

which represented the unanimous opinion of himself and colleagues, that it would cause disunion and divide the Church.

(The hon. gentleman then stated that his lordship the Bishop, by way of compromise with the parish of St. Paul's, had inserted a clause in the bill which was not in it when passed by the Synod, and had thereby exceeded his powers. This clause exempted from the operation of the bill St. Paul's and St. George's, and any other parish hitherto unrepresented in the Synod which should express its desire at or before Easter, 1864, to be excluded.

The Sol. General interrupted to say that he understood that the bill had been introduced into the Assembly exactly as prepared by the Synod; but that doubts and difficulties having arisen, this clause was suggested by the Bishop.

Hon. Mr. Almon maintained that this was not correct, and repeated his former assertion.)

The Bishop had said that his Synod, voluntary as it had been, had all the force of law. If so, why did he ask for an act to legalize it?

He (Mr. A.) had attended the Synod against the advice of some of his friends. When the Constitution was presented for adoption, and he found that by it the Bishop had a veto, he consulted with some of the clergy and intimated his intention of introducing a resolution to modify that power. The resolution allowed the Bishop his veto in the first instance, but provided that if the vetoed measure should be again voted for, not by a bare majority, but by two-thirds of the Synod, it should then pass without the concurrence of the Bishop. Some six or seven clergymen had promised to support him (Mr. A.) in that resolution, but when the resolution came up for discussion, he was deserted by all the clergy, and found himself in a glorious minority of one!

He would ask if the mere presence of the Bishop in the Chair did not largely control the Synod. It was to avoid similar influence that the Assembly and this Council occupied different chambers, and that his Excellency did not occupy the chair of this house.

The practical working of the veto would be that every measure would be submitted to the Bishop, to know whether, if passed by the Synod, he would agree to it. The effect would be that no measures would be introduced but such as it was known beforehand would be assented to by the Bishop.

(The hon. member then referred to the case of the Bishop of Toronto, who scouted the idea of being reduced to the position of Moderator of a Presbyterian Assembly by dispensing with his veto.)

As a Churchman he asked nothing from the Legislature which was not granted to other denominations, and he thought the Church should not ask anything which was denied to other religious bodies.

In the diocese of Ontario the parishes had formerly, as they still have here, the privilege of nominating their own ministers. The first act of the Synod of Ontario was to deliver up all the Church patronage to the Bishop; and the first act of the Bishop was to give one of the best parishes against the will of almost the whole of that parish, to a gentleman who had strenuously exerted himself in his favor in the canvas for the Bishopric.

This was another instance of the practical working of these Synods, and should cause the house to pause before they passed the bill.

(The hon. gentleman then alluded to the clause in the Canadian act, referred to by hon. Mr. Dickey, which he thought should be in the bill.)

He had already observed in the Synod something like an effort to dispense with the laity altogether. By the Constitution, as originally framed, a measure had first to be passed by a majority of the clergy, and then by a majority of the laity, but at the last meeting a resolution had been carried that the clergy and laity should vote in one body, and as the clergy quite outnumbered the laity, it was easy to see where the majority would be.

If the bill were passed, the Synod would become a miniature legislature, for there was no appeal from its decisions.

If the House were to take his Lordship's arguments at one time, and his arguments at another time, in his address to the committee, no better answer would be required to the application for the bill.

It had been said that the bill was required to free the Church of England here from State restrictions. He did not see that the Church was encumbered by any such restrictions.

The Bishop had shown his cleverness and ability in his arguments before the committee. Where his points were weak he had skimmed them over with great adroitness, and on his stronger points he dwelt with great force. He (the Bishop) had been told that the main thing to which the opponents of the bill objected was the veto. In his speech before the committee he said very little about it, except that it would be a drag upon hasty legislation. He (Mr. A.) was afraid that it would not be used in that way very often.

The Bishop (and he said it with all due respect) was not justified in saying that the wealthy men of Halifax were pressing on him to do that which was inimical to the interests of the country parishes, and that one of his chief reasons in asking for the Bill was that he might be freed from the pressure of the monied aristocracy of the city. He (Mr. A.) felt hurt at that statement.

Funds were raised by members of the Church for the Diocesan Church Society, and for the Church Endowment Fund, to the latter of which several gentlemen in Halifax had given £500 as their individual subscription. Every farthing of the money raised by the Diocesan Church Society had gone to the country parishes, not a farthing of it had been retained for St. Paul's parish. There never had been a complaint

from one of the country parishes of undue influence.—They had always been content with the division, and which was always made with great consideration. The clergymen's salaries were made up by the Diocesan Church Society. When the house was told that the Bishop was the President of that Society, and that he occupied the chair at all the meetings, and concurred in every distribution of the money, he thought it would be said,—If the Society was acting unjustly towards the country parishes, where was the chairman? Why did he not tell the Society that there was undue pressure,—that they were not doing right in certain matters? Having received this money, the Bishop might have spared the feelings of the members of that society, and not have said that because they had more money than some of their poorer brethren in the country, that therefore they were using their influence unfairly.

In conclusion he would ask the house not to pass an act which would curtail his religious freedom,—which would, besides, create religious factions, which were the worst of all factions. Hitherto the members of the Church of England in Nova Scotia had worshipped together at the same altar, in unity and brotherly love. Would the house now throw the apple of discord among them? He had no fear of that. He knew the members of this house too well to believe that they would do any injustice to him or his fellow Churchmen, and to them he willingly left the decision of this question.

We have not room for the report of the Hon. Solicitor General's speech, and must defer its insertion till next week.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

TUESDAY, March 31st.

His Excellency came to the Council Chamber and gave his assent to the Revenue and other bills, as follows:

- 1. An Act to amend the Act to Incorporate the Acadia Fire Insurance Company?
2. An Act to add an Electoral District in the County of Inverness.
3. An Act to add an Electoral District in the Western Division of the County of Halifax.
4. An Act to increase the capital Stock of the Halifax Gas Light Company.
5. An Act to authorize a Loan for the erection of a County Jail in Halifax.
6. An Act to alter the Division Line between certain Polling Sections in the County of Pictou.
7. An Act to alter the time of Holding the Sessions for the District of St. Mary's in the County of Guysborough.
8. An Act respecting Ancient Lights in the City of Halifax.
9. An Act to amend Chapter 46 of the Revised Statutes, "Of County Assessments," so far as relates to the County of Pictou.
10. An Act respecting the Board of Health of the City of Halifax.
11. An Act to empower Notaries Public to perform certain Acts relative to the Execution of Deeds.
12. An Act to authorize a Loan for the erection of a Jail in the County of Colchester.
13. An Act to Incorporate Hiram Lodge of Freemasons, Yarmouth.
14. An Act to amend the Act to regulate Highway Labor within the limits of the Commissioners of the Streets of the Town of Pictou.
15. An Act to Incorporate the Barrington Cemetery Association.
16. An Act to provide for the building of certain bridges and the improvement of certain roads in the County of Victoria.
17. An Act to Incorporate the Windsor Marine Insurance Company.
18. An Act to regulate Customs Duties.
19. An Act to continue and amend the Act for imposing Light House Duties.
20. An Act to continue and amend the Act for imposing an Excise Duty on certain articles manufactured within this Province.
21. An Act to repeal the Act to authorise a Loan for the public service and to provide for the repayment thereof.
22. An Act to amend the Act relating to the God's Fields.

Mr. Tobin presented various petitions against the Franchise bill, and against the proposed division of the county of Halifax.

The names of Mr. Henry and Mr Churchill were added to the minority on the division of the previous evening.

Mr. S. Campbell presented a petition from St. Mary's, for a division of that county into two electoral districts.

The house then proceeded to the second reading of the Franchise bill.

Mr. Pryor presented several petitions against the bill.

Mr. Henry said no reason had been given for the proposed change, other than that it was necessary to raise the qualification of the electors. He was prepared to state that this bill would not raise the mental qualification of the electors. The hon. gentleman contended that taxation without representation was a false system. The young men who were taxed for the support of education, railway interest and other public services, were as much entitled to the franchise as the owners of property. Mr. H. pointed out the dangerous power which was vested in the hands of assessors, by this bill, and the facility with which a corrupt government could tamper with the assessment rolls, so as to suit their own party purposes.

Mr. Blanchard denied that the bill was designed for party purposes. It was not true that the Volunteers and Militia men were systematically disfranchised; they were in just the same position as any body else; if they had property, they would be assessed and have a right to vote; if they had none, they could not vote.

Mr. Harrington opposed the bill. He said that in one district, out of 110 votes, only 16 would be able to vote under the clause of the bill relating to future elections: and these were men who paid more to the revenue than any other class. He believed the machinery of the bill was too complicated and expensive, and too liable to corruption.

Mr. Cochran thought this important measure should be considered irrespective of any effect it might have upon one party or the other. It would only exclude the men of straw, who were here to-day and away to-morrow.

Mr. Hugh McDonald described the mode by which corrupt assessors would operate. He illustrated this by saying, if a man was worth £49 19s. what was to prevent the assessor, if it suited his political purposes, to put him down £50, and thus qualify him to vote; while at the same time he excluded his neighbor who might be worth £51, but who it was convenient to put down at £49. It was incumbent upon the government to shew the evils, if any, that existed under the present system—to prove that bribery and corruption had been practised to a sufficient extent to warrant them in bringing forward such a sweeping measure as this, which would disfranchise one-third of the electors of the Province. He considered the bill unconstitutional in principle, and totally uncalled for by the necessities of the country.

WEDNESDAY, April 1st.

The Sun says "this being the first of April we presume members felt themselves justified in fooling away the time."

The committee on Indian affairs submitted their report: read and adopted.

The Prov. Secretary laid on the table letters from the Chairman of the Railway, enclosing a letter from Mr. Johnston and one from Mr. Marshall, giving a statement in reference to the condition of the rolling stock, &c., of the railway.

Dr. Tupper spoke against the course pursued by the government, he considered the letters at variance with the facts, and the sending of such letters, with strictures on the conduct of members, was an infringement of their rights, he had merely asked for a committee of enquiry.—Johnston's letter was no answer to statements made.

Mr. Morrison said the trio, from whom he (Dr. T.) had received the letters containing charges against the railway, had prepared them on Sabbath night.

Dr. Tupper—The statement is inaccurate: the letters have been in my possession for weeks. The Prov. Secretary was surprised at the statement just made, and asked if the hon. member had the letters in his possession for weeks why did he hold them so long if he considered the lives of travellers endangered.

Dr. Tupper said when he made the statement he did it as that enquiry might be instituted. He would not have produced the letters had it not been insinuated that he had none. He considered the assertions made valueless,—what he wanted was impartial examination.

The Prov. Secretary said the railway pays its expenses and yields nine or ten thousand pounds besides.

Mr. Henry was afraid the examination before the railway committee would be like that before others; if the evidence was against the government it would be shut out. He had heard a merchant in the city complain that party politics prevented enquiry; this is what arises from having the chairman in the executive.

THURSDAY, April 2nd.

Mr. P. Smyth presented 5 petitions from Inverness, against the Franchise Bill. Dr. Tupper 8 petitions, Mr. Donkin 2, Mr. Longley 5, and Mr. Churchill 2, on the same subject.

The debate on the Franchise Bill was then taken up, and Messrs Longley, Wade, Wier, Grant, McFarlane, S. Campbell, Churchill, and Dr. Tupper, addressed the house.

The house adjourned until Saturday at 3 o'clock.

FRIDAY, April 3rd.

Mr. Colin Campbell and Mr. Longley presented petitions in favor of a Prohibitory Law.

Messrs Tobin, Donkin, Longley, presented petitions against the Franchise Bill.

Mr. Pryor introduced a Bill in reference to Militiamen, Volunteers and Firemen.

The house then proceeded to the order of the day—the Franchise Bill.

Messrs Shannon, McKinnon, Blanchard Bourinot, Gammell, Caldwell, Coffin, Killam, Hatfield, Tupper, Cowie, Pryor, Shaw and Chambers, addressed the house.

MONDAY, April 6th.

The Debate on the Franchise Bill was resumed and continued till 12 o'clock at night. The speakers were Messrs. McLellan, A. Campbell, Hon. Mr. Howe, Hon. Mr. Johnston, and Hon. Atty. General, and Dr. Tupper.

Dr. Tupper moved in amendment that the bill be read this day three months. On this being put to the House it was negatived as follows:—

For the motion to defer.—Shannon, Townsend, Killam, Cowie, Martell, Pryor, Harrington, H. McDonald, McFarlane, Longley, J. McDonald, Tobin, Donkin, Johnston, Tupper, McKinnon, Bourinot, Caldwell, P. Smyth, Robicheau, Henry, Wade, C. Campbell.—23.

Against.—Hatfield, L. Smith, Coffin, Gammell, Bailey, Ross, Mosely, A. Campbell, Heffernan, Chambers, Robertson, Blanchard, Wier, Prov. Secretary, Fin. Secretary, S. Campbell, Cochran, Attorney General, Locke, Morrison, McKenzie, McLellan, Shaw, Chipman, Grant, Morton.—26.

The following gentlemen were absent at the division, Messrs. Moore, Churchill, Brown, and Burgess.

The Bill was therefore sustained and it will now go into committee and then probably become law.

European and Foreign News.

THE MARRIAGE OF THE PRINCE OF WALES.

In our last we intimated that news had been received by telegraph of this auspicious event having come off in a most successful and satisfactory manner. We have now the full accounts of the celebration and rejoicings on the occasion.

With the arrival at Gravesend the account of the pageant properly begins. It was about eleven o'clock in the morning when the Victoria and Albert was seen coming up the river. Following and almost surrounding her came the volunteer escort of steamers and boats of all kinds, cheering and shouting, ringing bells, and waving handkerchiefs, as if they were demented. As the yacht approached the pier, the Princess presented herself to the spectators. Her colour was heightened as if by nervous excitement, but there was an expression of pleasing astonishment at her reception, which was unmistakable; and she did not, and perhaps could not, check the frank display of wondering pleasure with which she looked from side to side, bowing her acknowledgments. At five minutes to twelve the Prince of Wales appeared on the pier. He wore a plain morning dress, and acknowledged, with his usual courteous grace, the almost moving warmth of his reception. The Princess watched his coming from the window of her cabin, but as he neared the vessel, first came to the door, and then after a moment's hesitation, out upon the deck toward the Prince, who hurriedly advanced, and, removing his hat, gave her an earnest, hearty kiss, in the presence of the assembled thousands, who thereupon went into such ecstasies of delight, as made the shores of the river ring again. At a quarter past twelve, after only a brief retirement, the Princess reappeared on the deck of her vessel. She took the arm of the Prince, and, preceded by a most brilliant suite, and followed by the members of her family, she came ashore. Here she was presented with a bouquet by the Mayoress, Mrs. Sams, and received, a did also the Prince, an address from the Corporation. The whole town was beautifully adorned, and in the short ride from the pier to the station, the Royal party was enthusiastically welcomed.

At each of the stations between Gravesend and London, large crowds of people were assembled, but the largest assembly was of course, at the terminus, at Bricklayer's Arms station. The party assembled on the platform of this station included the Duke of Cambridge, Sir George Grey, the members for the borough, the sheriffs, and the Lord Mayor. At twenty minutes to two o'clock the royal train appeared. As it drove slowly up the middle of the platform a thrill of excitement ran along the entire throng, every one simultaneously standing up uncovered to see the Prince alight with his bride. This was the signal for a hearty burst of cheers, and the waving of hats and handkerchiefs, in the midst of which the Prince led the Princess, leaning on his arm, and radiant with smiles, into the main reception room, where another bouquet was presented, and another address.

At two o'clock the Prince and Princess entered a carriage to commence their "progress" through the streets of London. In the same carriage with their Royal Highnesses were the father and mother of the Princess; and in five other carriages were the rest of the illustrious party, including the Princess's sisters and brothers, and their suite. From Bricklayers' Arms to London-bridge was one continued ovation. Every available shop-front, window, balcony, and house-top, had been dismantled to add its own special contingent to the endless vista of human faces. Not a building, however mean and humble, could be discerned from which did not wave some flag, floral device, or other token of jubilation; the whole route, too, being almost literally over-arched with a canopy of banners, garlands, streamers, and every variation and periphrasis of the simple Anglo-Saxon dissyllable, "Welcome!" It was at London-bridge, however, that the greatest excitement began. It was here that the Royal procession was joined by the long line of civic dignitaries, and here, that the people were gathered together in a still denser throng. So dense were the crowds at this point, that the procession took nearly half an hour in crossing the bridge.

Almost an equal space of time was spent in threading the narrow streets which led to the Mansion House. There, however, a grand, almost terrible, spectacle was to be witnessed. In the open space there, where four great thoroughfares and many subsidiary ones all converge, an enormous crowd had collected. As early as ten o'clock people began to assemble there, and continued to augment in numbers as the day advanced, swelling at last into a multitude the like of which was perhaps never before seen in one place, which the eye could sweep at a glance. Turn in whatever direction it might—up the long vista of Cheapside, on the one hand, or towards Prince-street, the esplanade of the Royal Exchange and Cornhill, on the other—it rested on a compact mass of human beings, swayed by one common feeling. Besides the crowd in the streets, every window, roof, and balcony, commanding a view of that part of the route was thronged with spectators. On the sloping pediment of the Royal Exchange, among the towers of the Bank of England, about the square turret of the little church of St. Mildred, in the Poultry, people swarmed like bees. Others were seated among the hoofs of the Wellington equestrian statue in front of the Royal Exchange, and a few bestrode the horse itself, before and behind the figure of the