

For the Amendment—Townsend, Hebb, Balcom, Ross, Moore, Killam, McLellan, Robertson, Blackwood, King, S. Campbell, Ray, Locke, Brown, Annand, Coffin—16.

Against—Heffernan, Shannon, John Campbell, Charles Campbell, James Fraser, Bill, Bourinot, Whitman, D. Fraser, Churchill, Allison, Pryor, Parker, Kaulback, Hill, Tobin, Hamilton, Jost, Donkin, Longley, Collin Campbell, McKinnon, McFarlane, Financial Secretary, Provincial Secretary, Cowie, Robicheau, Archibald, Blanchard, P. Smyth, Caldwell, McKay—32.

The following members were absent—
Absent—Hon. Attorney General, Messrs LaVesconte, Miller, McDonnell, Lawrance, Hatfield.

WEDNESDAY, March 20th, 1867.

The House met at 3.

Petitions.—A discussion arose respecting the presentation of petitions and reporting them. On the suggestion of Mr. Colin Campbell it was decided that they should be handed to the Financial Secretary who would, from time to time, publish lists of them with the names of members by whom they were presented.

At ½ past 3 the members voting the Address, waited on His Excellency for the purpose of presenting the same.

After returning, the Speaker announced that His Excellency was pleased to thank the House for the address.

Mr. Tobin presented a Bill entitled an act to increase the capital stock of the Halifax Gas Light Company.

Mr. Shannon presented a Bill to incorporate the Wellington Mining Company, and another to incorporate the Palmerston Mining Company.

The Accounts and Trade Returns.—The Financial Secretary presented the Public Accounts of the Province for the past year, and gave various explanations respecting them, shewing the amount of Revenue and Expenditure and Trade Returns. The latter comprises a thick volume of 484 pages, and gives in detail all matters respecting Imports and Exports, at the various Shipping Ports of the Province. The Financial Secretary also announced that it was not proposed to make any change in the Tariff for the present year. The revenues of 1866 exceeded those of the previous year by \$185,815.00.

Windsor and Annapolis Railway.—Hon. Pro. Secretary laid upon the table copies of papers relating to the Windsor and Annapolis Railway, and explained the nature and conditions of the contract made with a company in Great Britain to build the line. The company, of which Mr. Brassey is a member, is to have the choice of two proposed lines of route between Windsor and Annapolis. A copy of the contract, and certain papers connected therewith, were read, and these documents afforded to the House the most ample assurance of the completion of that great work at a period not later than the close of the year 1868. The hon. gentleman candidly admitted to the House that immense difficulties had been experienced by the Government in effecting the contract. After the failure of the former contractors, in consequence of financial pressure in the English money market, to proceed with the work, it was found extremely difficult to induce other persons to assume the undertaking. The Provincial Secretary stated that it was only when the capitalists of Great Britain had procured the most satisfactory and conclusive evidence that Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick would be confederated, that they regarded them as sufficiently safe to invest their means in the speculation.

THURSDAY, March 21st.

The House met at 3.

The Standing Committees were appointed as follows:—

Privileges.—Atty. General, Archibald, McDonnell, S. Campbell, McFarlane, Locke, Pryor.

Education.—Provincial Secretary, Archibald, Shannon, S. Campbell, Brown, Bourinot, Tobin.

Agriculture.—McFarlane, Blanchard, McKinnon, Parker, Hebb, Hamilton, Allison.

Fisheries.—McDonnell, Ross, Cowie, Robertson, Jost, Balcom, Robichau, Killam, Smith.

Post Office.—Bourinot, Atty. General, Coffin, Donkin, Heffernan, Blanchard, Hamilton, Miller, Colin Campbell.

Public Accounts.—Jost, Brown, John Campbell, McLellan, McDonnell.

Law Amendments.—Archibald, Shannon, McDonnell, S. Campbell, Kaulback, Miller, Donkin.

Militia.—Pryor, Parker, Jost, Heffernan, Atty. General, Colin Campbell, Blanchard, Bourinot, Hebb, King, S. Campbell.

Indian Affairs.—McKinnon, Ross, Lawrance, Heffernan, Townsend, Colin Campbell, James Fraser.

Private and Local Bills.—Pryor, McLellan, Whitman, Caldwell, Blackwood, Donkin.

Mines and Minerals.—McFarlane, S. Campbell, Caldwell, Locke, Kaulback, Annand, Fraser.

Railways.—Tobin, Locke, Donkin, Ray, Blanchard, D. Fraser, Bill, McKay, McLellan.

Navigation Securities.—Robichau, Coffin, C. J. Campbell, McLellan, Kaulback, Heffernan, Moore.

Crown Lands.—Whitman, Blanchard, McKay, Locke, Moore, Miller, C. J. Campbell.

Trade and Manufactures.—Annand, Churchill, Hill, Coffin, Cowie, Ray, Bill, Killam, Shannon, Tobin, Locke.

Land Damages.—Coffin, Moore, Balcom, Caldwell, King, Allison.

Reporting and Printing.—Attorney General, Brown, Longley, C. J. Campbell, Robertson, Tobin, Caldwell, Bay.

Humane Institutions.—Blanchard, Hamilton, Coffin, Allison, Annand, Caldwell, Killam, Townsend, James Fraser.

Penitentiary.—Hill, Balcom, Cowie, Parker, Churchill, Robertson, McKay, Allison.

City of Halifax Bills.—Shannon, Blanchard, Donkin, Balcom, Hill, Miller, S. Campbell.

Contingencies.—Financial Secretary, Hatfield, John Campbell.

Hon. Prov. Sec'y. submitted certain papers relative to complaints made against the management of the Asylum of the Insane, and moved that the documents be referred to the Committee on Humane Institutions. He stated that the Government desired a most thorough investigation into all the circumstances of the case, and he was confident the subject would be impartially treated by the committee in question. He remarked that it was but just to the friends of patients in the institution, as well as to the Superintendent, that a full enquiry should take place. In course of his observations, the Provincial Secretary intimated that it was the intention of the Government to make some changes in the mode of managing the Asylum. The motion passed.

Ways and Means.—On motion of the Financial Secretary, the House went into committee of the whole, Mr. Caldwell in the chair. Upon it being moved that the present tariff remain unchanged, Mr. Stewart Campbell suggested that the duty be taken off American flour, and made a motion to that effect.

The Financial Secretary explained the trade relations existing between the United States and this country, which rendered it judicious and advisable to levy a tax on American flour. He argued that the tax was no burden on Nova Scotia, as flour could be obtained from Canada free, and at less price than it could be got from the United States.

Mr. Coffin said that the trade of the fishermen was chiefly with the United States, and it was a hard case that when taking flour in exchange for fish, they should be compelled to pay a duty of 25 cents per barrel.

Mr. Tobin said that he last year opposed the imposition of a tax on flour, but in view of the action of Congress, and the condition of trade between Canada and this Province, he would consent to allow the tax to remain undisturbed. He also explained the trade relations existing between the United States and this country, and regarded them as very unfair towards us.

Mr. McLellan thought the revenue from this source was not required, and the tax ought to be abolished.

Mr. Killam observed that the 25 cents per bbl., tax, had, during the past year, amounted to \$28,000, and he thought the people ought to be relieved from this burden.

The Provincial Secretary predicted that were this tax retained, before the expiration of twelve months delegates from the United States and British America would be sitting around a table arranging a new Reciprocity compact. It would be madness to remove it. This was the principal lever with which the friends of Reciprocity were acting upon the American Government.

The question was then taken on Mr. Stewart Campbell's motion to abolish the tax, whereupon the same was lost by a great majority. The Financial Secretary then moved the original resolution that the scale of duties remain the same as last year, to which Mr. Stewart Campbell moved in amendment that the revenue bill be recommitted for the purpose of placing flour in the table of exemptions.

The House then divided, whereupon there appeared:

For the amendment:—Killam, Townsend, Balcom, Hebb, Blackwood, Robertson, McLellan, Churchill, Locke, S. Campbell, Ross, Ray, Annand, Robichau, Brown, Coffin, Caldwell, 17.

Against:—Hill, Shannon, D. Fraser, Archibald, John Campbell, Allison, Pryor, Chas. Campbell, McKay, More, Parker, Hamilton, Bill, Longley, Tobin, Donkin, Jost, J. Fraser, McKinnon, Kaulback, Prov. Secretary, Fin. Secretary, Cowie, Blanchard, Smyth, Colin Campbell, Bourinot, 27.

The Provincial Secretary laid upon the table the annual report of the chief commissioner of Mines, the annual report of the Chief Commissioner of Railways, and a report on Indian affairs, Public Health, Steamships, &c.

FRIDAY, March 22nd.

The House in committee of the whole, passed the bills regulating Customs, Excise, and Light House Duties.

Bills were introduced by Messrs Bill and Bourinot, and by Mr. Shannon—a bill to authorize the appointment of a Specially Magistrate in the city of Halifax.

Hon. Prov. Secretary laid upon the table a copy of the report of the Delegates authorized to proceed to England for the purpose of arranging a scheme for the union of the British North American Colonies, the document, which is very voluminous, was read by the clerk.

SATURDAY, March 23rd.

The House met at 3 p. m.

Mr. Bill presented a petition relative to the Halifax markets. Mr. Townsend introduced a bill to incorporate the Exchange Bank of Yarmouth. Mr. Locke expressed a hope that the road from Shelburne to Annapolis would be made as soon as possible.

Mr. Longley presented a petition from Annapolis, also one in relation to drawbacks on Canadian flour.

Hon. Prov. Secretary laid upon the table papers relating to the fisheries, and vindicated the action of the government in agreeing to grant Licenses to American Fishermen. He shewed that the government of this Province were in no wise responsible for the system which was now in operation, as they had remonstrated against it as an unsound and unwise policy, and resisted it as long as they could. The British

Government were under the impression that were this privilege conceded for one year, it would lead to reciprocal commercial relations between the United States and the British American Provinces. He informed the House that it was the intention of the Colonial Government to continue the license system another year, but to double the amount of tonnage license now exacted, and stated he had no doubt that if the Americans did not consent to establish reciprocal commercial relations in course of 12 months, the Government of British America would decide to exclude United States fishermen from Provincial waters.

Mr. Locke said he thought that the Government should have made stronger remonstrances. Mr. Campbell believed that Canadian influences were at the bottom of this arrangement.

Mr. Tobin said it was folly for Nova Scotia to hold out after Canada had consented to make the concession. He believed that the manner in which the Gulf fisheries were being conducted by the Americans, had well nigh destroyed the shore fisheries of the Province. The policy which had been adopted was an unwise one and he trusted the Government would take a firm and dignified stand on the subject and issue no more licenses until the Americans manifested a disposition to reciprocate.

Mr. Blanchard thought it might be prudent to use the fishery right question as a lever to operate on the opponents to the Reciprocity Treaty in the United States.

The Provincial Secretary thought that the fisheries should be thoroughly protected until the Americans conceded a commercial equivalent. He intimated that after the consummation of Confederation, steps would be taken to more fully guard our fishing rights.

Mr. Coffin, and others fully exonerated the government from all blame in the matter.

Hon. Provincial Secretary introduced a bill to amend the law relating to the duration of Parliament, and representation therein. He explained that the terms of Confederation rendered such a course necessary. The bill proposes to limit the representation of all the Counties in the Province, in the Local Parliament, to two members each, excepting Halifax and Pictou which are to elect three each.

Mr. Campbell presumed that the introduction of this bill might be regarded as a declaration of the final passage of the Confederation measure, and said he would lend all the assistance in his power to perfect arrangements and regulations respecting the constitution and operation of the local Parliament.

Mr. Locke suggested that it would be well to abolish the Legislative Council.

Mr. Killam was opposed to reducing the number of members in the local Parliament. The bill was read a first time.

The Hon. Provincial Secretary then introduced a bill relative to the local Government, entitled An Act relating to certain Public Officers and their salaries. It provides that the office of Financial Secretary shall be abolished, and the duties of this department discharged by the Provincial Secretary, whose salary shall be £600 per annum. The Solicitor Generalship is also to be abolished, and the duties of that official transferred to Attorney General, who shall receive a salary of £400 per year. It also proposes to abolish the office of Deputy Provincial Secretary. And as the control of the Light Houses, Penitentiary, &c., would be assumed by the General Government, it would not be necessary to retain the Board of Works, and it is proposed to abolish it, and appoint an officer to be called the Commissioner of Public Works and Mines, who shall have a seat in the Legislature. The Receiver Generalship to be dispensed with and a Treasurer appointed who shall be a member of the Legislature. The bill was received and read a second time.

MONDAY, March 24th.

Mr. Ross introduced a bill to legalize the assessment rolls of the county of Victoria.

Mr. Miller presented a petition from Richmond, praying that the county be divided into two districts, for municipal purposes.

Hon. Provincial Secretary introduced a bill to amend chapter 2 of the Revised Statutes, the object of which was to prevent persons having seats in the local Legislatures from holding seats in the General Parliament or Senate of Canada. The Provincial Secretary then moved the second reading of the bill in reference to the organization of the local Legislature.

Mr. Stewart Campbell trusted that the motion would not be pressed at present.

The Provincial Secretary consented to allow the consideration of this bill, as well as the one relating to local Government, to lie over until Friday.

The House went into committee on bills.

Religious Intelligence.

HANTSFOOT.—Dear Brother.—My health is somewhat better, I go to some of the meetings, but cannot speak over ten minutes at a time.—The blessed Saviour is carrying on his work of salvation in every section of both my churches. In Falmouth every member is at his or her post and eight have been baptized. More are expected to be baptized next Lord's Day. In this church also a most blessed revival is in progress. Many backsliders have renewed their purpose to walk on in the path of Christian duty. Our meetings are held morning and evening, they are kept in usually two hours and a half; the whole time being occupied in prayer, singing and speaking, one at a time. There is no noisy out-

cry—but the deep emotions of the soul expressed by the subdued sob of broken hearts, the tearful eye, and the earnest speaking and fervent prayers. Four have been baptized here and several more profess to have hope in Christ as their Saviour, and will likely be baptized next Lord's Day. The Lord be praised, Br. Dimock, Bancroft and others [Bro. Burton probably has omitted something here, possibly it may be that these brethren have preached for him and he expresses praise to God for their labors.—Ed. C. M.]—Bro. E. O. Reid baptized for me here, and Bro. Hall at Falmouth. My dear brethren prayed for their sick and suffering pastor, and so were led to pray for themselves and children and the Blessed Lord has heard their prayer. I am partially restored, their souls are revived, and their children saved.

I am happy and calm and resigned to my heavenly Father's will. It is a glorious time for a pastor to die when God is so graciously blessing my very dear Churches. Many a time I have felt like stepping into Elijah's fiery chariot and passing to the redeemed Church in heaven.

Ever yours in Christian love,
W. BURTON.

March 20, 1867.

LOWER GRANVILLE.—Dear Brother,—Death is rapidly multiplying its victims amongst us. I visited last evening a family in great mourning. Mrs. Whitman Armstrong was in the agonies of death. Her husband, seven children and her brother and sister gathered around her dying bed, all filled with the deepest grief. The sorrow of the dear children in the prospect of losing a beloved mother was almost unendurable. May these bereaved ones be graciously sustained and comforted!

You will see by the accompanying notice that others of our friends have recently been called from earth.

But while death is amongst us, producing sadness and sorrow, the reviving power of the Holy Spirit has been realized and some hearts have been made glad. I have been holding special meetings in several of my preaching stations during the last five weeks and these have been accompanied with God's blessing. Yesterday I had the pleasure of baptizing four courageous and happy converts at that part of my Field known as the "Island." Two others were recently baptised, one at Waterville and the other at Karsdale. At the latter place I am requested to baptise again next Lord's day.

I have arranged to hold special services this week at Stoney Beach, (where the Western Association was held last year) but prospects are at present quite discouraging. The weather is cold and stormy, and what is worse, many hearts are cold and the state of religion is mournfully low.

On the 23rd of last month the Baptist Church of Lower Granville, granted to Brother George W. Sederquest a License to preach the glorious Gospel, believing that the Great Head of the Church had called him to that work. He performs Missionary excursions in destitute parts of Digby County, and his labors have already done much good.

I am looking anxiously in the *Christian Messenger* for accounts of revivals in our Churches, and feel grateful that some are enjoying the heavenly rain. I fear, however, that our reports at our next Associational gatherings will not be so encouraging as last year. May we as Pastors and Churches present in earnest united and believing supplication the prayer of Habakkuk "Oh Lord revive thy work." And then hasten forward with judicious and untiring efforts to save souls!

Your truly,

ISA. WALLACE.
Lower Granville, }
March 18th, 1867. }

MISSION IN LUNenburg COUNTY.—Greenfield, March 21st, 1867.—Dear Brother,—According to an appointment of the Board of Domestic Mission of the Western Association I spent twelve weeks in the County of Lunenburg, principally in the district of Chelsea. The Church at Chelsea appeared to be in a sad decline having no pastoral care over them nor ministerial aid for nearly two years past, so being weak and hungry, they received the Word of the Lord gladly, and soon began to revive. When the church awoke, the dead in sin showed symptoms of life and were soon by the spirit of the gospel made alive to glorify Jesus, "He shall glorify me," saith the Redeemer. I had the pleasure of baptizing thirty persons on a profession of faith in Jesus, eight were restored to the fellowship of the Church, making an addition of thirty-eight to the Chelsea Church. From a sense of duty I left this field December 24th, 1866, and returned home to my family. But the Macedonian cry, from this