

as the melancholy occurrence originated with the paupers themselves. The Catholic Clergy were up all night administering the rites of religion to the patients. The Mayor, P. G. Barron, Esq.; John W. Mahony, Esq., and other gentlemen, remained until 12 o'clock at the harrowing scene.—*Limerick and Clare Examiner.*

SCENE IN THE DUBLIN CORPORATION.

The name of Mr. Reynolds, the Lord Mayor of Dublin, has been removed from the burgess roll of the city, thereby, it is presumed, disqualifying him from filling the office of Lord Mayor of Dublin.

On Wednesday a court was held to hear legal opinions on the subject of the disqualification. Two of the Barristers, whose opinions were read, thought that Mr. Reynolds was municipally defunct: that he ceased to have a corporate existence, and that there was nothing more to do but to elect his substitute. Sir Colman O'Loughlin, on the contrary, scouted the notion of Mr. Reynolds's position being altered by the erasure of his name from the burgess roll.

No report could convey any idea of the subsequent proceedings. One member, it is said, coolly branded Mr. Reynolds as a liar, whereupon the scene which here took place is indescribable. Mr. Reynolds directed in a peremptory manner one of the servants in livery, who stood near him, to take Mr. Wauchob into custody. The footman immediately rushed on that gentleman and laid his hand on him. Mr. Martin interfered to prevent the removal of Mr. Wauchob, and was struck on the face by the footman. The Conservative members of the House rallied round Mr. Wauchob to protect him from violence, and the footman was obliged to return to the place which he had previously occupied, on the right-hand side of his master. The marshal, Mr. Thomas Reynolds, did all he could to stop the disturbance, and there were loud cries for the police, but no constables came. For some time a very serious riot was threatened—all was confusion—several jumped upon the table appropriated to the public press, others ensconced themselves near the chair, while those who were the actors in the scene were mixed up together, buffeting and dragging each other about, shouting and roaring in the most unmanly state of excitement. Explanations, retractions, and a fresh round of gross personalities concluded the entertainment.

THE LAND QUESTION.—The *Dundalk Democrat* contains a full report of a meeting held at Kingscourt, in the county of Cavan, convened on a requisition signed by the Roman Catholic clergy, a Protestant curate, and others, for the purpose of taking into consideration, and of eliciting public opinion, on the awfully distressed state of the country, on the land question, and on the subject of protection, with a view of ascertaining the sentiments of the people on those important matters, and in laying them, by petition, before the Legislature. Resolutions in accordance with the foregoing objects were unanimously agreed to, one of them affirming:—"That the efforts now making by the Protectionists are at once cruel and shameful; it makes us blush for our common humanity to find a section of Irishmen calling on the Government, while famine prevails in the land, to impose a tax on the necessaries of life, and endeavour to deprive thousands of the starving poor of the means of subsistence."

The *Nenagh Guardian* says—"A gentleman who, not many years ago, represented a neighbouring borough in the Imperial Senate, is now a recipient of our door relief."

PUBLIC MEETING AT SOURIS.

A Public meeting was held at the house of Mr. James Moynagh, at Souris, on the 1st of February last, the object of which was to direct public attention to the necessity of having a Bridge built across Souris River. A Resolution was passed, recommending the erection of a Draw Bridge, to be built on piles; and it was

further resolved, that Petitions to the Legislature should be immediately set on foot, praying for a grant of money sufficient to provide for the performance of the work. There can be no doubt such a work is very desirable, and we not only wish that it may be accomplished, but we shall endeavour to give the projectors of it every encouragement and support.

COLONIAL PARLIAMENT.

OPENING OF THE SESSION.

Yesterday, at 2 o'clock, His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, accompanied by his Suite, repaired to the Legislative Council, and there opened the Session with the following speech:

*Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:
Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:*

I have assembled you at the earliest possible period after the General Election, and I am confident that you will apply yourselves with zeal and diligence to the consideration of such measures as may tend to promote the welfare of the Colony.

I regret to announce to you the death of the Queen Dowager of England. The loss of that most excellent Princess has been deeply mourned by all classes of Her Majesty's subjects, to whom her many eminent virtues rendered her the object of universal esteem and affection.

You will, I am sure, unite with me in gratefully acknowledging the goodness of Providence in averting from our shores that fatal disease which has ravaged so many countries, and in blessing with an abundant harvest the labors of the industrious husbandman.

The Imperial Parliament has passed an Act enabling Colonial Legislatures to regulate their internal Posts, and I am happy to think that we may now look for the establishment of a moderate and uniform rate of Postage throughout British North America.

The important change which has taken place in the Navigation Laws of Great Britain cannot fail to interest you deeply. Among other results from that change, I hope for a considerable increase in the demand for our Island Vessels—a trade in which I believe we can compete, on at least equal terms, with any British Colony.

Since the last Session, the removal of restrictions upon our commercial intercourse with the United States, has engaged my attention; and from the unanimity of feeling which prevailed among the Members of the Executive of the different Provinces, who met at Halifax last Autumn, together with the desire of Her Majesty's Government to give effect to any well considered measures which may benefit these Colonies, I trust that our commerce will receive its full share of the advantages which may be expected.

You are aware that Acts to authorise the reciprocal interchange of staple productions with this Island have been passed by the Legislatures of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Canada; and I recommend for your consideration the propriety of responding to them with that spirit of liberality and kindly feeling which should characterize our relations with the sister Provinces.

I would also suggest for your consideration the expediency of an alteration in the Act for the recovery of Small Debts; its present operation pressing heavily on the Public funds, which in many cases, are burdened with the maintenance of debtors confined in the Jails of the several Counties.

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

The Accounts for the past, and the Estimates for the current year, will be laid before you.

I feel confident of your readiness to provide for the due performance of the Public Service; and you may be assured that the utmost economy will be observed by the Executive in the expenditure of the Public Moneys intrusted to its disposal.

*Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:
Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:*

You will perceive with satisfaction an improvement in the Revenue which, though slight, may be taken as an indication, that the productive resources of the Island are beginning to recover from the state of depression under which they suffered. The increase of the registered tonnage of Shipping during the past year is also gratifying.

I have received replies to your addresses to the Queen, which were intrusted to my care, and they shall be immediately laid before you.

I shall communicate with you, as usual, by Message, upon all matters of Public Interest, which it may be necessary to submit for your consideration during the progress of the Session.

I now leave you to the discharge of your important duties, and as the prosperity of the Colony is my anxious desire, you may rely upon my cordial support, and co-operation in all measures which have for their object the advancement of the true interests and happiness of the people of Prince Edward Island.

The following Gentlemen were appointed to the several offices of the House:—

Alexander Rae, Esquire, Speaker.
John McNeill, Esq., Clerk.
James B. Cooper, Esq., Assistant Clerk.
Joseph Hensley, Esq., Law Clerk.
Henry W. Lobban, Esq., Sergeant-at-Arms.
Mr. Richard Walsh, Messenger.
Mr. R. B. Irving, Reporter.

The business of yesterday in the Assembly consisted chiefly in the appointment of the usual Committees, and in the reading of Despatches referred to in His Excellency's Speech, and laid before the House by Mr. Secretary Haviland.

REPORTING FOR THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.—Yesterday Mr. R. B. Irving was appointed Reporter to the House for the present Session. In a circular, addressed by him to the Proprietors of the Press, he thus explains the system of reporting which he means to pursue, with respect to which, we would observe, that we highly approve of it as the most satisfactory that can be adopted, and we are prepared regularly to avail ourselves of its execution for the information of our readers.

"If, authorized by the sanction of the Members and the concurrence of the Proprietors of the Press, I engage to act in the capacity of a Reporter in the House of Assembly, during the opening Session, I feel satisfied that, by studiously passing over, entirely unnoticed, all mere matter of form and routine business, and—by a careful and judicious condensation of matter—keeping my Reports within the narrowest limits, compatible with a just display of the spirit and a fair exhibition of the arguments of the individual speakers, I shall be able, at once, both to satisfy the political anxiety of the public, and to meet the wishes of both parties in the House; at the same time that, in doing so, I shall afford the Printers an opportunity to acquit themselves, to the full, as regards one Branch of the Legislature, of their duty to it and the Country at large, by enabling them to give the closing Report in their first or second publication after the termination of the Session."

THE CALIFORNIA COMPANY.—We understand that Letters have been received by persons in this Town from some of the above Company who sailed from this Port last Fall for San Francisco. The *Fanny*, it appears, fell in with a vessel bound for Liverpool, on the 4th January, in lat. 34 N., long. 33 W., and by her the letters, destined for this place, were carried to England, and forwarded

here by the last Mail. The whole Company are stated to be in good health, and expecting to reach Rio in a few days from the date of the letters.

THE LAST DOWNING STREET RIDDLE.

ONE of the Despatches communicated to the Legislature yesterday discusses the question of Responsible Government in the usual hot-and-cold, yes-and-no Downing Street manner. While the noble Secretary for the Colonies faintly repeats his former objections to its introduction into this Colony, observing, that the Island "has not yet reached that stage in its progress which renders it possible that such a scheme of Government can be advantageously established,"—he nevertheless "distinctly acknowledges that it is neither possible nor desirable to carry on the Government of any of the British Provinces in North America in opposition to the opinion of the Inhabitants." So that, we presume, if the "inhabitants" of this Colony, whose "opinion" can only be gathered from their Representatives, conceive the adoption of the new "scheme of Government" to be essential to their welfare, the Colonial Secretary is prepared to waive his objections, and yield to their desire. Strip the Despatch of its circumlocution, and this is the interpretation it will bear. In our next No. we shall publish it for the information of our readers, and by that time we shall have given it closer consideration than we have yet been able to bestow upon it; so that our readers and ourselves may the more readily sift from this bushel of chaff the few grains of wheat that lie hid in it.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—On last Wednesday evening Mr. W. HEARD, of Charlottetown, delivered a very interesting Lecture upon SHIP-BUILDING. The lecture was ordered to be published for general information.—Cavie Richardson, Esquire, will lecture this evening upon "Education for the million."

DIED.

On Thursday last William Francis, infant son of Mr. Francis Antoine, aged 6 months.
At Cumberland Cottage, Lot 33, on Tuesday the 5th instant, Mrs. Mary Kendal, aged 93 years.—Funeral to take place to-morrow, when the friends of the family are desired to attend.
At Cape Traverse, on Sunday the 17th ult., after three days illness, Emily Muttart, aged five years, youngest daughter of John and Elizabeth Muttart.
At French River, New London, at the advanced age of 90 years, Mr. George Campbell, formerly of Argyleshire, Scotland, but for the last 33 years a resident of the Island.
At Norton, New Brunswick, on the 9th ult. of Ericipelas, Miss Mary Green, in her 28th year, after an illness of seven days.

SHIP NEWS.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 7.—Arrived Sch. Peri from St. Thomas.
Off Falmouth, Jan. 23, arrived Comoran, from P. E. Island.

PASSENGERS.

In the Mail Boat from Cape Tormentine, on Monday night, 25th Feb.—Mr. Patrick Gilligan, from New York; Capt. Sanderson, from St. John's, N. E.; Mr. Hopkins, from Boston.
In do., on the 18th—Mr. John Bull, from England.

In the House of Assembly, MARCH 5, 1850.

RESOLVED, That no Petition praying aid for Roads and Bridges, or for any object of a local or private nature, be received after Saturday the twenty third day of MARCH instant.

ORDERED, That the above Resolution be inserted in the different Newspapers published in Charlottetown.

By Order,
JOHN McNEILL, C. B. A.