

the hydrants, and they already do so to a very large extent. As to the proposed clause to limit the profits of the Company to 10 per cent, I may remark that many Companies in the United States are so limited. But how do they get over the difficulty? On the stock of the Massachusetts Railway Company, a profit of 12 per cent. is made and the extra 2 per cent is expended by the Company in the purchase of expensive rail cars, &c. Not a penny of it goes into the public Treasury.

The motion was then put, when there appeared, —For the Motion, 5; Against it, 15. The bill was then read and passed, and a message sent to the House of Assembly to acquaint them that this House had agreed to the same. The House of Assembly, by message transmitted six bills, and two money resolutions, to all of which they desired the concurrence of the Council. Referred to a select committee. Hon. Mr. McCully introduced a bill to amend the act to incorporate the Acadian Iron and Steel Company. Read a first time. House adjourned until to-morrow.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY,

MONDAY, March 17.

Mr. Wade introduced Bills to be entitled—An Act to amend Chapter 118 of the Revised Statutes "of the Registry of Deeds and Incumbrances affecting Lands"; and An Act to amend Chapter 111 of the Revised Statutes "of Deeds by married women."

Dr. Webster moved a Resolution to request His Excellency to order each Sheriff to make a return of all emoluments of their office at the close of the year.

The Resolution passed.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY.

Hon. Members were required to be uncovered while Samuel Chipman, Esq., member elect for Cornwallis, and Hon. Financial Secretary, was being sworn in, which ceremony took place in presence of Hon. Hugh Bell. Mr. Chipman and the Hon. Commissioner signed the roll and the Hon. Financial Secretary took his seat.

Mr. Archibald reported by Bill on the subject of assessment—in favour of an equitable tax on real and personal property.

Dr. Brown introduced a Bill for establishing the sale by weight of vegetables, grain and coals. Mr. Marshall presented petitions in favour of Prohibitory Liquor Law from St. Mary's. Hon. Financial Secretary from King's.

The Bill reported by Mr. Archibald, from Committee, was taken up, and after considerable debate, the House adjourned.

TUESDAY, March 18.

Mr. Wade presented a petition from Argyle, praying the repeal of the Municipal Incorporation Act in that township.

He introduced a bill in accordance thereto. Liquor Law petitions were presented by Mr. McLellan, from Colchester; Dr. Tupper, from Cumberland; Mr. Morrison, from the Committee appointed to enumerate and classify the petitioners in favour of a Prohibitory Liquor Law reported, giving the number of males and females in each County—in the aggregate over 16,000 males and over 17,000 females—making a total of 33,628, all praying for a Prohibitory Liquor Law. [Since then Petitions have been presented with upwards of 3,000 signatures, making upwards of 86,000.]

NAVIGATION SECURITIES.

Mr. Whitman, from the Committee on Navigation Securities, reported that no sum should hereafter be granted unless it be shown to the satisfaction of the Governor in Council that twice the amount granted by the House has been subscribed and paid by the people. The following sums were recommended:—

Table with 2 columns: Location and Amount. Includes Canada Creek Pier (100), Hall's Harbour Pier (100), Wharf Bellevue Cove, Digby (165), Cape Cove Breakwater, Digby (100), Church Point Breakwater, Digby (180), Gros Coque Breakwater, Digby (150), Fort Lawrence, Cumberland (25), Little River Pier, Sydney (100), Oglevie Breakwater, Kings (100), Montagon, Digby (150), Chiverie, Hauts County (50), Margaretville Pier, Annapolis (200), Minudie Breakwater (200), Port Hood (75), Bird Island, Victoria (100), Arisaig Pier (200), Chute's Cove (75), Steamer to P. E. Island (200), Tracadie Harbour (125), Bear River & Buoy (50), Bear River above Morgan's Mills (10), Allan's River, Annapolis (20), Weymouth River, Digby (200), Roseway River, Shelburne (17), do. upper part (18), Jordan River to Lake John (20), Margaree Island (50), Gabarus Bay (40), Slip at Digby (25), E. Leonard, Signals, Digby (25), Buoy, Pubnico (10), Ferryman at St. Anns (2), Ferryman Big Bras D'Or, each (3), Arnold's Cove to McMillin's (4), Ferryman at LaHave, each (2), Molasses Harbour Ferry (5), Marine Railway, Queen's (200), Ferry, Fisher's Grant, Pictou (30), Woodworth's Bay Breakwater (100).

Table with 2 columns: Location and Amount. Includes Oak Point, King's Co. (20), St. Peter's, Richmond (20), Givan wharf, King's Co. (200), Light Houses, Margaretville Pier, Great Bras D'Or, Barrington Harbour, Coast of Cape Breton (1500).

PROHIBITORY LIQUOR LAW.

Mr. Morrison rose to move the second reading of the bill prohibiting the use and sale of intoxicating Liquors; and in doing so depicted the evils of intemperance in very eloquent and forcible terms.

Mr. Churchill followed on the same side. Mr. Tobin would like to know how the bill could be carried out.

After some delay, members were called in to divide, when the hon. Attorney General said, the use of wine was not prohibited by the Law of God, and he thought the passage of this law would arouse feelings of contempt of, and resistance to the law—and deprive us of £20,000 a year of revenue, which no gentleman had yet shown how to replace. He merely delivered his own opinions. Government would be neutral on this subject.

Mr. Marshall followed—He considered the Government ought to take hold of this question—yea or nay. As to revenue; if the importations on which £21,000 a year were paid, and which were useless to the country, were saved, surely the people would be better able to pay the deficiency if they saved £100,000 of expenditure for a useless article. The throwing open of our ports to the Americans, however, had rendered the passage of this Bill illusory. Every creek was open to the worst of all liquors, and to legislate against its introduction would be futile, but if the Bill passed, in deference to those of his constituents who had petitioned for it, he would do his best to carry out the law.

Mr. McLellan thought it now high time to give the Bill a trial.

Hon. J. W. Johnston spoke at considerable length in favor of the Bill—maintaining that if it was practicable it ought to be passed, no matter what might be the consequences. The loss of £20,000 a year revenue would be as nothing compared with the benefits arising from the total abolition of the use of intoxicating drinks.

Mr. M. J. Wilkins said—the scriptures authorised the use of liquors—there was nothing in the scriptures to justify this Legislation. Temperance was a good thing. He would have signed the petitions before the House to do away with an evil; but was it possible? With 2,000 miles of sea-coast the thirst of our people would rather be increased. There was something in our very nature that resisted compulsion. Importation could not be stopped, and if it could, any man with a little molasses and water and yeast, with the assistance of a teakettle can make enough liquor in a few hours to keep him and his family drunk for 2 years. (Laughter.) A clergyman the other evening said that I nearly lost my election because I did not pledge myself in support of this Bill. He was mistaken. There is plenty of liquor sold in Colchester, and the votes I lost were some 16 or 17 who were taken off to vote in Colchester, where they were so jovially treated that they could not get back again.—(Laughter.) The House adjourned without division.

European Intelligence.

European Affairs.

And what is the moral of the past history of Europe? What but this, that come what will of the present Conferences, that Power which has in turn saved Europe from the Roman and from the Moor, from Spain and from France, will never permit the nations to own the yoke of Russia. The Emperor Nicholas, it is said, dreamed of universal conquest, and we partly believe it; but how much more rapidly is that dream vanishing than in any former case! The Western Powers were right to present an adverse front, and to dare the struggle. Providence ever works by means. Rightly, too, and nobly are they acting now, when, having crippled the resources of their foe, they demand nothing for themselves—presume not at all upon his weakness,—but are content with those guarantees for peace in the future, which policy, justice, may necessity, demand. That such will be the spirit of the Conferences we do not doubt. One attempt has, indeed, been made to sow the seeds of distrust between the chief allies. More desirous of a balanced antithesis than considerate in weighing facts, The Times of some days ago assured us that at the council board of Paris, "France represented the Past, Austria the Present, England the Future." The inference appeared natural, that France was nearer in interest to Austria than to England. But whatever may have been meant, the words have been keenly resented both in France and in Austria. Satisfactory proof, it is believed, has been given in the highest quarters, that England and France are most especially one in the views and resolves with which they have gone into the Conferences. The misgivings which, with others, we ourselves felt, have altogether vanished, or exist only in the form of some such rumours as that given by the democratic correspondent of a daily provincial contemporary, that a secret treaty already exists between France, Austria and Russia, against England! When disbelief in the honour and fair dealing of the allied nations

takes a form like this, it may well be left to its own absurdity. Such phantoms, however, are but the offspring of the darkness which at present must shroud most of the proceedings of the Courts, the Cabinets, and the Conference. We wait impatiently for the daylight; but whether, as we assuredly hope, it dawn upon a scene of restored peace, or upon one of renewed conflict, we have a calm and settled faith that all will in the end be well, for Europe, for England, and for the cause of Christianity in the world.—Freemart.

THE CRIMEA.

A letter from Sebastopol, dated the 12th inst., and published in the Constitutionnel, says:—"Yesterday Fort Alexander was demolished by the explosion of three mines, which was attended with the same success as that of Fort St. Nicholas, that is to say as completely as possible. A letter from Eupatoria of the 9th mentions the consternation into which the Tartar population of that place have been thrown by the news of the prospect of peace, which will probably expose them to the most severe retaliatory measures on the part of the Russians. It is the same in the valley of Baidar, at Kerteh, and wherever the allied armies have come in contact with the native population. Within 48 hours after the allies landed at Eupatoria, 35,000 Tartars, men, women, and children, with 10,000 horses, 4000 or 5000 carts, 150,000 sheep, and nearly 50,000 head of other cattle, came in to Eupatoria, where there were before not more than 12,000 inhabitants. Their object, of course, was to fly from the Russians, whose vengeance they feared, from having received the allies in a friendly manner. From 3000 to 4000 young Tartars have since then engaged in the service of the allied armies as labourers and carriers. Scurvy, typhus, and cholera have carried off at least the half of the Tartars who had placed themselves under the immediate protection of the allies. Those who remain are generally of the class in better circumstances, and are consequently the most compromised. Russia will never forgive them, and feelings of humanity as well as of honour call on the allies to protect the inhabitants of a country which has just been subjected to a 21st invasion.

AUSTRIA.

In priest-ridden Austria the Romish bishops have met with a slight check. They had assumed the right of coercion of the press. No work without their supervision was to be allowed to be published. This power they were anxious to wield. Liberty of thought and expression would have been annihilated. Consequences more disastrous than those already existing in this priest-ridden empire would have been entailed. Happily for humanity, the government has interfered. It forbids such interferences, and only allows the priesthood to export their flocks against reading bad books. All good men will hail this decision with delight.

FRANCE.

In France, though governmental interference with Protestant worship continues in some departments, yet the intimation has been given by high authority that the Emperor will extend equal liberty to all classes of religionists. Two or three weeks is the time over which this uncertainty will extend. If this be granted, a noble and wide field will be open for christian enterprise. We shall watch with some anxiety the fulfilment of the Imperial promise.

RUSSIA.

The concessions which the Russian government has recently made to the Pope are not without importance. In the year 1846, when the Emperor Nicholas had a memorable interview with Pope Gregory XVI., the holy see expressed a very decided wish that the Popish bishoprics should be restored. After the demise of the Emperor Nicholas, Pope Pius IX. addressed a similar request to the Emperor Alexander. But these requests were disregarded by the Russian Czar until recently. About a month ago, a letter from the Emperor Alexander was somewhat unexpectedly delivered to the Pope, in which the former declared his readiness not only to agree to the restoration of the four bishoprics, which were formerly established in Poland, but the foundation of six new bishoprics in different parts of Russia, where there is a Catholic population, was conceded. Now, it is also asserted that, in consequence of this gracious act on the part of the Emperor Alexander, Pope Pius IX. at once determined to exercise his influence at Paris for the purpose of promoting the present efforts for peace.

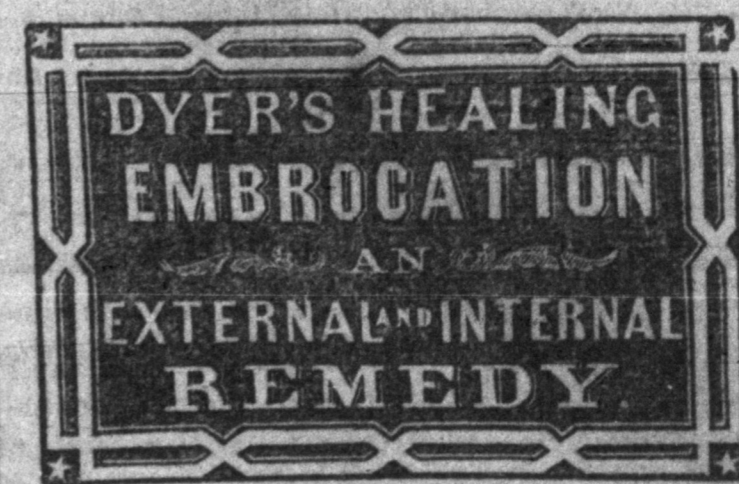
Government have placed the postal communication between England and Australia on a permanent and satisfactory basis. There are to be monthly mails at the joint expense of the Home and Colonial Governments. Steamers are to touch at King George's Sound, Melbourne, and Sydney, and there will be branch services for Port Adelaide, Van Diemen's Land, and New Zealand.

A man confined in the prison at Basle, in Switzerland, made his escape a few days ago by putting on the hat and cloak which the chaplain of the establishment had left in one of the corridors. So completely were the jailors deceived that they conducted the man to the door with the greatest politeness.

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