

perance. So obvious is this, that it appears to be universally acknowledged. I am credibly informed that the tavern-keepers in this region admit, that the quantity of intoxicating liquors sold by them is very greatly diminished.

Ever yours, in Gospel bonds,

CHARLES TUPPER. Upper Wilmot, March 21, 1859.

For the Christian Messenger.

New Meeting-house at Gasperaux, Horton.

MESSES EDITORS.

The cause of Zion is powerfully advancing in this part of the Lord's Vineyard, and the Kingdom of Christ has been established in many hearts that were once under the thralldom of sin and Satan.

Yours in the Gospel, E. O. READ.

Gaspereaux, March 21st, 1859.

For the Christian Messenger.

Donation Visit.

MESSES EDITORS.

The members of my church and congregation, with other friends, have made it my pleasing duty to acknowledge their kindness, in making me a Donation Visit on the 16th of February.

Yours and theirs in the Gospel, GEORGE ARMSTRONG.

For the Christian Messenger.

Prince Edward Island.

DEAR BROTHERS,

I take upon myself to correct a slight error in Brother Freeman's letter in the Christian Messenger, dated River John, Nov. 17th, 1858.

man would knowingly and willingly publish an error, or state anything but what he believed to be strictly true; but I hesitate not to say that Brother Freeman has either misunderstood or was misinformed, concerning the true state of things on this island.

By giving place to the above in your columns, you will serve our common cause, and oblige Your unworthy Brother, ALEXANDER SCOTT.

East Point, P. E. I., Dec. 20th, 1859.

Provincial Parliament.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

SATURDAY, March 19th.

Hon. Prov. Secy. by command, laid on the table the report of Mr. Laurie on the survey of the Railway to Pictou. He also, by like command, laid on the table the report of the Chief Engineer, on the surveys of the extension of the Windsor Railway to Hantsport, accompanied with the report of George Wightman on the same subject.

The house in Committee on Bills. Eleven bills passed.

Mr. Moses moved the second reading of the Prohibitory Liquor Law Bill.

The hon. gentleman hoped that in considering this question, gentlemen would divest their minds of party feeling. Every one would admit the evils which flowed from the excessive use of ardent spirits, and Temperance men had long turned their attention to the suppression of this evil.

A call of the house was had.

The Provincial Secretary said his views had been placed on record on more than one occasion. At one time, believing that the Legislature should do all in their power for the suppression of intemperance, and that the Prohibitory Law would be beneficial, he gave it his support.

The friends of the measure, however, entertain a different opinion—they believe that the people generally are in favor of the law—they don't ask for the passage of a bill absolutely, but only require that at the next election the several constituencies may have an opportunity of expressing, by vote at the hustings, their opinions on the subject.

Mr. Shaw would support the bill. The friends of temperance generally desired it, and he thought the house should not refuse the request.

Mr. Wier—The bill provides for the taking of a distinct vote by ballot at the hustings. Much difficulty would be experienced in carrying it out.

Hon. Fin. Secretary intended to do all he could to give the people what they required. If the majority of the country were in favor of the law, it was but right that its effects should be tested.

Hon. Mr. Henry was always opposed to this subject. He believed the measure to be impracticable, but independent of this, thought that the course proposed to be pursued was most unwise, if not unconstitutional.

Mr. Esson introduced a petition from Dartmouth, on the subject of the assessment law, with a bill to carry out the prayer of the petition.

Hon. Mr. Young perceived that the bill contained all the stringent clauses of the Maine Law. It was to be submitted to the electors, and if the majority were in its favour it would come into operation on the 1st of April, 1860, without being subject to the further action of the legislature.

Hon. Atty. General referred at length to the past legislation on this subject, and vindicated the course pursued by himself and friends. He stated that after the bill of 1856 had been defeated in committee, he became convinced, from the manner in which the measure was then disposed of in the house, that a law could not be passed during the existence of the same house, with any prospect of being successfully carried out.

Hon. Mr. Howe thought the experiment proposed a most unusual one. To pass a law subject to the approval of the people by ballot is opposed to English precedent. He thought the government ought to take the responsibility.

Hon. Atty. General agreed with the member for Windsor, the worst enemies of the temperance cause were to be found in the house of its friends. Since his first election no liquor had been used with his consent in any election contests in which he had been engaged.

Hon. Mr. Howe enquired whether the Atty. General had not written to temperance men in Kings to support the late John C. Hall.

Hon. Atty. General had always set his face against the principle that the temperance body should only vote for temperance candidates—because he believed it would not be fairly acted upon, and would tend to destroy the necessary combinations of parties.

He did not recollect having written, but if he had done so, no doubt he requested his temperance friends and all others he could influence to support Mr. Hall.

The hon. gentleman then said that at the last General Election, the Conservative temperance men were urged by the Liberal temperance advocates to support the opponent of Mr. Whitman for the Township, on the ground that he was a temperance man, but he (the Attorney General) asked how these same liberals intended to vote for the county where the case was reserved and the Conservative candidate was the temperance man and his opponent was not, the answer was—“oh that is quite a different thing”—and they proved their real views by their votes.

Debate adjourned until Monday.

MONDAY, March 26th.

Mr. Wade, as chairman of the committee on private bills, reported a number of bills.

Mr. Archibald asked special leave to present the petition of T. D. Dickson and others, of Parrsboro, in reference to a balance due by him to the Province as Collector of Excise.

Mr. Killam asked special leave to introduce a bill to incorporate the Bank of Yarmouth, N. S.

Mr. McDonald, also from the committee appointed to consider the petition of the Inland Navigation Company, reported recommending that the debt of £5,000 due by the company to the Province be remitted, and that they be permitted to mortgage, sell, or lease the property of the Company, in order to complete the works, and that bonds be given that the money so raised shall be applied to that object, and further, that the time fixed for the completion of the works be extended for three years from the 9th of June next.

The hon. gentleman introduced a bill in conformity therewith.

The following gentlemen then addressed the House—Mr. Bill, Hon. Mr. Henry, Mr. Wilkins, Hon. Mr. Howe, Mr. Tobin, Mr. McLellan, Hon. Fin. Secy, Hon. Mr. Henry, Mr. Wade, Hon. Attorney General, Mr. Morrison, Mr. Moses, Mr. Archibald.

A call of the House was had. Some explanations were made by the Hon. Mr. Howe, Hon. Attorney General, Hon. C. J. Campbell, Hon. Prov. Secretary, Mr. Chambers, Hon. Mr. Young.

Hon. Mr. Henry moved an amendment that the bill be deferred for three months. We gave the division in our last. For 8, against, 33.

TUESDAY, March 22, 1859.

Mr. Esson introduced a petition from Dartmouth, on the subject of the assessment law, with a bill to carry out the prayer of the petition.

The bills to enable John Barry of New York, Edward Hunt and Henry David Totten, Charles

Dickson Archibald, and Moses S. Salter, to obtain letters patent, were read a third time, and sent to the Council.

The hon. Fin. Secy. moved the usual resolution for the subdivision of the road money, according to the scale of last year, which passed in the affirmative nem. con.

Dr. Brown presented a petition of Dr. Cramp and others, of Wolfville, asking for the Registration of Births, Deaths, and Marriages.

Mr. Morrison introduced a bill to amend the act for the regulation of licences for the sale of intoxicating liquors.

The hon. Fin. Secy. introduced a bill to regulate customs duty; also, an act to regulate distilleries; also, an act to continue the law imposing light house duties.

The hon. Attorney General, from the committee appointed to consider proposed amendments to the law, further reported favorably on the bill for the Registration of Births, Deaths, and Marriages, but recommended that its consideration be deferred until the next session, and that in the meantime information should be obtained by the government as to the state of registration at present in the Province.

Also a bill applicable to the whole province agreeably to the prayer of petition from Cape Breton, for the appointment of county Supervisors of statute labor.

Mr. Tobin, from the committee on Trade and Manufactures, reported two petitions, one from Bridgetown and one from King's county, asking to have Bridgetown made a port of entry, and that a collector of imports be appointed for the Givan wharves, Kings Co. recommending that the petition be handed to the government, as the subject came within the legitimate sphere of their duty.

The Debates on the resolution proposed by the hon. member for Pictou, for the construction of a railway to Pictou, was then resumed. The hon. Provincial Secretary, hon. Mr. Howe, Mr. Tobin, hon. Attorney General, and hon. Financial Secretary addressed the house.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23.

Several bills were read a third time. Mr. Ruggles presented a petition from James Johnston, and others, asking for a mail twice a week between Bridgetown and Lower Granville.

The bill to amend and continue the law relating to Distilleries was taken up.

The second clause provides that no Licenses shall hereafter issue for Distilleries unless the party or parties applying therefor shall secure to the Government a sum not less than that paid last year.

Mr. Wade moved a resolution that the Distillers be allowed one month after the passing of the act to work up their stock and close up their business, on payment of the same rate of duties as formerly paid by them.

Objections were made by the Financial Secretary and others, on the ground that it could not be embodied into the bill without defeating its object; and that the proper way would be to pass a resolution authorizing the government to permit the extension of the present license for a month.

A long discussion ensued, after which Mr. Wade agreed to the course proposed by the Fin. Secretary.

(A message from the Legislative Council: The clerk announced that the Council had agreed to the Act for the better Equalizing of the Elective Franchise in certain counties without any amendments.)

Hon. Financial Secretary stated that he had placed the officers' wines on the table of exemptions. A despatch from the Home Government had been received, requesting these wines to be admitted duty free, as was the case in all other colonies. He thought it was rather ungracious to discuss this matter at every session, and it had better be settled now.

After some discussion the motion was put and lost 23 to 20.

A number of other bills were passed. The house resumed.

Dr. Brown asked special leave to present a petition, praying for an act of incorporation of the Wolfville Division, Sons of Temperance.

THURSDAY, March 24.

Hon. Prov. Secretary, by command, laid on the table returns asked for by the member for Yarmouth, of receipts and working expenses of the railway for January and February of this year.

Hon. Attorney General asked special leave to introduce a bill to amend the act to provide for the construction of the St. Peter's Canal. The object of the bill is to carry out the report of the Chief Engineer on that subject—and to build a tram road until the Canal is finished.

Mr. Morrison presented a petition of Mr. Budd and others, praying an alteration in the License laws.

Several bills were read a third time. Five bills were read a second time and committed.

Mr. McFarlane, from the committee on a petition of certain inhabitants of Dartmouth, relative to the Common at that place reported, recommending that two acres of the Common be set apart as a burial place as prayed for in the petition.

Mr. Killam from the committee on Navigation Securities reported.

Mr. Wade complained that as regarded petitioners affecting his county, the member had not the opportunity of appearing before the committee.

Mr. Killam explained. Mr. Ruggles said they endeavored to obtain