of the lands, and thereby reimburse the advances which the Imperial Government may have to make in purchasing the same.

And, as in duty bound, will ever pray for your Majesty's sacred person.

On the Conference being reported to the House, it was ordered, that the said proposed Address be referred to the Committee on the State of the Colony.

Mr. Secretary Haviland delivered the following Messages from His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor:

[FIRST MESSAGE.]

C. A. FITZ ROY, Lieutenant Governor.

The Lieutenant Governor transmits to the House of Assembly a copy of a Letter from the Chief Justice, representing the necessity which exists for the appointment of a Professional Assistant Judge of the Supreme Court; and the Lieutenant Governor hopes that the reasons assigned by the Chief Justice for such an addition to the Judiciary of the Colony, will receive that mature consideration from the House, which the importance of the question entitles them to.

Government House, 25th March, 1841.

[SECOND MESSAGE.]

C. A. FITZ ROY, Lieutenant Governor.

In reply to the Address of the House of Assembly of the 23d instant, the Lieutenant Governor lays before the House a copy of the Minute in Council, authorising the Sheriff of King's County to employ Special Constables from Queen's County, to protect and assist him in the execution of his duty and the preservation of the public peace; and also authorising the expenditure referred to in that Address; but the Lieutenant Governor does not deem it expedient to submit to the House of Assembly the documents upon which such Minute in Council was founded.

Government House, 25th March, 1841.

Ordered, That the said Messages be referred to the Committee on the State of the Colony.

SATURDAY, March 27th.

Mr. Palmer, from the Special Committee to whom was referred the Bill relating to Schools and Education, reported, that the Committee had made several amendments to the Bill; and the Report was again read at the Clerk's Table.

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

The House accordingly resolved itself into the said Committee.

After some clauses had been gone through, the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

Mr. Secretary Haviland, by command of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, laid the following documents before the House:

[*Copy of a Despatch from Lord John Russell.*]

DOWNING STREET, February 12th, 1841.

[No. 42.]

SIR;

I have had under my consideration your Despatch, No. 11, of the 5th May last, enclosing, with other documents, an address to the Queen from the House of Assembly of Prince Edward Island, recommending for Her Majesty's favourable consideration, the claims to Land of the American Refugees, the Disbanded Provincial Troops, and their Descendants, who have settled in the Island.

I have had the honour to lay that Address before the Queen, and Her Majesty has been pleased to command me to instruct you to acquaint the House of Assembly, that although she deeply regrets the distress with which a class of Her Majesty's faithful Subjects in Prince Edward Island appears to have been visited, it is not in Her power, especially at so great a distance of time, to compel the Proprietors of Land in Prince Edward Island, to fulfill the promises which they are said to have left unfulfilled, and that the agitation of such questions can only lead to confusion and conflict of interests.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

Lt. Governor Sir Charles A. Fitz Roy, &c. &c. &c.

PICTOU, 23d March, 1841.

Sir; I am just favoured with your letter of the 8th inst., together with a copy of two Resolutions of the House of Assembly, on the subject of employing a Steamboat.

The owners of the Pocahontas believe her to be quite capable of performing all the trips required by the Resolutions, but she is not of sufficient capacity to afford room for comfortable berths during the night, for such a number of passengers as might be expected on the Miramichi route; nor is she adapted for carrying freight. They would, therefore, be altogether disinclined to engage her in a service where they have strong doubts of her giving satisfaction.

No expense has been spared to make her a very eligible passage boat, for short voyages, and the proprietors will, if approved of, accept the sum offered by your Legislature for the season, to carry the mails, three trips a week, between Pictou and Charlottetown or Georgetown, subject to the direction of your Government—their making due allowance for occasional disappointments, which may be experienced through inability to perform any particular trip on account of tempestuous weather.

The owners tender the Boat for this route, possessing a full [illegible] accommodations as she has, should His Excellency deem it necessary to require such service.

We look with anxiety for an early reply, as the shortest notice will leave but little time to prepare for a commencement on the opening of the navigation.

I have the honor to be, &c. &c. &c.
for the Proprietors of the Pocahontas,
JAMES PRIMROSE, Agent.

To the Hon. T. H. Haviland,
Colonial Secretary, Charlottetown, P. E. Island.

Ordered, That the foregoing documents be referred to a Committee of the whole House, on Thursday next.

MONDAY, March 29.

Two Bills were sent down from the Legislative Council, for concurrence, viz:—

A Bill to amend the Act relating to Barristers and Attorneys, in order to provide for the more speedy admission to the bar of Graduates of Colleges:

And a Bill to compel such persons as have been nominated by the Supreme Court as Constables to serve as such.

The House then went into Committee on the School Bill, in which they were occupied for the remainder of the day, when the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

TUESDAY, March 30.

The amendments made by the Legislative Council to the Fish Inspection Bill were taken into consideration. One of them proposed to strike out the clause for preventing the sale of pickled fish in bulk, after the expiration of fourteen days after their arrival in the Island. This was agreed to, upon a division: Yeas, 13. Nays, 4. The residue of the amendments were also agreed to.

Mr. Rae, from the Committee appointed to take further evidence in support of the Addresses and Representations sent home, from time to time, by the House of Assembly, presented to the House the first Report of the Committee, comprising the examinations of the following sixteen persons, viz: James Bagnall, of York River, Vincent Bell, of Tracadie, James Arthur, New Glasgow, James Miller, Frenchfort, James Howlett and John Mackie, of Bay Fortune, Charles Davy, Murray Harbour, John Simpson, Elliot River, Alexander Johnston, Princetown Road, Robert Mearns, of Lot 54, Angus Campbell and Donald Macdonald, of Lot 56, John Macgill and Charles Binns, sen., of Charlottetown, Joseph Allan and William Ball, of Boughton Island—comprising in all answers to 332 interrogatories—also, a list of searches made by the Prothonotary, of judgments given for arrears of rent; and a copy of the affidavit of Donald Campbell, the person that had been threatened by James Dingwell, James Aitken the younger, and others, and a copy of the attachment issued against them.

Mr. Rae stated that it was for the House to consider whether it would be expedient to incur the expense of printing this voluminous Report; in the meantime he would content himself with moving that it be referred to the Committee on the state of the Colony—which was agreed to.

The further consideration of the Bill for the establishment of Criminal Sessions in Queen's County was postponed for an indefinite period.

The rest of the day was occupied in Committee on the Education Bill.

The House of Assembly, in Committee of Supply, have voted the following sums:

£3000 for general services of Roads and Bridges.
£260 Collector of Impost.
£40 Market Clerk.
£120 to defray Sarlaries of Sub-Collectors of Customs.
£160 to defray Salaries of Commissioners of Highways.
£30 to Wharfinger, Charlottetown.
£75 to Inspecting Officer of Militia.
£10 to Assayer of Weights and Measures, Charlottetown.
£40 to Messenger Executive Council, & Crier of Court.
£30 to Commissioners for Issuing Treasury Notes.
£300 to Masters of the Central Academy.
£25 to Master of the National School.
£550 for conveying Mails by Steam.
£150 for conveying Mails in the Winter season.
£250 for Inland Mails.
£30 to E. Chappell for conducting business of the Inland Mails.
£250 for Public Printing.
£100 for Chief Justice's travelling charges.
£10 to Medical attendant Charlottetown Jail.
£4 each to Medical attendant of the Jails of Georgetown and St. Eleanors'.
£250 for contingent expences of Government.
£150 to defray the expenditures on Government House for the present year.
£20 to Mechanics' Institute.
£20 to Trustees of School in Georgetown, to pay off debt due on the building.
£27 10s. for repairing Poplar Island Bridge.
£25 for extending Wharf at Peter's shore, Three Rivers.
£5 to Charles Russell, an aged Teacher.
£15 for extending Wharf at St. Mary's Bay.
£50 for erecting and completing Wharf at Campbell's Point, S. W. side Pinette River.
£80 for extending Wharf at Green's shore, Bedeque.
£50 to Thomas Haslem, to expend in repairing the Roads and Bridges between Crabb's and Haslem's.
£60 for Vernon River Bridge.
£40 to the Correspondent of Road Commissioners.
£60 to erect a Wharf at Bank's shore on the North side Grand River Harbour.
£50 to William and Andrew Miller, in full for extra work performed by them on South River Bridge, Murray Harbour.

SCOTLAND.

The Heritors and Commissioners of Supply for the [county] of Fife held a meeting lately, to consider a project for improving the access to their coast in all weathers, by the construction of a noble road from Dysart to Burntisland, the erection of a low water pier there, and the establishment of steamers to pass every hour to the Edinburgh side and again; thus, in the words of the Duke of Buccleugh, 'bridging the Forth.' The meeting adjourned for two [weeks] to consider the matured plans for the valuable undertaking.

The Marquis of Tweeddale, Senior Vice President of the Highland Society, presided at a grand dinner of the members, held on Tuesday in the Hopetown Rooms. [illegible] Milne, as senior officer present, returned thanks for the 'Army and Navy,' and asked where were [those who] had said so lately that the British flag had been [illegible] That the British sailor disliked the service? That the [illegible] weak fleet in the Mediterranean might be picked [up like] stray partridges in a stubble field? That the F[rench fleet] was so superior to ours? Where was this superior [fleet] now? In ordinary at Toulon. (Cheers.) Where [was the] weak fleet? Triumphant every where. (Cheers.) [How] was the navy manned? By volunteers, without [a pressed] man. From China to the Downs there was not [a pressed] man in the service, a fact unprecedented in history. [They] were all volunteers—(rapturous applause)—and [they] carried the victorious flag of Britain in triumph [over] seas over which it had never waved before.

The chairman delivered an address which might be considered an impartial history of the society, and of [its services] to agriculture in general, to Scotland, and particularly to the Scottish highlands. The new president, the Duke of Richmond, was then toasted. The Church, the Bench, the Nobility and Bar, Tenantry and peasantry of [Scotland] were successively toasted with patriotic ardour, [and the] meeting adjourned. We must, however, quote a [passage] from the speech of the Marquis, on proposing the [pea]santry:'—

"They had done him the honour of saying that [he had] been on the field of battle with men of his own [country;] he recollected also of seeing his humbler countrymen [of] Scotland come into the field; he recollected the [illegible] 92d regiment when his legs were broken—(cheers)—[he recol]lected that he continued to play, that he might [encourage] the private soldiers to do their duty to their country. [(Great] cheers.)

[illegible] February. He had done [illegible] his profession, not only by the many [illegible] learned works which have become [the] auxiliaries to every legal student and practitioner, [but] by the education of several distinguished [men who] have for many years been the ornament of the bench.

A great sensation has been created in Dublin by the sudden flight of a member of the board of [illegible], leaving behind him defalcations to the enormous amount of £60,000.

Letters from Berlin of the 10th Feb. state, [that up to the] present time the Prussian government had [excluded Jews] from all places under their nomination, [but] that exclusion has now ceased, and the King [has appointed] a Jew, Benjamin Mellis, a Justice of Peace of [illegible] (arrondissement of Aix la Chappelle), and [conferred on] him the honour of the Red Eagle."

The stoppage of the very respectable house of [illegible] Brothers, was announced March 1, and caused some [sensation] in London. They were largely engaged in the Sydney [and Aus]tralian trade. It was supposed the stoppage would be [tem]porary.

The great Pennard cheese was presented to Her [Majesty on] Friday, the 19th Feb. Her Majesty and Prince Albert [expressed] themselves highly gratified at the prospect of such [a] cheese.

On the 17th February, in the morning, the ex-King [of Holland,] Count of Nassau, and the Countess of Oultremont, w[ere married] in the strictest incognito, in the Palace of prince Albert, [according] to the protestant and catholic rites. The witnesses [were] Prince and Princess Albert, Count de Perponcher, [the] Ambassador, and the Prussian General De Brauchitsch.—*Gazette.*

UNITED STATES.

(From the Baltimore American.)

Letters from Washington refer to reports current [in this] city, that the British Minister, in conformity with [instructions] brought out by the steamer President, had addressed a letter to Mr. Webster, containing a demand for the [immedi]ate liberation of Mr. M'Leod. What reply had been [made,] if any, is not stated. We learn that on Saturday an [interview] in person was held between Mr. Webster and Mr. [Fox.]

PRESENTATION OF FOREIGN MINISTERS.—The [members] of the diplomatic body, now in Washington, and accredited to the Goverment of the United States, were [presented] to the President yesterday at two o'clock. Mr. Fox, [the British] Minister, on being presented by the Secretary of [State, made] to the President the following address—

"I have the honour to address you in the name [of the] diplomatic body accredited to the United States [illegible] We hasten, Sir, to congratulate you upon your accession [to] the high office of President of this republic, which [the con]fidence of your fellow citizens has conferred upon [you. We] speak the true sentiments of our respective governments [and] countries, in offering this testimony of regard and [esteem] for your person and your station. We rejoice, [as we have] heard from your own lips, in your inaugural address, [the] declaration of a virtuous desire to promote the [relations of] mutual friendship and peace between the United States [and] foreign powers; and we are happy to recognise, [in your] personal character and qualities, the strongest assurance [that] the efforts of Government will be faithfully directed [to ac]complish so wise and noble a purpose."

To this address the President of the United States [made] the following reply:—

"Sir,—I receive with great pleasure the congratulations you have been pleased to offer me in the name [of the] distinguished diplomatic body now present, the representatives of the most powerful and polished nations with [whom] the republic which has honoured me with the office [of] chief magistrate has the most intimate relations—[relations] which I trust no sinister event will, for ages, interrupt.

"The sentiments contained in my late address [to my] fellow citizens, and to which you have been pleased [to] advert, are those which will continue to govern my [conduct] through the whole course of my Administration. [Being] one of the people, the undisputed sovereigns of the [country,] and coming immediately from among them, I am [enabled] with confidence, to say that in thus acting I shall [be sus]tained by their undivided approbation.

"I beg leave to add, sir, that both from duty and [incli]nation I shall omit nothing in my power to contribute [to] your own personal happiness and that of the friends [whom,] on this occasion, you represent, as long as you may [remain] among us."

The other ministers, with their secretaries, and the [per]sons attached to their respective missions, were then [suc]cessively presented to the President. The minister [of] Russia, we learn, was prevented from being present [by] indisposition, which, we are happy to be able to say, [is not] serious.

MASSACHUSETTS LEGISLATURE.

SENATE.—Thursday, March 18.—It was ordered [that the] Sergeant at Arms procure a new Carpet, of American [manu]facture, for the Senate Chamber, and dispose of the [old one] for the benefit of the Commonwealth.

ST. JOHN'S, N. B., 17th March.

Awful conflagration at St. John's, N. B.! Several buildings burnt to the ground!! Four lives lost!!!—The well known sound of the fire bell roused us at one o'clock this morning, and we found, on repairing to the scene of danger in [Prince] William Street, that a large two story wooden building [in the] rear of the Victoria House, was on fire. The flames [rapidly] spread, and in their course swept away all the row