

were much gratified with the good feeling that prevailed. All appeared to be actuated by the noble spirit of disinterested benevolence.

Yours respectfully,
ONE PRESENT.

For the Christian Messenger.

Donation Visits

TO REV. A. W. BARSS.

Dear Editor,—

I wish to acknowledge in your valuable paper the kindness of our friends here in anticipating and contributing to our wants.

Early in January a party assembled at our dwelling who left with us substantial evidence of their good will. Others have since left at our door as much wood as will answer our purpose for at least four months, and last week I received a nice new harness as a present from the young men of Locke's Island.

I hope all the donors may be abundantly rewarded and that I may labour faithfully for the good of all.

A. W. BARSS.

Religious Intelligence.

For the Christian Messenger.

Mission in Yarmouth and Shelburne Counties.

REV. OBED PARKER'S REPORT TO THE WESTERN DOMESTIC MISSIONARY BOARD.

Dear Brother,—

As missionary reports are generally looked for and read with interest, perhaps one has been expected from me before this. I left home September 11th, to fulfil a mission appointed me in the County of Yarmouth with the Churches of Argyle, Pubnico and Wood's Harbour. The Church of Argyle was planted through the instrumentality of our fathers in Christ and watered by others whose memories are dear to us.—The state of religion was evidently on the decline from the circumstance that many of the male and leading members of the Church are away at sea in the Summer season, and but few to keep up the worship of God; yet they seem to be steadfast in the faith. We had some precious seasons during my stay amongst them and some indications of revival. How good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. If they had a faithful Shepherd I believe it would be said of them "See how these brethren love one another."

The larger portion of the population in this section of the County are Free-Christian Baptists, this is one reason why the little Church here cannot sustain a stated Pastor. The Church at Pubnico stands in the same position, and like some of old though "faint, yet pursuing." I had the pleasure of baptizing one young man whose deportment and piety seemed to indicate future usefulness in this locality. Wood's Harbour belongs to the Barrington Church, but according to appointment they claimed a part of my services, and according to their number and means did well in sustaining the mission. Here in the forementioned churches the missionary finds a comfortable home, he is cheerfully received and the truth preached well appreciated. I received a cordial welcome from our Free-Christian brethren, they are a warm hearted and kind people, so far as my acquaintance extended. The principal difference between us at the present time is the Communion question. My impression is that if we had a faithful minister of the true gospel spirit in this interesting field, we should see better days. I have spent ten weeks in the service of the Board, returned home Nov. 28, thanks to God for all his mercies. As stewards an account is required of us how we have spent our time in the service of the Lord. Sermons 41; Conference meetings 4; Sabbath School Addresses 3; Visits to day schools 4; Family visits 134; Administered the Lord's Supper once; one funeral sermon; baptized one; received in aid £10 0s. 0d.

Yours truly,

OBED PARKER.

Melvern Square, Feb. 24th, 1862.

Guysborough County.

DEAR BROTHER,

You and your numerous readers will be glad to hear that the Lord has been doing a great work in our County. His spirit has been poured out abundantly of late and I trust a goodly number have been converted. In Manchester 16 have been added to the Baptist Church and a number more, we have reason to believe, have found the Saviour, and we hope will soon follow him—in baptism. The enemy has also been very busy, but truth is mighty and will prevail.

At Sand Point, where Bro. Bigelow has been for some weeks, a great number profess to have been born again. He had baptized 13 when I last heard from him, and perhaps ere this many more have been buried with Christ in that most significant ordinance to which our Pattern submitted and which He commanded all his followers to observe; Matt. xxviii. 19. It is expected that a Church will soon be organized there.—We are waiting only for an opportunity to go down to render assistance.

The last storms have blocked up the roads so that travelling is dangerous.

Last week Bro. H. R. C. and I visited New

Harbor and enjoyed a blessed season, baptized 9 willing converts, who went on their way rejoicing. Many more are looking anxiously to Christ's ordinance and studying the New Testament to know the truth. Some have given their names for baptism when I visit them again.

I hope to be able to inform you in my next that a thriving church has been organized in this place.

May the Lord still smile upon us, and may many be brought to know him "whom to know is life eternal."

Pray for us that the word of the Lord may have free course, run and be glorified.

Yours truly,

A. F. PORTER.

Guysborough, March 28th, 1862.

WEYMOUTH.—Extract of a letter from Rev. Charles Randall, dated April 2nd, 1862.—Dear Editor,—You and your numerous readers will be glad to learn that the gracious Lord is visiting with his special mercies one portion of my field of labour.

In the district of St. Mary's Bay and vicinity, the people have recently been much stirred on the great subject of vital religion, and quite a number have been hopefully converted to God. Extra meetings have been held there, both by the Methodists and Baptists, which have resulted in good, and I have had the happiness, within the last fortnight, of baptizing seventeen converts. We hope that others will follow in the same path of holy obedience. Our Methodist friends also talk of having large increase to their society.

Pray for us, Dear Brother, that the work may spread, and that it may be deep and thorough."

PARSBORO.—Extract of letter dated April 2nd, "Our Church in this village is at this time enjoying a blessed revival under the labours of Bro. McKeen, the work appears to be very deep, and extending all around like fire dropping on dry places—to God be all the glory.

I remain yours affectionately,

THOMAS W. DEWOLFE.

We are glad to learn from another source that Rev. D. McKeen is laboring one fourth of his time at Parrsboro. May the Divine blessing continue to attend his labors there and also in the other parts of his field.

NEW MINAS.—Rev. R. S. Morton in a letter dated April 1st says:—"I baptized one person last Sabbath. Our progress throughout the past year, just now closed, has been but slow yet it has been quite steady, since last Association we have had five baptisms and eight persons baptized."

OPEN-AIR PREACHING BY CLERGYMEN AND LAYMEN.—A committee for English Preaching during the International Exhibition is being organized, of which Major Straith and Mr. Wilbraham Taylor are to be Hon. Secretaries.—The chief object is to promote religious services, lectures, and prayer-meetings, in churches, chapels, halls, and school-rooms, under tents, and in the open-air, to be conducted by clergymen, ministers, and laymen, specially selected, and acting under a responsible chairman. The committee is to be composed of ministers of all denominations, including several gentlemen accustomed to lay preaching, such as Lord Radstock, Mr. Macgregor, and Captain Fishbourne. The appointment of a responsible chairman, as a guard against the mischiefs of indiscriminate lay-preaching by incompetent parties, is a novelty.—London Paper.

Provincial Parliament.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

TUESDAY, April 1st, 1862.

In the morning session, after a number of local bills had been read a third time, the House went into Committee on Bills; and passed a bill to authorize a Provincial loan and one to provide for certain expenses of government.

The License Law was then taken up. Mr. Ross proposed that a clause be added to prevent selling liquor to Indians. The clause provides that a penalty of \$20 and forfeiture of license shall follow conviction.

Mr. S. Campbell presented a petition from St. Mary's East, Guysboro Co., praying for prohibition of the sale of intoxicating liquors at the gold diggings.

In the afternoon session the House resumed Committee on bills.

The bill to increase the salary of the City Recorder was taken up. Hon. Mr. Wier moved that it be deferred for three months. He objected that it be deferred for increase of expenditure in the city. Mr. Tobin also opposed the bill. He thought that even if the bill passed fees would be charged.

Mr. Pryor explained the action of the City Council on the bill, and stated that it had been unanimously agreed to by that body.

Hon. Mr. Johnston, Messrs. Henry, and Shannon spoke in favor of the bill, and Hon. Mr. Howe against it; and the motion to defer it was carried.

The Bill in reference to the powers of the City Medical officer was taken up. An amendment providing that the name of the Chairman of the Board of Health, in addition to that of the Medical officer, be required to certificates for removal of infectious cases, was added, and the bill passed.

Other city bills concerning streets and wooden buildings, were passed. Also an assessment bill and a bill for the preservation of useful birds and animals, and an act for Railway con-

struction, so as to remove certain obligations from counties.

The Committee arose and reported to the House.

Mr. Pryor moved that the part of the Report concerning the Recorder's salary be not received which was lost by 9 to 26.

Mr. Brown introduced a bill to incorporate the Acadia Marine Insurance Company.

WEDNESDAY, April 2.

The Licence Bill and several others were read a third time and passed.

Mr. Cochran enquired if the gentlemen appointed to represent the Province at the International Exhibition were to receive payment for their services.

Hon. Prov. Secretary replied that the Rev. Mr. Honeyman had been sent with the Geological specimens in his charge, and his expenses would be paid; but the other gentlemen would have all the privileges of their appointment, but if they chose to go to London and be present at the Exhibition, they would pay their own expenses.

Hon. Mr. Johnston introduced a bill relative to Prchthonary's fees.

Hon. Att. General introduced a Militia Bill. The House in Committee on Bills took up the Bankruptcy Bill.

Mr. Shannon gave the following explanation of the provisions of this Bill.

If a person owes in the aggregate \$1000 and finds himself embarrassed, he can go to a master of the Supreme Court and by petition ask for a meeting of his creditors. When the petition is filed, the master must send to every one of the creditors, and if any of them resides out of the Province, he must have a notice of forty days.

When the creditors meet the master has power to examine the bankrupt upon oath, and hold a full investigation into his affairs. Two thirds of the creditors present are to have the power to bind the others to accept a composition. If no composition can be agreed to, then the meeting decides that the party is bankrupt, and the master reports that fact to the Judge of the Supreme Court. When that is done, the Judge may issue a fiat declaring the person to be bankrupt; and shall also appoint the assignees of the bankrupt's estate. The assignees then being sworn, shall proceed to take charge of the estate, and to collect the debts and convert into money the assets of the estate. When the assets are collected the assignees must divide them equally among the creditors. It is also provided that if a person, two months previous to the bankruptcy, make a preferential assignment, such assignment shall be declared null and void, and the individual to whom it is made shall come under the same provision as the other creditors.

After the assets have been paid over, the bankrupt may apply to the judge for a certificate which shall be granted, and he shall be released. At the close of the affair, the assignees shall exhibit to the court or a judge, a full statement of all their proceedings and an account of all monies received and paid by them, and this account shall be signed by the judge and be deemed thereupon a sufficient discharge to the assignees of all liability on their part in connection with the estate. The judge has also power to require the assignees to close up the bankrupt's estate within a limited period, and shall have power to remove the assignees if necessary, and to appoint others in their stead. If any one has made an assignment previous to the passage of this bill then if he wishes to come under the provision he can petition to have his affairs examined. The judge then can hand over the matter to the master who can call together a meeting of the creditors. They will then investigate his circumstances, and if it is found that he has stated fairly, the master reports the result to the judge who can give him his certificate.

The table of fees states the master's fees for his first attendance shall be \$5; all subsequent attendances \$2.50, all other fees similar to those of the Supreme Court.

The Bill passed, and the Committee adjourned.

Mr. Robichau introduced a bill for building a bridge at Meteghan River, Digby Co.

THURSDAY, April 3rd.

Hon. Prov. Secretary introduced a bill to amend the Act relating to prepayment of postage.

Mr. McFarlane from the Committee on Local and Private Bills reported in favor of several, and against the bill concerning the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces.

The House in Committee on bills agreed to several for building bridges, &c. &c.

In the afternoon Mr. Wade presented a petition from Digby Neck asking for a Prohibitory Law.

Mr. Esson read the Report of the Committee on Public Accounts, after which the House went into Committee of Ways and Means.

Hon. Fin. Secretary moved a resolution for an excise duty to be placed on home manufactured wines, cordials, &c. of 10cts. per gal; and on porter of 2 cts. per gal., and on tobacco of 2 cts. per lb.

Mr. Henry asked for information as to what quantity of those articles were manufactured, and what annual revenue might be expected from them.

Hon. Fin. Sec. stated that he was not able to state but was desirous of trying the experiment. It was intended to grant licenses to all parties allowed to manufacture those articles.

Hon. Mr. Johnston doubted if a large amount of revenue would be derived from this source.

Mr. Bourinot was opposed to duties on home manufactured articles. After some remarks of a similar nature from Mr. J. McDonald, the resolution was adopted, and

Hon. Fin. Sec'y introduced a bill in accordance with the resolution, which was read a first and second time.

The bill on the disqualification of office-holders for seats in the Legislature was taken up in Committee.

Hon. Mr. Johnston opposed the bill. He thought the bill at present in operation, which prevented office-holders from holding seats in the Legislature a wholesome check on governments.

Hon. Attorney General said the bill was intended to prevent the repetition of such questions as to eligibility being used, as had been the case under the present law. The bill provides that any man who, in defiance of the law, persists in sitting in the Legislature, shall be liable to a penalty of \$400 for every day he so offends. This penalty not to be enforced by a Committee of the House, by men who might be swayed by personal or political feelings, but by men acting judicially.

The offices to be excluded are specified in the bill.

Hon. Prov. Sec. said that all officers should be excluded from the Legislature who might fairly be considered as holding offices of emolument.

Dr. Tupper stated that the law at present on our Statute Book was almost identically the same as the Canadian act. It was obvious, however, that some amendment in this law was necessary, and every effort should be made to make the new act as perfect as possible. He thought it would be better, perhaps, to send the bill to a select committee.

FRIDAY, April 4.

The morning session was taken up in reading a number of bills a third time.

In the afternoon the House in Committee, passed several bills, one of which was that to impose certain duties on home manufactured articles. The duty on home-made tobacco was changed from two cents to one cent per lb.

The bill to authorize the construction of a Telegraph line for Military purposes to New Brunswick, was taken up.

Dr. Tupper asked if it would not be right to insert a clause indemnifying the present Company for any injury that may result to them from the operation of the bill before the house.

Hon. Prov. Sec. said there was no wish to pass any bill that would interfere with the rights of the present company. All that was intended was to secure, in cases of peril, free communication of military messages and information. To do anything else would be an abuse of privilege.

Hon. Mr. Wier said that the present company were quite willing to allow the British government to put an additional line on the posts now erected, which would only cost one-eighth of the expense that would be otherwise incurred.

Hon. Attorney General said that the line would not touch any of the rights of the company. In time of peace it would not be worked.

Mr. McFarlane said the Company would be willing to give up the possession of the lines tomorrow to the British government if the interests of the Empire demanded it. If the new line was built, considerable injury must necessarily result to the present Company. The least that could be done would be to give them compensation for the loss they would sustain.

After some further discussion, a suspending clause, at the suggestion of Dr. Tupper, was added to the bill, which finally passed.

Mr. Tobin presented a petition from J. Crosskill and others, against the imposition of duties upon home-manufactured wines and cordials.

Dr. Tupper said it was not his wish to interfere with the mode by which the Government proposed to meet the large amount they had appropriated for the public service. He believed, however, that anything that tended to prevent Nova Scotia building up a large manufacturing interest, which would give employment to a large number of persons, was most unwise. It should be the duty of a Legislature to encourage rather than to burthen, and thereby discourage home manufactures. He also believed that the result of taxing light wines and cordials would be to give a stimulus to intemperance—in other words, to increase the consumption of ardent spirits.

The Fin. Secretary said the duties on low wines differ little from what they were in 1860 and 1861. One man in the city had now on hand 20,000 gals., ready to supply the demand. One article in particular made here, Cherry Brandy, had completely shut out the foreign article. He contended that those articles should pay a small duty.

Mr. Tobin said we might as well tell the old women in the country because they put water and tea and sugar together to make a pleasant drink, that they should pay a tax to the revenue for the privilege. At present the duties on wines are out of all proportion to other liquors.

The bill for raising the franchise for the election of City Council, introduced by Mr. Blanchard, was taken up.

After considerable discussion pro. and con., the Hon. Provincial Secretary said he thought the attention of the franchise in the city a matter for serious consideration, and suggested that it would be better to defer the subject till next session, when the consideration of the franchise, both in the Province and in the City, should be properly dealt with. The bill was laid over for the present.

Hon. Mr. Howe brought in the report of the Post Office Committee. It recommends the imposition of a tax of one cent upon foreign newspapers, also, a small tax on pamphlets, &c.; and the payment of road monies through the money-order office, instead of sending orders to the Receiver General.