

Hon. Provincial Secretary would shortly bring down the return of the Inspector of Mines, which would convey that information.

Hon. Mr. Young presented petition of Malcolm McKay and others, praying for the Establishment of a grammar school in Inverness.

Hon. Financial Secretary gave notice that when the house went into committee of supply, he would move a reduction of members' pay.

WEDNESDAY, Feb 16th.

House met at 12 o'clock.

Mr. Ryder presented petition from inhabitants of Tusket for a Light House.

Mr. Shaw presented petitions from inhabitants of Clements, for extension of mail route.

Mr. Tobin presented petition from Margaret's Bay, for an additional polling place.

Hon. Mr. Young presented the petition of the Overseers of the Poor for Port Hood.

Mr. Brown presented the petition of the Trustees of the third Baptist church at Horton, praying an act of Incorporation.

Mr. Wilkins presented a petition from Dr. Charles Aitken, of Bridgewater, praying remuneration for professional services done to sick Indians.

Mr. McLearn asked leave to introduce a bill to legalize the appointment of Commissioners of Streets for the county of Liverpool.

Mr. Archibald presented several petitions.

Mr. Robertson presented several petitions.

Mr. McLearn presented the petition of George Merry, for a house of Entertainment in a retired locality.

Petitions were also presented by the hon. Attorney General, Mr. Killam, Mr. Caldwell, Mr. Churchill, hon. Mr. Young, Mr. Ryder, and hon. J. Campbell.

Mr. Esson presented a petition from Francis Webber and others, of Sackville, praying for a Prohibitory Liquor Law.

Mr. Shaw presented a petition praying for aid for a draw bridge at Beaver River.

Hon. Prov. Secretary, by command of his Excellency, laid on the table the second report of the commissioners appointed to arrange the Public Records, which was read by the clerk.

Hon. Mr. Howe spoke of the importance of the work referred to in the report, and moved that it be referred to a special committee.

Hon. Prov. Secretary referred to the ability exhibited by the Commissioner, and stated that he believed he was willing to act as public Librarian for a time, with the assistance of the officers of the house. The report was referred to a special committee of hon. Mr. Howe, White and Ruggles.

Mr. Geldert presented the petition of Thomas Fisher and others, of Chelsea, praying for a way office.

Mr. McFarlane stated that by the resolution of the post office committee, way offices could be established on the recommendation of the Postmaster General. He would suggest that the petition be referred to the Postmaster. Withdrawn.

THURSDAY, Feb. 17.

Mr. Caldwell presented several petitions.

Mr. M. I. Wilkins introduced a bill to provide for the election of Grand Jurors.

Mr. Bourneuf presented a petition from Moses Kemble, Medical Practitioner, of Digby.

Mr. Shaw presented several petitions.

Mr. McFarlane presented several petitions.

Mr. Chipman asked leave to introduce a bill to incorporate the Chipman Brook Pier Company. He also presented several other petitions.

Hon. Atty. General, by command, laid on the table a copy of minute in council for regulating the leasing of New Mines.

Also introduced a bill entitled an act in addition to the act to regulate the Mines.

Hon. Prov. Secretary, by command, laid on the table a copy of the report of the Railway Board on the state and progress of the Provincial Railway for the year ending 31st Decr., 1858, which was read by the Clerk.

The Clerk announced that the Legislative Council had appointed hon. Messrs. Archibald, Whitman, and Creighton as a committee in conjunction with the committee of the House, to examine the public accounts.

Hon. Prov. Secretary presented the petition of Thomas Hobson, for an extension of the terms of a patent for a fog bell.

Hon. Mr. Howe presented the petition of John Cameron and others, praying aid to remove the obstructions in Grand River.

Mr. Morrison presented a petition from the inhabitants of Port Brulie, for the establishment of a way office.

Mr. Henry introduced a bill to incorporate the Little River Wharf Company.

He also presented the petition of Simon Donovan, collector at Arichat, for reimbursement for expenses incurred in seizing contraband goods.

Also, the petitions of Creelman and Tupper, contractors on the Railroad, praying remuneration for losses sustained by them in the performance of their contract, and of James McDonald, urging for the payment of extra claims on his contract. Mr. Esson spoke of the peculiar hardship of the case, and thought he should be put on the same footing as the other contractors. Also, several other petitions. Mr. Henry also presented petition of the inhabitants of Pictou and Arisaig, for aid towards Arisaig pier.

Mr. Parker presented a petition from Maitland, for an alteration in the mail route.

Hon. Attorney General moved that Mr. Ryder be substituted for Mr. Bent on committee on Humane Institutions, and that he be appointed chairman of the same. Agreed to. Hon. Attorney General presented petition of Stephen McPherson, praying for remuneration for services as clerk to the contractor of St. Peter's Canal.

Mr. McDonald presented the petition of the

inhabitants of Wentworth Grant, praying for an alteration in the mail route.

Mr. Archibald presented a petition from Colchester, for an act of incorporation for a coal mine company. Also, of the Clerk of the Peace for Colchester, in reference to the maintenance of an insane prisoner. Also, of the inhabitants of Economy, complaining of the operation of the present poor law. Also, of Archibald Campbell, of Five Islands, praying for a grant of lands under peculiar circumstances.

Mr. Tobin presented a road petition.

Mr. Wier also presented a road petition.

Mr. Archibald presented the petition of Charles D. Archibald and others, in reference to the manufacture of Iron.

Hon. Atty. General asked leave to introduce a bill to enable John Barry, of New York, to obtain letters patent.

Mr. Robertson presented petition of the Overseers of poor, of Barrington. Also, the petition of William Pope, for a free grant of lands.

Mr. Bailey asked leave to introduce a bill to name the Village of Kiuburn. Also, a petition from the inhabitants of Lunenburg against the passage of the bill.

Mr. McLearn presented petition of the Overseers of the poor of Liverpool.

Hon. Mr. Howe asked the government to bring down a copy of the Book of Colonial regulations, and a copy of the Table of Precedence, with any despatches referring to it, bearing date within the past year.

Hon. Fin. Secretary gave notice that he would submit the public accounts on the following day.

FRIDAY, Feb. 18.

Hon. Attorney General introduced a bill to amend chapter 27 Revised Statutes, of coal mines.

Mr. Wade introduced a bill to enable Edwd. Hart and Henry Davis to obtain letters patent.

Also, a general bill on the same subject.—Hon. Mr. Young would not oppose the bill on its first reading, but he would call the attention of the House to the dangerous tendency of the bill.

Mr. Robicheau presented a petition from Gros Conque, praying for aid for a breakwater.

Mr. Ruggles presented the petition of Abraham Piper, praying return of duties on a bell imported by the Wesleyan Church at Bridgetown.

Mr. Bill presented three petitions numerous signed from the inhabitants of Aylesford, praying for extension of electoral privileges. Also, the petition of the Presbyterian congregation of Cornwallis. Also, from the Overseer of the Poor for the Township of Aylesford.

Hon. Mr. Young presented the petition of the inhabitants of Grand Banks, praying for a change in the mail route.

Mr. Morrison presented the petition of inhabitants of Five Islands, on the subject of a Prohibitory Liquor Law.

Mr. McDonald presented a petition from New Glasgow and the Albion Mines, for the establishment of daily mails from Halifax. Also, from Middle River, for a new mail route and way office.

Mr. Anand presented a petition from Dartmouth against setting apart a portion of the Common as a Roman Catholic burial ground.

Mr. Churchill presented the petition of Dr. Payzant, for remuneration for services to sick Indians.

Mr. Wier presented a petition from Turn's Bay and Prospect, for aid to destitute fishermen.

Mr. Wier spoke of the policy of the French Government in granting bounties to their fishermen on the coast of Newfoundland, and the injurious consequences of allowing them to export their fish from Miquelon and St. Pierre to Halifax duty free, and of the aggressive character of the French in these localities. He thought it necessary for the House to take some action in the matter.

Mr. Locke remarked that the mode pursued by French fishermen was calculated to destroy the fisheries on the coast. He thought that some regulation should be made, and that the Provincial Government should correspond with the Home Government on the subject.

Hon. Financial Secretary said that if the hon. gentlemen had waited until the tariff had been brought in, they would have found that the Government had had the matter under their consideration.

Hon. Financial Secretary, by command, laid on the table various papers relating to the trade returns of the Province for the past year.—These papers show that the amount of duties collected during the past year was £107,934 stg., which was a decrease of £3,949 from that of the preceding year. The hon. gentleman explained the reason for this falling off.

The hon. Financial Secretary also submitted his estimates for the year 1859. The revenue he expected to amount to £175,399; £154,130 would be the available revenue for the ensuing year. The current expenses, which include £5600 interest upon railway bonds, will amount to £158,495, so that the Province will owe at the end of the year 1859 £5,358. The hon. gentleman explained, however, that this included the payment of the £25,000 the road grant for the last year, and that instead of borrowing that amount, as authorized by the house last session, he had paid it out of the general revenue as it came in, and it now became a charge on the revenue for the current year.

Hon. Financial Secretary moved that the house do resolve itself into Committee of Supply on Wednesday next, 23rd inst.

Hon. Provincial Secretary, by command, laid on the table of the house copies of the correspondence relating to the dismissal of the hon. Mr. McCully from the office of Judge of Probate for the county of Halifax, and the Minutes of Council on the same subject.

Hon. Provincial Secretary presented a petition from Parrsborough, for aid to a road from that place to Five Islands.

Hon. C. J. Campbell presented several petitions.

SATURDAY, Feb. 19th.

Hon. Financial Secretary presented a petition, and introduced a bill entitled an act to enable George Thomas Wyleigh, to change his name to George Thomas. Also, several other petitions.

Mr. Shaw asked leave to introduce a bill further to amend chapter 60 of the Revised Statutes "of Education."

Mr. Wilkins presented a petition for the establishment of a way office at New Gairlock.

Mr. White presented several petitions.

Mr. Robichau presented a petition from Clare.

Mr. Ruggles presented several petitions.

Mr. Wade presented the petition of the inhabitants of West Port, Long Island, on the subject of set line on Traull fisheries. He also presented a petition from Messrs. King & Brothers on the subject of carrying the mails to the westward.

Hon. Atty. General hoped the Post Master General would be called upon to explain the circumstances.

Mr. Wade said that Mr. King wished to have every investigation. He also presented several other petitions. Also, a petition praying aid for the Bear River bridge.

Hon. Atty. General stated that the government had directed an engineer to make a survey, prepare plans, and estimates of the cost,—this had been done, and the expense was estimated at from £4,000 to £5,000.

Mr. Shaw moved for a special committee.

Hon. Financial Secretary said, no special grants can be made for such objects in the present position of the revenue, although he was aware of the importance of the object.

Mr. Wade said in the event of the last petition being unsuccessful, he would now present one for a small grant of £25, towards building a horse boat for the ferry across the same river.

Mr. Wier presented the petition of Thomas Ward, three mile house, praying for remuneration for loss of his house by fire from a spark from the Locomotive.

Messrs. Wier and Esson spoke in its favor.

Mr. Wier moved that the petition of the Canal Company be referred to a special committee, composed of Messrs. Bent, Locke, and McDonald.

Mr. McKeagney presented several petitions.

Hon. Prov. Secretary, by command, laid on the table the memorial of the inhabitants of the eastern part of the Province, complaining of the present system of mail communication.

Mr. McKeagney presented the petition of Robert Martin, Postmaster at Sydney, praying for additional salary. Also a petition from C. H. Harrington, praying for a return of monies paid into the Crown Land Office. Also several other petitions.

Mr. P. Smith asked leave to introduce a bill to establish an additional polling place in the county of Inverness. He also presented several other petitions.

Mr. Anand presented a petition from the township of Clare, county of Digby, complaining of the improper appropriation of the school monies for that district.

Mr. McLellan presented the petition of the inhabitants of Colchester, asking aid towards a wharf at Londonderry.

Hon. Prov. Secretary in compliance with the request of the member for Newport, laid on the table a return of officers connected with the Provincial railway, the dates of their appointment and the amount of their salaries.

Hon. Atty. General asked leave to introduce a bill touching the Indian reserved lands. Also, a bill concerning Crown property. Also, a bill relating to County and Township lands. Also, a bill relating to fees in Crown Land Office, which were read and referred to Committee on Crown Land.

Hon. Atty. General from the revising Committee reported the railway Committee as follows:—Hon. Mr. Howe, Young, Henry, Atty. General, Archibald, Tobin, and Locke.

Adjourned until 3 o'clock on Monday.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

TUESDAY, February 15th, 1859.

Hon. Mr. McCully, as Chairman of the committee to whom was referred a Bill to enable parties to implead the Province of Nova Scotia, reported, recommending the same to favorable consideration.

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

DISQUALIFICATION OF JUDGES OF PROBATE, &c.

Hon. Mr. McCully—I beg leave to introduce a Bill to repeal Chapter 36 and Chapter 43 of the Acts passed in the twenty-first year of Her Majesty's reign. I may state that the object of this Bill is simply to repeal two Acts which passed the Legislature last session. One of these was a Bill disqualifying Judges of Probate for the Legislature, and which, I presume, answered the expectations of the Government, though in a different manner from that which they expected. I think, therefore, there is no further necessity for the Bill, and I hope hon. gentlemen will give me their assistance in erasing it from the Statute book. That Act, as it often happens in such cases, was the means of producing another, and one of much more extensive scope. I did not approve of that Bill either.

In a young country like this, there is no superabundance of talent, and you require in Parliament all the best men the country can afford.

Hon. President remarked that the act disqualifying Judges of Probate, &c., had not gone into operation at all.

Hon. Mr. McCully thought it had gone into operation, though in a different way from what was intended.

Hon. Receiver General, by command of His Excellency, laid on the table of the House copies of correspondence between the Imperial and the Colonial Government; respecting Acts passed in the session of 1858, relating to Mines and Minerals; also on the Inter-Colonial Railway; also on a Federative Union of the British North American Colonies; also an Order of the Queen in Council approving 92 Acts of the Legislature passed in the session of 1858; also an Order of the Queen in Council, specially confirming an Act extending to this Province certain provisions of the "Merchant Shipping Act, 1854." Also, the Receiver General's Account Current for 1858; and the Receiver General's Account with the Railway, &c., for 1858.

#### PROVINCIAL ACCOUNTS.

By the Receiver General's account current with the Province for 1858, it appears that his expenditures on Provincial account during 1858 amounted to £184,377 1s. 5d.,—his receipts to £185,600 3s. 10d., leaving a balance in his hands, on the 31st December, 1858, of £1,223 2s. 5d.

The account is certified both by the Receiver General and the Financial Secretary. The main items of expenditure are as follows:—

Cash paid Provincial Railway,	£32,975 19 3
Chairman Board Works,	30,121 6 3
for Road Service,	27,089 10 1
General Education,	18,742 19 6
Salaries to Officers Government, &c.,	15,740 16 8
Legislative expenses,	11,608 16 0
Revenue expenses,	10,437 2 3
Postal communication,	5,890 9 5
Crown Land Department,	3,200 0 0
St. Peter's Canal,	2,000 0 0

The principal items of receipts are—

Colonial and Light Duties,	£131,842 14 7
Casual Revenue,	10, 14 15 4
Crown Land Department for lands sold,	6,265 19 2
Distilleries for Licenses granted,	9,769 10 0
From Savings Bank,	14,000 0 0
Fees from Provincial Secretary's office,	930 0 0

#### RAILWAY ACCOUNTS.

From the Appendices annexed to the Railway account, it appears that £928,854 8s. 11d. were expended on the Railway, or advanced to the Commissioners, to the 31st December, 1858.

The amount of Bonds sold in London last year was, £320,500;—to 31st December, 1857, £432,000,—in all, to 31st December, 1858, £752,500.

The amount of Bonds sold in Nova Scotia last year was, £65,875;—to 31st December, 1857, £49,125,—in all, £115,000. The whole amount of Bonds sold to 31st December, 1858, on which the Province is now liable for interest, is therefore £867,500.

#### MINES AND MINERALS.

Hon. Mr. McCully wished to know how far the anticipation of the Government, with regard to the reduction in the price of Coal, and the stimulus to trade from the passage of the "Mines and Minerals-Bill," had been realized, and to what extent the Casual and Territorial Revenue had been increased in consequence. That is the prophecy of the Government.

Hon. Receiver General—The Casual and Territorial Revenue in 1858 has been equal to that of any preceding year. The hon. and learned member had forgotten that the operation of the Bill would not be felt in 1858. The sum received last year from the General Mining Association amounted to between £10,000 and £11,000; it may not be so much this year.

Hon. Mr. McCully—Am I to understand that the Government do not expect that there will be an increase in the Casual and Territorial Revenue when the Bill comes into operation?

Hon. Receiver General—It is generally supposed that when the taxation on any article is reduced, the consumption will be increased. When trade extends, production and employment are necessarily stimulated and increased. This may not be accomplished with regard to the Coal trade of the Province in one year, perhaps not in two years, but that the reduction in the tax formerly paid by the Mining Association to the Province, must eventually produce a greater increase of trade, must be plain to every man of common sense.

It is a fact well established by experience, and the accounts submitted will show it. The applications from private parties to open Mines in the Province have been very numerous, so that it is evident that an impulse has already been given by the Bill to trade of various kinds. The report of the Commissioner of Crown Lands will show this and will place the whole matter fully before the House.

Hon. Mr. Holmes—As I live in the neighborhood of a coal mine, I may say a few words on this question. Since the passage of the Mines and Minerals Bill, coal which was formerly sold at Pictou from 16s. to 19s. a chaldron, is now sold for 13s. 6d. Although this may not increase the amount in the Treasury, still it is a Provincial benefit, as a much larger quantity of coal is consumed, and it is sold at a much cheaper rate than formerly.

Hon. Mr. McCully was glad to hear it. If there was a deficiency in the Provincial Chest he supposed that the County of Pictou would make it up, as the people of that County derived the benefit from the bill alluded to. (Laughter.)

Hon. Mr. Holmes observed that the County of Pictou had the coal, whether it had the benefit spoken of or not.

THURSDAY, 17th.

Hon. Mr. Archibald presented a petition from Francis Webber and 67 others, praying for the passage of a Prohibitory Liquor Law.

Petitioners also pray that a clause may be annexed to said law, submitting it to the vote of the people at the next general election, making provision that the said vote be taken separately and by itself, and by ballot, and also that if a majority of votes shall be given in favor of the law,