

common ground, for mutual advantage and increase of usefulness, without requiring the relinquishment of any peculiarities of sentiment or practice, is adapted to be productive of much benefit, in a variety of ways. All who can avail themselves of the privileges resulting from such an institution, will undoubtedly do well to embrace the opportunity afforded them. In proportion as the true limits of Christian union are correctly understood, and carefully heeded, it may be reasonably anticipated that societies of this nature will increase and prosper; and that benevolent enterprises will be unitedly undertaken and happily succeed.

Yours in gospel bonds,
C. TUPPER.

Aylesford, Feb. 13, 1856.

Provincial Legislature.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

TUESDAY, Feb. 26.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor arrived in the Council Chamber at 2 1/2 o'clock, and after the ceremony of approving of Mr. Wade as Speaker of the House of Assembly, *pro tem*, they retired.

Hon. Receiver General, by command, laid on the table of the House two despatches on Mines and Minerals, with a draft of a bill proposed to be passed by the Legislature of Nova Scotia, for the purpose of giving the same effect to these Instruments, as if they had been passed on the days on which they respectively bear date.

Hon. Mr. Almon—Is the draft bill alluded to submitted here with the sanction of the Government?

Hon. Receiver General—I am not exactly prepared to answer that question, but I presume that the bill is submitted here in the same manner as other papers are submitted, that is without the Government being pledged to take any action upon them. It is for the house to say what action they will take upon the bill.

Hon. Receiver General laid on the table a return of Pickled Fish inspected in 1855. There were inspected during that period,

- Salmon—61 tierces, 3341 1/2 barrels.
- Mackarel—136,321 1/2 barrels.
- Herrings—45,722 barrels.
- Alewives—3561 1/2 barrels.

Hon. Mr. McCully presented four petitions in favor of a Prohibitory Liquor Law, viz: one from Truro, one from Hants, one from female inhabitants of the same county, and one from Colchester; also two Petitions for Fog Bells on Cape Tormentine, N. B. and Cape Traverse; also a petition from Joseph R. Hea, A. M., of Lower Horton, praying for aid for the Seminary conducted by him; also from the St. John's Presbyterian congregation of Windsor, praying for a bill to enable them to sell their old church, and apply the proceeds to aid them in the erection of a new church.

The hon. Mr. Brown presented ten petitions in favour of the Prohibitory Liquor Law, viz: six from Queen's county, two from the county of Kings, one from the county of Shelburne, and one from the Free Presbytery of Pictou. All of these petitions, except the last, were several yards in length. The one from the township of Liverpool was signed by 654 females.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 27.

Hon. Mr. Harris laid on the table four petitions from the county of Kings in favour of a Prohibitory Liquor Law. Two signed by females, and two by males.

Hon. Mr. McCully introduced a Bill to enable executors and trustees to invest funds in their hands or under their control in the Savings Bank, or in Provincial Debentures, and provides that funds so invested shall not be liable to taxation or assessment, which was read a first time.

ADDRESS TO GENERAL WILLIAMS.

Hon. Mr. Morton—I wish to know, sir, what has been done by the House of Assembly with the resolution passed the other day relating to the presentation of a Sword to General Williams, whether they have accompanied that resolution with an address to the General, or not. At the time that that resolution was before the house, I stated, that I thought a joint address from both branches of the legislature should be presented to that gallant officer, and if it is not now too late, I would again suggest the propriety of that course. An address through the medium of the press could reach him almost immediately, supposing even that he is at Moscow or St. Petersburg, while it is impossible to tell when the sword can be sent to him. I am very desirous that some more public mark of our esteem should be presented, than the mere passage of a vote for a sword.

Hon. Mr. Almon—I fully concur with the Hon. gentleman who has just sat down, that an address should be presented to General Williams, and while I think that the proper time to have made a motion on the subject was while the resolution was before us, still I think that it is not yet too late. It originated in the other house, merely because being a money vote it was necessary, according to the usages of Parliament that it should be first passed there, but the original suggestion did not proceed from them. The resolution was agreed to here promptly and unan-

imously, and although we did not think it necessary that every member should speak on it, a high eulogium was pronounced by one of the members of this house, on the character of the distinguished general who has so nobly maintained the honor of our common country.

Hon. Mr. Pines—I think that the hero of Kars, General Williams, is entitled to the respect of his country; and, although we neglected at the time the resolution was before us, to pass an address to him, I hope it is not too late to do so now. It is exceedingly satisfactory to see Nova Scotians distinguishing themselves abroad, and to find that they can even under the most trying circumstances compete with any men in the world.

Hon. Mr. McCully—This is more a question of form, than of substance. If, however, there is any precedent for the course proposed, I will gladly follow it.

Hon. President—The difficulty is about a precedent. The British Parliament never present an address to a private individual.

Hon. Mr. Almon—The object is to make the present as acceptable as possible. If we cannot address General Williams himself, we can present a joint address to the Lieutenant Governor, which will be transmitted by his Excellency to the General. It will not do to wait for the action of the other house, as they may entirely neglect to ask our concurrence in an address. The suggestion made the other day by the Hon. Dr. Grigor, is a very good one, that the blade of the sword should be made of Nova Scotia steel. This will enhance the value of the gift and show to the world that we possess in Nova Scotia the best steel known, and thus make known some of the resources of our country.

Hon. Mr. Morton—The only difficulty appears to be how the address should be sent; whether directly to General Williams himself, or through the Lieutenant Governor.

(The discussion here dropped without any final decision being made upon the question, but with the understanding that the clerk should search the journals to ascertain if there was any precedent for the course proposed.)

FRIDAY, Feb. 29.

Hon. Mr. McCully—I beg leave, sir, to move the second reading of the "Bill for facilitating the investment of Trust and other funds."

Hon. Mr. Brown—I consider the Bill an important one, and think we should have the views of the government upon it. I should like to have time to ascertain whether any similar Bill has been passed in any other countries.

Hon. Mr. McCully—I wish to state frankly to the hon. member that the Government know nothing of the Bill. It has not been submitted to the Government, nor is any member of the Government aware of its existence. It originated entirely with myself, in consequence of representations from numbers of persons who have funds to a considerable amount in their hands, belonging to other parties, which they are anxious to invest, but do not know exactly how to do so with safety. I am anxious that this Bill should pass, not for the purpose of forming a fund for the use of the Government, but in order to afford those persons an opportunity of safely and profitably investing the funds in their hands. No executor or trustee will be obliged to invest funds in the way proposed by the Bill, although it will afford a great accommodation to several parties having funds in their hands with which they scarcely know how to deal.

Hon. Mr. Bell—I beg leave to second the motion. As evidence of my approval of the Bill, I may state that I have considerable sums, belonging to other parties, invested in the Savings Bank, which I think, could not be so safely and profitably invested elsewhere.

Hon. Mr. Morton—Under that Bill you may invest thousands of pounds in the Savings Bank.

Hon. Mr. McCully—The Savings Bank Law prevents that; so that there is no necessity to insert a clause in the Bill to prevent it.

The motion then passed, and the Bill was read a second time, and ordered to be referred on a future day, to a committee of the whole House.

Hon. Mr. Bell presented two petitions in favor of a Prohibitory Liquor Law. One of these petitions was signed by 513 male inhabitants of Windsor, and the other by 756 others, female inhabitants of the same township.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY,

TUESDAY, Feb. 26.

House met at 2 o'clock. At half-past 2, a message from the Lieutenant Governor summoned the attendance of members in the Council Chamber. On their return to their own House,

Mr. Bailey proposed Mr. Wade, member for Digby, as a fit and proper person to be elected as Speaker, to fill the Chair of the House during the indisposition of Stewart Campbell, Esq., the Speaker.

Mr. Tobin seconded the resolution, which, on its being put by the Clerk of the House, was carried.

His Excellency having ratified the election, the hon. gentleman was conducted to the chair by the Hon. Attorney General and the Hon. Provincial Secretary; and, being seated, acknowledged the compliment which had been paid him by the House in brief but appropriate terms.

Mr. Marshall rose and asked leave to introduce a bill in amendment of Chapter 170, Revised Statutes—(i. e.) the law respecting Patents for inventions.

Mr. Marshall reported from committee on petitions of George Nelson and George Merry, granting £15 to each, and to Geo. Nelson, in aid of erecting a frame house, the further sum of £25.

Mr. Whitman, chairman of committee on Indian affairs, brought forward two petitions for compensation for support of poor Indians—one petition from township of Clare, the other from Horton—wishing to know whether these petitions should not be more properly referred to committee on Transient paupers.

After some discussion the Hon. Attorney General suggested that the petitions be referred back to committee on Indian Affairs.

Mr. Annand asked leave to introduce a bill in amendment of Chapter 2 of Revised Statutes, in order to render the Postmaster-General eligible to a seat in the Legislature and a member of the Cabinet.

After remarks from Mr. Marshall, (in course of which he insisted that the provisions of Cap. 7 of the Statute Law, should not be without very sufficient reason disturbed); from the Hon. Attorney General, who professed that this was the first time he had heard of the bill, and said that he would not pass a hasty opinion upon it; from Mr. Tobin, who thought that the Post Office was well worked, and agreed with the member for Guysborough that there were already heads of departments enough in the House; from Mr. Annand, who eulogised the Postmaster-General's efficiency as such, but insisted that British precedent and practice might be safely followed in this as in other instances; from Mr. A. Archibald, who was of opinion that discussion on the bill might be conveniently postponed.

The Bill was read a first time.

Mr. Annand asked leave to introduce a bill to amend cap. 10 of Revised Statutes, which provides that a member shall vacate his seat in the Assembly on his being appointed to an office of emolument.

The Hon. the Provincial Secretary laid on the table of the House, returns of persons named as Sheriffs, for the current year. Also, voluminous correspondence, between Imperial and Provincial Governments, on the subject of Mines and Minerals of the province. Also, returns of Pickled Fish, &c.

The Hon. Att. Gen. remarked in a speech of some length, that he was in great hopes that, on a careful consideration of the papers, the House would be able to come to a unanimous or nearly unanimous opinion upon them.

Hon. Mr. Johnston said he believed there was a universal wish that the question should be arranged.

Mr. McLearn introduced a bill to incorporate Milton Railroad Company.

On motion of Mr. McLellan, the House went into Committee on the state of the Province.

House being in Committee, the hon. gentleman introduced a resolution affirming the principle of the Ballot, which he proceeded to explain and enforce at some length.

After a discussion of some hours in which several members took part, the resolution was negatived by 23 to 19.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 27.

Dr. Tupper, Chairman of Committee on Transient Paupers, read petition of Drs. Denison and Weeks, asking remuneration for services performed in aid of certain transient paupers, being persons employed upon the Windsor section of the Railway. Dr. Tupper explained that these papers, for certain reasons, were shut out from consideration of the Committee.

The Hon. Attorney General moved that the papers be remitted to Committee on Transient Paupers, to report specially. He thought petitioners should be paid.

The honourable member for Newport, Mr. Chambers, supported the prayer of petitions, explaining that it would be truly a hard case if these medical gentlemen were refused compensation in this case. What if, under the circumstances, medical gentleman refused to extend assistance to persons unfortunately injured, as were the parties to whom assistance had been rendered by petitioners.

Dr. Tupper, while on his feet, would refer to another petition, from a medical gentleman, shut out for similar reasons.

The petition was remitted.

Hon. Mr. Locke, by command, laid upon the table of the House certain papers connected with the Provincial Secretary's Office.

Hon. Provincial Secretary laid upon the table of the house sundry papers, including "Report of the Crown Land Commissioner."

Dr. Brown presented petitions, asking the House to pass Prohibitory Liquor Law.

Mr. Dimock presented petition, praying the passage of the same Law.

Mr. C. Campbell asked leave to present petition from inhabitants of Victoria, praying the passing of Prohibitory Law.

Also, from inhabitants of Victoria, respecting Light Houses on the Bras d'Or.

Petition received and sent to Committee on Navigation Securities.

Dr. Webster presented petition from males and females of King's County, praying House to pass Prohibitory Liquor Law.

Mr. Chambers, from gentlemen and ladies of Newport on the same subject.

Mr. Annand asked leave to present a petition for survey of Railway route by the way of the Stewiacke Valley.

Mr. Whitman asked the Government to lay upon the table of the House returns of shipping from ports not being ports of registry.

Several bills were read a second time, and referred to committee of whole.

Mr. Wilkins moved that the Sheriffs of the Counties respectively be required to make up the census of their Counties respectively, as required by Law. The hon. gentleman thought it of much importance that the census be taken in the next coming summer.

The Hon. Attorney General suggested that the Chairman of Committee be called upon to report progress.

House adjourned.

THURSDAY, Feb. 29.

Mr. John Campbell, Dr. Tupper, Mr. McKeagney, and Mr. Morrison, severally presented petitions in favor of the Prohibitory Liquor Law.

Mr. Marshall presented four petitions from Guysborough on the subject of pickled fish.

On the subject of paying for reporting "decisions" of the Supreme Court being brought up.

Mr. Marshall rather approved the system of publishing the reports—but would move that the subject be referred to a committee.

Mr. Archibald—The Railroad Committee?

Mr. Marshall—Well, at all events there is one "decision" on the pages of those reports going rather to unsettle the tenure of Real Estate. According to which decision (said the hon. gentleman) what is law from Sackville Bridge to Point Pleasant, is not law in the rest of Nova Scotia.

The Hon. Sol. General admitted that what is law to-day is not law to-morrow, and thus fortified his opinion that the country practitioner needed these reports to instruct him what the Law actually is.

Dr. Tupper wished to know whether the several Bills—touching election of Sheriffs, &c.—introduced by the hon. Member for Halifax, Mr. Annand, were introduced upon the responsibility of the Government; and moved that the House go into committee of the whole on the state of the Province, for the purpose of taking up the Elective Council Bill.

Upon which arose a lengthened debate.

FRIDAY, Feb. 29.

Mr. Wilkins presented a "Report" on Petition from Ship-carpenters of Digby, unfavourable to prayer of petition.

Mr. Johnston thought the Report should not be hastily disposed of, and proceeded to support the prayer of petition. It was a case of great hardship to a Ship-carpenter to behold a ship, on the building of which he had laboured, taken away before his eyes, and he, unpaid for his labor, told to look to a Bankrupt Contractor.

Mr. Wilkins explained that the Report did not go so far as the Hon. gentleman seemed to imagine. He (Mr. W.) could not see why in the case supposed, a distinction should be drawn between the Ship-carpenter and the House-carpenter.

Mr. Marshall could not agree exactly with Mr. Wilkins, and proceeded to show that there was a distinction—a very wide distinction—in the relative positions of these mechanics respectively to their employers.

Mr. Churchill referred more especially to the case of a certain builder who had absconded from the head of Bedford Basin, leaving carpenters and labourers in the lurch, minus large portions of wages. This was a growing evil, and called for remedy.

Dr. Webster thought that all trades and professions should be alike protected.

Mr. Tobin had already known cases in the United States where the ship-carpenters, by whom a vessel had been built, when the contractor had abandoned, had actually seized upon the vessel and retained it until paid.

On the resolution being put, that the report be received and adopted there appeared for 30, against 11.

Mr. Morrison presented a petition from members of the Temperance Convention, recently in session in this city, praying passage of Prohibitory Law.

Hon. Provincial Secretary begged leave to lay upon the Table of the House by command, sundry papers connected with several departments of the Public Service.

The Hon. the Attorney General asked leave to introduce an Act for the management of Provincial Customs—the main object being the simplification of the Revenue Laws.

Mr. Parker presented petition from inhabitants of Douglas, county of Hants in favour of Prohibitory Law.—Also from a number of inhabitants of Kempton on the same subject.

Mr. Richard presented petition on the same subject from County of Lunenburg.

Dr. Tupper moved renewal of the debate upon his resolution, viz., that "that the House go into committee of the whole, for taking up the Elective Council Bill."

The hon. member for Halifax rose and proceeded to address the House touching certain references said to have been made to him (Mr. Annand) by the Hon. Mr. Johnston, in course of yesterday's debate; vindicating his claim to perfect independence of the Government in his capacity as a member of Parliament, and showing his perfect right, as such, to introduce such measures as he considered himself to his individual judgment, without reference to the opinion of ministers, notwithstanding he was a subordinate member of the Government; and explaining at length the objects, provisions, and constitutionality of the four measures which he had introduced in course of the present session, reiterating his right—his clear right to move in them without let or hindrance, or question by Government—(i. e.) if Queen's Counsel, Judge of Pro-