

few citizens to bring back from the West Indies something better for provincial consumption than rum. We sometimes wish these gentlemen could follow those casks from their store houses to the country, where the kegs and bottles and glasses are filled for distribution. If their moral sense is not altogether destroyed certainly the brawls, sufferings, poverty and heart-rending scenes which that importation causes in our midst, would make them dread the account, that they will be called upon to give to God of their stewardship. Commiserate the men who roll in riches obtained at the price of not only money, but the happiness of so many people. And it does not end here, but "speaking after the manner of men," these merchants, with their assistants in the business, "depopulate heaven and people hell." May their eyes be opened.

Yours truly,
E. M. SAUNDERS.

Berwick, March 30th, 1866.

Religious Intelligence.

For the Christian Messenger.

Yarmouth.

DEAR BROTHER,—

You ask, What has become of Bro. Munro?—You say you have not had a line from him, &c. I know you will be glad to hear that he—together with his true yoke-fellow, Rev. H. Angell, are doing a great work in Yarmouth town. About the 10th of March, the church began to awake from its slumbers—backsliders began to return to the Saviour, and the best of it all is, that many have found him and embraced him as their Saviour. The result, so far, is, Mr. Munro has baptized 33 candidates, and we are hoping and praying that many more will follow. We have held meetings almost every evening since the revival commenced, apparently with increasing interest. No doubt you, and many others, will be very glad to hear that Mr. Angell preached yesterday for the first time in the last nine months, since he was taken ill—he has been slowly recovering health and strength, and we trust he will continue to recover.

Yours truly,
WILLIAM CHURCHILL.

Yarmouth, April 2nd, 1866.

Since the above came to hand, we have received a few lines from Rev. H. Angell. As they are so brief, and contain an additional item we insert them also. He says:—

"We are at present enjoying a gracious season of refreshing. It commenced in our social meetings, and gradually progressed until the interest demanded that meetings should be held every night. During the last three sabbaths, 31 persons have been baptized, mostly from among the young. May they stand fast in the Lord. The meetings are continued this week with unabated interest. There are also favorable indications at Hebron and Chegogon. Bro. Porter baptized 5 yesterday at Hebron. It has been for some time a season of spiritual darkness in the county, but a brighter day is dawning upon us. To God be all the glory."

A letter from Bro. W. R. Doty mentions the above and adds: "Not only in this place is God blessing his people, but also through this county; every evening we have greater evidences of God's goodness in converting souls and bringing men into his fold." "God is doing a great work here and it becomes us to praise his great and glorious name for it."

DIGBY, MARCH 30th 1866.—*D. ar Brother,*—The Lord has greatly revived his people at St. Mary's Bay. Two or three weeks ago, we commenced a series of meetings. Bro. C. Randall came and rendered us valuable assistance. Bro. A. Cogswell also, who was providentially passing, turned in with us, and spent a day or two, greatly stirring us by his energetic appeals. Jesus appeared in our midst and greatly refreshed us with His presence. The mourners in Zion rejoiced, wanderers returned, sinners bowed and owned the Saviour.

Last Sunday, the 24th, I enjoyed the privilege of burying with Christ in baptism, fourteen happy converts. There are others waiting to come forward, the first opportunity. To God be all the glory!

L. B. GATES.

HAINSVILLE, N. B.—Rev. James Tozer writes to the *Visitor*, dated March 25th, and refers to the church recently organized there:

Our religious meetings have been largely and much blessed of the Lord. A religious influence is going out from this place, attracting and drawing together large and respectable congregations every Lord's day. The little church consists of seventeen members now, and an increase of about ten more is expected on our

next visit. Some are already received for baptism. This is becoming an important field of labour, and must not be neglected.

The editor very properly remarks, "If we could have strong churches, we must nurse weak ones," and hopes some aid will be rendered by the N. B. Mission Board.

FREDERICTON, N. B.—Rev. Dr. Spurden, in a note, dated March 31st, writes to the *Visitor* as follows:

You will be glad to learn that we are progressing favourably, both in the Seminary and in the Church. Meetings have been held every evening in the week, except Saturday, for the last five weeks, some of them of a highly interesting character. Only eight have, at present, been baptized, one more will be added to-morrow; but we trust that the good work will continue, until a great multitude become obedient to the faith.

I realize in these circumstances how much I stand in need of the prayers of the righteous, that I may diligently improve the favourable opportunity.

Provincial Parliament.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY,

MONDAY, April 2nd.

Several bills to amend chapters of the Revised Statutes respecting streets, assessment, sewers, &c., &c., were brought before the house and obtained a reading.

Several petitions, asking for the separation of the sale of liquors from that of groceries, were presented.

Hon. Atty. Gen. moved that the House go into Committee on the Estimates.

Mr. Annand, asked that the consideration of this subject be deferred. After some discussion it was decided to defer it.

Hon. Atty. Gen. presented a petition from Antigonish, asking for assessment for education.

The house in committee, took up the school bill. The afternoon was occupied in discussing the first clause, which fixes the amount of provincial money to be given to each teacher.

Mr. Bin object to the clause, and to taxation for the support of schools. He thought that while the Superintendent's report had made known the fact that more children are now at school than ever before, yet there was a dark side of the picture which that report had not given. It did not tell of the litigation, that the legislation of the past two years had produced.

Hon. Prov. Sec. thought the present bill calculated to remove many of the difficulties experienced in carrying out the present law.

Mr. S. Campbell's main objection to the bill was the principle of taxation. He thought the office of inspector and superintendent should be abolished.

Hon. Prov. Sec. reminded Mr. C. that the office of superintendent had originated with the party to which Mr. C. belonged, and that party had also advocated in petitions. After some remarks from Messrs. Killam, Collin Campbell, and Dr. Brown, the clause passed.

Committee then adjourned, and the House resumed.

Hon. Mr. Shannon, chairman of city bills committee, reported in favor of the bill to amend the act concerning the city of Halifax.

Then the House adjourned.

TUESDAY, April 3rd.

Several bills were read and referred to committees.

Hon. Fin. Sec. laid on the table the report of the Adjutant General of militia, relative to militia uniform.

Confederation.—Mr. Miller arose to ask the Government a question in regard to Confederation. He said that he was and always had been an advocate of Colonial Union, and an avowed opponent of the Quebec scheme. All his speeches in and out of Parliament would prove this. He would not say his desire for Union had not increased during the last twelve months. He was not insensible to the logic of events. The United States had come out of a great war with great military strength. That war bred causes for quarrel between Great Britain and the United States. Those causes might bring war at no distant day. They had already resulted in a species of commercial war. The Reciprocity Treaty was abrogated to punish us for our sympathy with the South, and to make annexation desirable. Every man in the United States who writes against British North American Union, is applauded by the American people. The enemies of Britain speak against Colonial Union. The threatened Fenian invasion ought to awakened us to the importance of Union.

One of the most prominent planks in the Fenian platform is opposition to the union of these Colonies. Another leading principle held by them, is the dismemberment of the British Empire, and they consider these Provinces Britain's vulnerable point. They boast of having any amount of money. All these events are calculated to show the desirableness of union. But, further, the Imperial Government has taken strong ground in favor of union.—Some are disposed to talk flippantly of interference of Colonial Secretaries. He would not be slow to resist any unwarrantable interference. But we owe much to Great Britain. She gave us free institutions when we but asked for them. The fortifications in our harbor, the fleet that is expected to visit us soon, evidence her lavish expenditure on our behalf. Nova Scotia, of all her colonies, should be loyal to Great Britain. We had lately asked her to help us to protect

our fisheries.—Ought we not, who seek her aid, heed her strongly expressed desires? There were two classes of officers of British policy—those who opposed any Union, and those who would force the Quebec Scheme upon us. He wished to know if the Government would abandon the Quebec Scheme and enable the friends of Union to take some common ground in the matter. He would go for a convention to settle the question of Union, such convention to be taken either on this or on the other side of the water. He preferred the latter, and believed that if the whole matter were referred to the Home Government, ample justice would be done us, and a satisfactory arrangement effected. Some would say that Great Britain was in favor of the Quebec Scheme. He denied that it was so.

Hon. Prov. Sec. said he was not at all surprised that those who were opposed to the Quebec Scheme were seeking some solution of the Union question. The last year had been pregnant with events, which point to the necessity of Union. He was not now in a position to give the views of the Government on this question.

Mr. Annand was astonished to hear Mr. Miller propose to refer this question to the Imperial Government. What! take away our Constitution without consulting the people of this country or even their representatives, and give it to the Home Government to settle the terms of Union with Canada. He was utterly astonished to hear such a proposition. Who did not know that Canadian influence would fix the character of a scheme so brought about. The almost universal feeling of this Country was against Union of any kind.

Mr. MacDonnell said that he was against the Quebec Scheme, but in favor of Union upon equitable terms. Union of some sort we must have. Recent events have shown the necessity of Union.

Mr. S. Campbell referred to the large number of petitions which had been presented during the present Session, condemning the Quebec Scheme, and asking that no Scheme of Union be passed without first being submitted to the people. He would be sorry to go contrary to the clearly expressed desires of the people.

Mr. Tobin thought it not the proper time to enter into a discussion of the subject.

Mr. Ross, presented three petitions against Confederation, one of which was signed by all the Magistrates of the County of Victoria.

Mr. Annand, two petitions from Inverness, against Confederation.

Hon. Mr. Shannon, a petition from the Grand Division of the Sons of Temperance, relative to the establishment of an Asylum for Inebriates.

Mr. Blackwood, a petition from David Fraser and others of Tatamagouche relative to the sale of groceries and liquors.

The House in committee, took up the second clause of the school bill, which provides for a county assessment, equal to thirty cents on every inhabitant.

Mr. S. Campbell moved that ten cents per inhabitant be the sum to be assessed on each county, which motion was lost. He then moved that it be fifteen cents, but to no purpose.

Mr. Colin Campbell moved that the supplementary amount of school funds be raised by sectional assessment. This was also lost.

Mr. Bill moved that the raising of the county tax be made upon the recommendation of the grand jury and sessions. This amendment too was lost.

The House resumed and adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, April 4th.

Mr. Colin Campbell and Mr. Hebb presented petitions against Confederation.

Mr. Charles Campbell moved the second reading of the bill to repeal the act uniting the two Presbyterian Churches.

Mr. Archibald wished for delay, which was agreed to.

The House in committee, took up the school bill.

Mr. Bill moved an amendment to the third clause to the effect that the property of widows and unmarried females be exempt from taxation to the extent of \$1,000, which was carried. He also moved that a like exemption be granted to persons over 60 years of age. This motion was lost.

The remainder of the bill passed with slight amendments.

The committee also passed the bill relating to the registration of births, marriages and deaths, and several others.

Mr. Pryor, as chairman of committee of private bills, reported up a number of bills.

The House adjourned.

THURSDAY, April 5th.

Several bills were read a third time and passed.

Confederation.—Mr. Annand said that as the position he held on this question had been referred to by Mr. MacDonnell on a previous day, he thought it right for him to define what that position was. He was against a Union of the maritime provinces with Canada. That province has always been separated from us by race, by pursuit, and by great distance. All the supposed benefits of Union, can be obtained without Union. Why can we not get free trade without Union. The questions of currency and postage, could be settled by a delegation in a week. Is a Union a prerequisite to obtaining the Intercolonial Railway? By no means. Were Canada disposed to deal fairly, that matter could be easily arranged. Whatever might be the advantages of that railway in time of war, he had never attached much importance to it as an instrument of trade while Fort and harbor was open. We were a maritime people and could well do without that railway. But it

is necessary to the very existence of Canada. Why had a Union with Canada been proposed and this Country agitated as it has been? We were a contented and happy people. The reason was this. The two Canadas had come to a dead lock in the conduct of their affairs, and they sought Confederation to solve their own difficulties. The question of defence was an important one. The arguments of the Unionists a year ago on this point may have had some force, but what had we lately seen? Every man in British America aroused to repel any attack which might be made on any point. It does not require a political Union to arm and defend these provinces. Now, assuming that Union is considered desirable, if not by ourselves, yet by the mother country, still I ask the question who are the best judges of the Constitution under which they live. He would pay great deference to the British Government. We owe them much. But he believed that Union was only another name for independence. Canadian politicians talked of a "new nationality." He trusted that years would pass before we became independent. Still, assuming Union desirable, and he firmly believed it was not, he held that an International Railway should precede Union. Suppose a difficulty to arise in Canada, in mid-winter, which would necessitate the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act, what could be done. Parliament could not assemble. Maritime members could not get to Canada, the Central Government might suspend the Act, but it would be a great stretch of Power. And free trade ought to precede Union. Assuming then, that we must have Union, what is the best method of accomplishing it. The Quebec Scheme has been condemned by P. E. Island, Newfoundland, New Brunswick, and nine-tenths of the people of Nova Scotia. That scheme must therefore be abandoned. There are three modes of approaching the question. Asamble together the leading minds of all the Provinces in a new convention, on this side of the water. That is one mode. But any scheme agreed to by such a convention, must be adopted by the expressed consent of the people. Another mode would be, to send the Quebec delegate to the Colonial Office to settle the question. That mode would not answer well. But it were adopted and terms of Union were agreed upon, still those terms would have to be submitted to the people. But the mode he would propose was this: Let delegates from the four Maritime Provinces first meet and settle among themselves, if they could, upon what terms they would unite with Canada. Let them go with Canada to the Colonial Office, and the presence of the British people and British Statesmen, discuss the terms of Union. (Such an occasion the Maritime Provinces were likely to get their share of Confederation. But, supposing terms of Union settled by such a convention, those terms must still be put before the people for their adoption, and in that case they would be likely to adopt them. Whatever we do, we must try to strengthen relations with the British Government. Representation in the Imperial Parliament is the only method of effecting this object. Any scheme of Union which does not embrace such representation, would be defective. He was sorry that he had to leave England last year with the impression that British Statesmen and British people wished to get rid of these Colonies. Whatever Union we may get, let it be by means one of hearts and wills. Let it not be forced upon the country. The present legislature had not been elected to abolish the constitution of their country. Any discussion of the subject should be conducted with calmness and a feeling.

Hon. Prov. Sec. said he would himself in order by a motion. If there is a man in this House, who has forfeited the confidence of the House, that man was Mr. Annand. He says he is opposed to any Union with Cda, and has to bear the first argument in favour of such a Union. The Journals of the House show that the Government of which Mr. A. has been a member had intimated the possibility of assembling these provinces together to agree on a Union, that under Mr. A's own signal was the declaration that "So many and great," were the advantages of a Union with Canada that Union should be early consummated. [Mr. A. here denied the correctness of the statements.] Mr. A. professes respect for British Government. He has not shown respect to that Government. His opinions are worthless. He is like the ever shifting weathcock, and has a policy for every day in the week. Mr. A. referred to the question of defence, and says Union would not help us to defend ourselves. Had he forgotten that the Government with which he was lately associated had declared that B. N. A. Union was the foundation of our security, was even used to the safety of the Citadel of Halifax. Has he hold one opinion to day, another to-morrow. Mr. A. is the acknowledged Editor of the Chronicle. Had he not in that paper, on the platform, and in the House, proposed passing of laws to enable the Commandant of the Province to have the control of every man in N. America, in time of war. He had also that paper advocated the scheme of prov for our defence by a tax levied upon us by British Government. The whole purport of the despatch of 24th of June last was assistance from Britain depended upon our getting a scheme of Union with Canada. He says the Intercolonial Railway should precede any Union. For twenty years we have been trying to get that road, and how has succeeded. The Quebec Scheme would do us at once. Our only security in would be an Intercolonial Railway. The fact of being able at a moment's notice to mobilize the militia of a population of four millions of people, at a threatened point would be a most useful deterrent effort upon any. We had lately