

but let firstly and secondly come without going after them—write them down in a plain legible style—see that every word is spelt correctly—that every sentence is constructed carefully and comprehensively—read them over and over again to make what improvement you can—get some competent, faithful friend to look over your composition with a view to careful criticism, and if he suggest alterations and amendments, don't allow your face to become necessarily elongated, and above all, don't say "I'll never try again." But when the next good thought is had, just note it down, add another to it as soon as convenient, and then another, another and another, and as soon as you can do it, weave them all together into one subject, and having made it as good as you can, if you have good reason to think that its reading will interest and profit others, then carefully copy it, send it to some sensible Editor, and if he believes it worthy, he will place it in the hands of the Printer, and by this means it will be given to the world. Please try the recommendation, "Gather up the fragments and let nothing be lost."

For the Christian Messenger.

Horton Academy, Female Department.

MR. EDITOR,

Please allow me, through your columns, to say a word in explanation of the advertisement with reference to the Female department of Horton Academy.

It may have occurred to some that it was a little strange that Miss Shaw who had already advertised for another quarter at Berwick should so suddenly change her plans and move her school to Wolfville. The simple reason, I presume, so far as she was concerned, was the want of proper accommodations. As no building of adequate size, could be secured for the use of the school, the young ladies were compelled to take lodgings in various families in the neighborhood, sometimes at considerable distance from the school-room. This, with the want of a suitable place for practice in Music and Drawing was the occasion of much inconvenience; and many of the most promising of the pupils, although warmly attached to each other, to the school, and to the teacher, had decided that they could not continue much longer. This rendered a change of some kind indispensable, and Miss Shaw though very reluctantly closed her School in Berwick and has commenced in Wolfville.

The school as now organized, is under the management of the Education Society, is in fact, as the advertisement indicates, a part of the Horton Academy. The house—built and formerly occupied by the Rev. J. Chase, and originally intended for a school, has been secured. Its plan and location are, in many respects, well adapted to the end. The street only separates it from the Baptist Meeting House. It is within five minutes walk of the College, the Temperance Hall, the Episcopal Church and Methodist Chapel now in course of erection. It is in one of the most healthy, quiet and beautiful villages of the Province, is well supplied with water, the halls and some of the large rooms are warmed by a furnace. It is fitted up, furnished, and to be supplied by a committee appointed by the Education Society and everything will be done I presume, that can be, to make it both comfortable and inviting.

With a view, partly to economy, but largely to health, to progress in study, and to a proper training for the real duties of after life, the domestic department is to be managed, upon the plan of the Mount Holyoke School. That is, the help of servants, except for a few of the most arduous duties, is entirely dispensed with. Everything necessary being done outside, in the way of supplies &c, the pupils are expected, by the aid of a thorough system, well explained and understood, to attend to the household duties themselves, each one in turn doing such work, during the intervals of rest from mental toil, as shall fall to her lot. This, if we may rely upon the universal testimony of those who have visited, or studied at the Holyoke Seminary, becomes not a hardship but a pleasant diversion and healthful exercise—promotes happiness and union,—gives a more vigorous tone to the intellect and secures more rapid advancement in study.

In order to make the instruction as efficient as possible, without too much expense for teachers, or overstraining the energies of those employed, certain classes in the male department of the Academy, are thrown open to female pupils, or, when convenient or necessary the teachers employed in the Academy proper, may devote a portion of their time, with the aid of books, maps

globes, apparatus, &c., to the Female School, giving the pupils in this way, the benefit of all our appliances of education, and the opportunity in the course of their study, of coming in contact with minds cast in various moulds and in different stages of development.

With reference to the expense of the school, it is the aim of those managing its finances, to bring education, if possible, within the reach of all who thirst for knowledge. It is not for making money, but for educating those who have been long neglected. The sum named in the advertisement may be regarded as the minimum. I believe the principle of the Mount Holyoke school, is, to apportion the expenses, according to the actual outlays. The larger number of pupils and the more economical arrangements, the cheaper the education. It is our hope that if success shall be equal to our present expectations, the actual charge may be less even than that named in the advertisement. Whoever therefore wishes for a cheap education will become the interested party, and aid us in establishing—and carrying on an efficient school in Wolfville for female pupils.

I can not but believe that all who have had experience in matters of education, will perceive at once the utility of this new arrangement. Notwithstanding the shortness of the notice and hurry of the plans, we have opened under very promising circumstances. And additions are made, or expected almost every day. The prospect is, that we shall soon find the place entirely too strait for us, and we shall probably ere long be compelled to appeal to the benevolence of our people, to aid in putting up buildings upon a large scale for a Nova Scotia Mount Holyoke school. No doubt such an appeal will meet with a hearty and liberal response.

Those wishing to enter the Seminary during the present term will please make an early application.

T. A. HIGGINS.

Wolfville, Jan. 26th, 1861.

For the Christian Messenger.

Donation to Mrs. Cunningham.

On the 23rd inst., a number of persons met at Rose Cottage, near Digby, for the purpose of paying Sister Cunningham a Donation Visit. After the usual preliminaries such as cheerful greetings, a sumptuous repast, &c. Rev. Obed. Parker was called to the chair, who with a very touching speech, presented to Sister C. in behalf of the donors in money and useful articles to the amount of between 11 and 12 pounds. Sister Cunningham briefly replied, when she was followed by ministers who were present, viz: Brethren Spencer, A. Cogswell, R. Walker, J. A. More and C. Randall. Singing and prayer followed, when the company left, all pleased that they had assisted in making the widow's heart glad, and only regretting that the donation was so small.

CHARLES RANDALL.

Provincial Parliament.

Opening of the Legislature.

On Thursday last, the 31st ult., His Excellency the Earl of Mulgrave and suite, attended at the Council Chamber for the purpose of inaugurating the Session. The Countess and a considerable number of ladies and gentlemen were in attendance. The Volunteer Artillery with their usual precision fired the salute on the site of the late fire in front of the Province Building. The entrance to the Chamber was lined by the Chebucto and Scottish Volunteer Rifle Companies. Our citizen soldiers appeared to good advantage on duty not less than heretofore on parade. Instead of passing through lines of red coats with countenances perfectly uninterested in the occasion, one could but feel, as he passed now a merchant, now a lawyer and now a printer standing shoulder to shoulder that these brave and manly British Soldiers, our own fellow citizens, who had volunteered to become our protectors form a domestic army not to be despised either in peace or war. This feature doubtless drew many to witness the ceremony who would otherwise have felt but little interest in the affair.

The Hon. Samuel Creelman and William C. Whitman were sworn in as members of the Legislative Council.

After the Speaker and House of Assembly had been summoned His Excellency read the following

SPEECH:

Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council;

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

The year which has just closed will be ever honorably distinguished, by the visit to this continent of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. In no

part of Her Majesty's dominions was the reception of the Heir Apparent more tasteful and appropriate, or more loyal and enthusiastic, than in this Province; and it affords me infinite pleasure to be able to assure you that His Royal Highness returned to England most favorably impressed with the scenes through which he passed, with the unanimity that characterized, and the order which controlled our public displays; and, above all, with the attachment to the Throne, and veneration for the virtues which adorn it, so universally diffused among the population of Nova Scotia.

It will, I am sure, be gratifying to you, to learn that this year we shall again be honored by a visit from another member of the Royal Family; as Her Majesty's Ship St. George, in which His Royal Highness Prince Alfred is serving as a Midshipman, has been ordered to join the North American Squadron, and will visit Halifax next Summer.

The Legislature, during the last Session, having placed at my disposal the means necessary for the formation and organization of Volunteer Corps, I have not failed to use my best endeavours to encourage the loyal spirit which has been evinced by the inhabitants of this Colony, who, at considerable pecuniary sacrifice and inconvenience, have voluntarily enrolled themselves for the defence of their country. It affords me much satisfaction to inform you, that the movement, although still in its infancy, is progressing most favorably. In the rural districts twenty-one Companies have already been formed. Duly qualified instructors have been appointed to superintend their training, and by this means I trust that they will shortly equal in efficiency those metropolitan corps, whose appearance and discipline, during the late visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, reflected so much credit on the Colony, and elicited the praise of all who saw them.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly: The Public Accounts of the past, and the estimates for the current year, shall be laid before you without delay.

Mr. President and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly: It affords me great satisfaction to be able to inform you that the Revenues of the past year are far in excess of those collected in any preceding year of our Provincial history. They have been amply sufficient to meet all the obligations of the Government at home and abroad—to cover services not likely to recur—and to justify the conviction, that, in providing liberally for internal improvements, the resources of Nova Scotia have not been miscalculated or her credit overstrained.

You will learn, with satisfaction, that while our Railways have been worked without serious accident or loss of life, a judicious economy, in the management of them, has restored confidence in their productive power.

The extension of the Railway system is anxiously looked for by the population that lie beyond their present termini; and it will be for you to judge, when you have had time to examine the state of the revenue, whether you can, with due regard to the public credit, resume operations in the spring.

Much inconvenience has been felt by the stoppage of the trains at Richmond, and a heavy tax is paid for the transportation of passengers, country produce and merchandise, to and from the centre of the City.

A survey has been conducted, with a view to provide greater facilities, and when the plans and estimates are submitted, you will be able to decide whether the country can afford to give to its industry this further measure of relief.

Shortly after the close of the last Session, the attention of the Government was called to the unsatisfactory condition of the Provincial Hospital for the Insane. A rigid enquiry was instituted into its management, which was found to be very extravagant. The financial administration was promptly transferred to the Board of Works, and you will be pleased to learn, that while harmony has been restored in the internal economy of the institution, a large saving has been effected in the annual expenditure.

Your attention will be called to a measure for connecting the Island of Cape Breton with the mainland, by a Steam Ferry across the Strait of Canso, and for connecting by steam Hantsport, Cornwallis and Cumberland, with the Railway terminus at Windsor. You will be also asked to sanction the erection of a public wharf at Digby, the completion of new roads from Mills Village to LaHave, from Plaister Cove towards Baddeck, and other public works, for which the ordinary resources of the Counties have been hitherto found inadequate to provide.

In accordance with the policy suggested in a despatch received from the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, I have caused a Board of Statistics to be duly organized, under the laws of the Province; and proceedings are in progress for taking a Census on the thirtieth day of March next.

The anomalies, so apparent in the Representation, and the imperfections in the Act of 1859, suggest a new adjustment of the division lines of districts, and redistribution of the franchise.

Your attention will be directed to these subjects, and to a measure, based upon the English Statutes, for ensuring greater purity in the conduct of elections.

While our neighbours are passing through trials the most severe, and are menaced with civil war, we ought, in resuming our Legislative labors, to be thankful to the Giver of all good, for the permanence of our Institutions, and for the freedom and tranquility they secure.

After the Speech had been read the Representatives of the People retired to the House of Assembly, and a copy of the Speech was read by the Speaker. The returns of the elections in Cumberland and Victoria were laid upon the table by the Provincial Secretary and read by the Clerk.

R. Donkin, Esq. was then introduced by Dr. Tupper and Mr. McFarlane; and Charles J. Campbell, Esq., by Messrs. Townsend and Bourinct and duly sworn.

RESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER.

The Speaker then arose in his place and informed the House that "in consequence of circumstances of a strictly private and personal nature which had occurred since last assembled, he felt it incumbent on him to ask the permission of the house to resign the chair." After thanking the House for the generous manner in which they had sustained him in his honorable office for three successive Parliaments, he withdrew.

A Committee was then appointed to inform His Excellency, who was waiting in the Council Chamber, that the House was without a Speaker.

By command the House then proceeded to elect a Speaker. It was moved and seconded that A. C. McDonald (Pictou) be the Speaker. No opposition was offered. After Mr. McD. had taken the chair he, accompanied by the House, proceeded to inform the Lieutenant Governor of his election. After His Excellency had expressed his approbation of the choice, they returned and proceeded to business.

The House was informed of the death of the Chaplain, Rev. Dr. Twining.

Hon. Provincial Secretary after expressions of respect for the memory of Dr. Twining moved that the Rev. J. C. Cochran be the Chaplain.

Hon. Mr. Johnston spoke with much warmth of the esteem in which Dr. T. was held by all classes of the community and his sincere regret for the loss they had sustained, seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Hon. Prov. Secretary informed the House that in consequence of the elevation of the Hon. Mr. Young to the position of Chief Justice, His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor had been pleased to appoint him to be the President of Council and the leader of the government. He thought that after spending 25 years as a member of that House he might be acquitted of inordinate ambition in accepting the appointment, and that he had reached that position without any unfair contrivance or intrigue. In the course of his speech the Hon. gentleman referred to the changed aspect of the House since he first took a seat there and of the virtues of those who had passed away, and recommended an imitation of these but an avoidance of the re-creation which too often attended parliamentary debate.

Mr. McLellan introduced a bill *pro forma* to regulate the currency.

Hon. Mr. Johnston asked if the late Speaker also resigned his seat in the House.

Hon. Prov. Secretary replied that he was not aware of his doing so, but understood that his private business demanded all the time he could devote to it so as to retain his position.

Hon. Mr. Johnston then gave notice that he would move for a Committee to investigate certain charges which had been made public.

Mr. H. Blanchard then moved an Address in answer to His Excellency's opening Speech. This was, as usual, but a repetition and reply to the Speech. We must therefore omit it as our space is so much in demand.

Mr. Cochran seconded the Address.

Dr. Tupper in a speech of upwards of an hour reviewed the topics of the address and the position of the government.

He thought it would be readily conceded by all that it is of the first importance to every free country or community possessed of free representative institutions, that it should possess a legal and constitutional government—that the government should be in the hands of gentlemen associated together, possessed of confidence in each other, united by a common policy on all questions of any import, and prepared to sustain that policy in the Legislature and before the country.

Now he might be permitted to state that during the last session of the legislature, on the formation of the present administration, he took the liberty to denounce that administration as illegal and unconstitutional.

He had been told in a minute from the Executive Council, published in the Royal Gazette, that His Grace the Duke of Newcastle had settled that story; that he had placed it out of the power of any man to question the illegality of the position occupied by those gentlemen referred to. This was rather strange language to come from those who had always pretended to advocate the principle that the power of the people is the sovereign power, and that it is that power before whom the Legislature should always bow.

If His Grace the Duke has undertaken to settle the question, and to place it beyond the consideration of the people of this country, he has receded from the position he occupied last year; for not only had they the authority of the law officers of the crown, but they had it even endorsed by His Grace himself, when the latter was asked by His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, if these men could come into the Legislature and record their votes,—he answered in clear terms that they could not: for it would be in defiance of the laws which have been passed by the Legislature of the country.

He had listened with some surprise to the very condescending manner in which the hon. Provincial Secretary had alluded to his acceptance of the office of President of the Council, he did not consider that that gentleman showed any vaunting ambition in taking that position when they consider how the Presidency of the Council first came into existence; he honored the office, not the office him. It was, indeed, but an act of humility in the Provincial Secretary to accept that which was more than a questionable honor.

Dr. Tupper then referred to the election in Cumberland. The leader of the government, the President of the Council, leaving the administrative affairs of this country, condescended to become a humble canvasser in that county, and spent some weeks in organizing it. It was gratifying that he did so, for it showed the people that with all his eloquence and unbounded res-

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