

After the retirement of the Commons to the House of Assembly the Hon. Mr. Ritchie presented a Bill pro forma relating to Highways.

Hon. Mr. Holmes moved, and Hon. Mr. Cutler seconded the Address in answer to the Speech of His Excellency.

A committee was appointed to make arrangements for reporting the debates.

On Friday the Council met at half-past two. The Address was read, and discussed, clause by clause.

Some remarks were made on the clause relating to the Confederation of the British Province.

Hon. Mr. Whitman had some doubts whether the clause did not to some extent commit the House.

Hon. Mr. Dickey thought the question one in which there was a balance of advantages and disadvantages, and it should be presented to the people of Nova Scotia, both pro and con, in all its aspects.

It was the more important that he (Mr. D.) should lay down this broad platform, because it was his misfortune on several important details of the Scheme to differ with the members of the Conference.

Hon. Mr. McCully was sorry to hear the statement in the speech from his Excellency relating to the condition of the Hospital for the Insane.

Hon. Mr. Ritchie said it was only necessary to walk through the building to see that an enlargement was indispensable.

The Address then passed, and the House adjourned.

The Council met for a short time on Saturday, agreed to wait on His Excellency with the Address at a quarter before one on Monday, and adjourned.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

THURSDAY, Feb. 9, 1865.

On the House resuming the Speaker read the opening Speech.

Hon. Provincial Secretary laid on the table the election writs from Annapolis and Pictou.

Mr. Ray and Hon. James McDonald were then presented and sworn in, in the presence of Hon. M. B. Almon, J. H. Anderson and A. Keith, the Commissioners appointed for that purpose.

Dr. Hamilton laid on the table, pro forma, a Bill for the better protection of the estate and rights of married women.

Mr. Kaulbach moved the Address in answer to the Speech of His Excellency. In doing so he referred to the large increase in the Revenue, and the remarkable increase in Exports and Imports.

This question has engaged the attention of the leading public men for more than half a century, but only in those Colonies, but in England; and the subject years ago, and on several occasions was brought to the consideration of the Legislature by our leading public men of all parties.

It will be gratifying to the country to hear that His Excellency appreciates the prompt manner in which nearly fifty thousand of our people turned out for inspection and drill.

Every member, no doubt, has been impressed with the conviction gained from the short operation of the School bill, that some modification is required to render it more available

and better adapted to the wants and wishes of the people.

He (Mr. K.) thought he could do nothing better in moving the Answer to the Address, than to give them a comparative statement of the increase of the Revenue during the last year. The Government have met all the demands upon the Treasury for the year just ended, and leave a balance in the Treasury to go for the benefit of the country of \$225,150.

Comparative Statement. Railway: Increase of passengers... 13,301. Increase in value... \$19,122. Exports... 526,828. Imports... 2,402,251. Excise, Customs, and Light Duty... 145,778. Increase for Crown Lands... 19,000. Gold 6,020 oz... 100,000.

Having read this address, the honorable gentlemen said Mr. Speaker, I feel assured that it will meet the support of every member in this House. I cannot see that it will, in the slightest manner, compromise my views or action on any question.

On the great question of the Union, it is the intention of the Government to leave the subject as open as possible, and to the free action of any member of Government and members generally.

FRIDAY, Feb. 10.

The Address was taken up clause by clause. On the Union clause being read,

Mr. Locke remarked that of course every member would be free to deal with the subject of Confederation on the papers connected therewith being submitted to the House.

Mr. Archibald said that the House here only promised to give their deliberate consideration to the various matters referred to. In looking over the Speech, he found that the only measure promised was one connected with Education.

Mr. Stewart Campbell said he wished it to be understood that he did not endorse the action of the Government in sending a delegation to Quebec. Authority had been granted from some quarter to the delegates to go beyond the commission entrusted to them by the Legislature.

The answer to the Address then passed nem. con.

The Prov Secretary stated that His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor would be ready to receive the answer on Monday at half past one. It was therefore, agreed that the whole House should present the answer at that hour.

On motion of the Hon. Prov. Sec., the following Committee was appointed to select Standing Committees of the House:—Hon. Provincial Secretary, Mr. Blanchard, Hon. Attorney General, Mr. Locke, Mr. Killam, Mr. Archibald, and Mr. Tobin.

The House adjourned to one o'clock on Monday.

MONDAY, Feb. 13.

The House met at 1 o'clock, and shortly afterwards proceeded to Government House to present the answer to the Address.

The house resumed at 2 o'clock.

The Hon. Prov. Secretary, from the Revising Committee, reported a list of Standing Committees, the list was laid upon the table until the next day, in order that members might have an opportunity of suggesting any alterations necessary.

Hon. Prov. Secretary, by command, laid on the table copies of correspondence relative to the appointment of His Excellency Sir Richard Graves MacDonnell as Lieut. Governor of Nova Scotia.

Also, copies of correspondence relating to the retirement of the late Hon. W. A. Black from the Legislative Council.

Also, copy of a despatch calling attention to the mode of appointment of Legislative Councilors.

Also, copy of a despatch transmitting warrants for the appointment of Hon. Messrs. Patterson and J. W. Ritchie, to the Legislative Council.

Then the house adjourned until 2 o'clock, yesterday.

For the Christian Messenger.

DONATION VISIT.

AT SALEM COTTAGE.

Dear Brother,— Allow me space in the C. M., that I may acknowledge a visit recently received from my beloved church and congregation.

On the evening of the 11th of January last, the evening being fine, the usual gathering took place. The house was filled to its utmost capacity, almost every family in the church and congregation being represented.

After preliminaries, brother D. R. Eaton was appointed Master of Ceremonies, and in behalf of the meeting, presented the Donation, accompanying it with an address, appropriate and pleasing in its conception, and happy in its utterance.

The Rev. Messrs. Honnigar, Murray and Freeman were present, and delivered addresses of much interest and worth. Bro. C. R. Bill, Esq. also addressed the meeting. All present evidently enjoyed themselves, and retired happy in having spent an evening where each vied with the other that all might be happy.

For this Donation, amounting to \$280, I beg on behalf of Mrs. Hunt and myself, to express our sincere and gratified acknowledgements. During a long residence, I have known only kindness from this beloved people. May they receive in a large measure the reward which God has promised to the cheerful giver.

A. S. HUNT.

For the Christian Messenger.

OBITUARY NOTICES.

MRS. SARAH DOWNE.

Wife of Mr. William Downe, of Stronach Mountain, Wilmot, was called home on Lord's day, Jan. 22nd, 1865, aged 70 years, leaving a devoted husband and two surviving children.

The family of which sister Downe was a member—five brothers and four sisters—have been remarkably favored of the Lord. All of them professed faith in Christ, and became members of Baptist Churches. Four have undoubtedly "died in the Lord"; and the five survivors are manifestly persevering in the way to Zion.

Sister Downe was baptized by the venerable T. H. Chipman, about 40 years ago. Grace enabled her to pursue the path of the just. During the latter part of her life, through physical infirmity, she could rarely attend public worship; but she delighted in the society of the pious, and evinced an interest in the cause of vital religion.

Thirteen days before sister Downe's decease, when the writer last visited her, reference was made to the respective ages of the three present. Mr. D was born in June, 1794, she in July, and the writer in August, all of the same year. Though not then speculatively ill, she expressed a consciousness that her dissolution was near, and a confident reliance on her Saviour.

At the time of her burial a discourse was delivered by the Pastor to a large number of relatives, connections, and friends, from Rev. xiv. 13. "And I heard a voice," &c.—Communicated by Rev. C. Tupper.

DEACON JACOB CORNWELL.

Who died on the 17th of April, 1864, was born in the State of Connecticut, April 25th, 1778. He was from his earliest youth, the subject of deep religious impressions. He came to this province with his parents when a boy. At the age of twenty seven he married Sarah Titus of precious memory. Shortly after this he made a public profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and united with the second Baptist Church of Digby Co.

The strict integrity and natural amiability of brother C., being sanctified by the grace and Spirit of God, admirably qualified him for usefulness in his cause. The Church, i. e. his brethren, believing that he possessed the qualifications narrated in 1st Timothy 3rd chapter, in an eminent degree, unanimously chose and set apart bro. Cornwell to the office of deacon of the second Baptist Church, of Digby Co., now first Baptist Church of Digby Neck. This took place on the 23rd of December, 1809. He performed the duties of his office for fifty-five years with great acceptability.

His abstemiousness, and cheerful disposition, allowed the lamp of youthful vigor to burn to the close of his life. He was truly a young looking old man. The ministers of the Lord were always welcome to his hospitable dwelling, as many of them now living, can testify. Bro. C. took great pleasure in reading the Christian Messenger, and other religious papers, and especially the Word of God. His constant study of the Scriptures, and dependence on the Holy Spirit for divine enlightenment, enabled him to arrive at just conclusions in reference to God's method of saving men from the wrath to come. His last days too, were characterized by an increase of faith in God and his precious promises. "He could read his title clear to mansions in the sky." His hold on eternal truth was so firm, and his views of the future happiness of saints

so clear, that christian visitors found it both instructive and comforting, to listen to his conversation especially would he speak of the doctrine of election, and the everlasting security and final perseverance of the saints with rapturous delight. Brother C's dying charge to the writer was as follows, "My dear brother, preach the doctrine of unconditional election to your congregations fearlessly, never mind what the enemies of truth say about you for doing so, for God will take care of both you and it."

Brother Cornwell has left sons and daughters, grand children and great grand children, a numerous circle, as well as a host of friends beside to mourn their loss. But their loss is his eternal gain. He has gone to his home in the sky. Peace to the ashes of dear old father Cornwell.

JOHN C. MORSE.

For the Christian Messenger.

The Sorrowful New Year.

Among the extraordinary number of Marine disasters that have occurred along these shores, this place has had a share.

Capt. James O'Harra, aged 52 years, and two sons James and Barne, respectfully 23 and 26 years; also Joseph Jamison, aged 20 years, left here on the 9th ult. for Sydney, C. B., on their last trip for the season, but it proved their last. On the twelfth they were wrecked at Saint Esprit, C. B., losing the vessel but saving their lives. On the 25th, they left Grand River, in a boat to come home, about 30 miles. They were seen well on their way some time in the day, but the next day the boat and trunks, &c. were picked up near where they were wrecked, revealing the sad fate of these men.

On New Year's Eve, when the time seemed long that they did not come, and the anxious eye of peered over the water, and the sound of the footstep on the doorway, began to be marked, the news of the wrecked boat reached this place; thus New Year can but renew the sadness of these families bereaved by this providence. Mr. O'Harra, had for many been a consistent member of the Baptist Church in this place; the young men had not made a profession of religion. Mr. Barne O'Harra had been married on P. E. Island, a few weeks previous, so that now with the aged maternal grandmother, there are three widows in the one house; the aged feeling the stroke the more from frailty, the mother from being the chief object of the affliction, and the young wife from the surprising sadness of the stroke.

As a ruler how severe is God:—"Be still and know that I am God;" as a Father how good:—"I will be the Father of the fatherless and the widow's God;" as a Saviour how tender:—"He shall wipe tears from all faces." Not to mourn the loss of friends would be to deny ourselves; to refuse to be comforted would be to deny God;—but let men prove themselves the children of their Father in Heaven.

The O'Harra family were not stragglers to affliction; previously a son had been drowned, a vessel wrecked, and a house burned; five children survive.

Within five years 15 persons from this place have been lost at sea.

J. M.

Cape Canso, Jan. 31st, 1865.

Religious Intelligence.

REVIVAL IN ANNAPOLIS COUNTY.—The following extract of a letter from one of our Local Agents will be read with pleasure:

"Just returned from Annapolis. The Revival is progressing wonderfully at Pine Grove, Cansan Road, and Melvern Square. At one meeting at Cansan ninety-five persons spoke. The Pine Grove Revival is compared to the Fulton Street Prayer Meeting. The Baptists and Methodists are mainly engaged in the meetings, and are remarkable for the absence of sectarianism, all appear as one. The great desire is to see souls converted; and this is being granted. The Holy Spirit is evidently in their midst. Fifteen arose to request special prayer at a meeting recently held at Melvern Square. The church in this place is becoming alive. Sinners are concerned for the salvation of their souls. It is thought the Revival will become general throughout the Annapolis Valley. Surely "It is time to seek the Lord."

The Good Shepherd is once more visiting his flock. May not this be in answer to the supplications of his church,—on the Day of Humiliation and Prayer. O may this spirit of Revival spread throughout our land.

Christian friends, do not forget the Bridge-water Church in your prayers. May the Holy Spirit, in answer thereto, once again visit this wilderness, that it may blossom as the rose.

W. J. G.

Bridgewater, Feb. 11th, 1865.

WOLFVILLE.—Meetings of great interest are being held daily by the church at Wolfville. On Lord's Day, the 5th, three persons were baptized.