

The HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY was in secret session on Tuesday and Wednesday—the two days following the publication of the above. Various rumours and conjectures have been afloat as to what was the subject before the House, and the several morning and evening papers have given their own interpretation of what they severally heard of the proceedings.

The Recorder asserted that on Tuesday "The subject under discussion was the interference by the Lieutenant Governor with the "freedom of speech" in Parliament in calling the Attorney General to account for the unofficial summary report of his speech on Repeal which appeared in the newspapers. The conduct of His Excellency was denounced in the strongest language. The rumours of the debate are not conflicting.

Some members doubted whether the first note of the Governor was not the result of a conspiracy and whether he was not liable to be called to the bar of the house."

The Express of Wednesday evening said: "Rumour says that the more violent of the members carried a resolution tantamount to a vote of censure on the Governor for interfering with the freedom of debate. They contended that if disloyal sentiments were used it was the duty of the duty of the Speaker to call to order."

The further rumor is that the members of the Government and some others did not take this extreme view of the matter, a division took place, and the moderates were overruled. A still further rumor is that General Doyle has very plainly intimated to his Government that unless the resolution be expunged he will exercise his prerogative, and dissolve the House."

The Citizen of Thursday evening stated: "For the last two or three days, the city has been full of rumours about cabinet difficulties and political complications growing out of the correspondence between the Lieutenant Governor and the Attorney General, which were published on Tuesday. It was said that the House of Assembly was about to take a step in consequence of the publication of that correspondence that might have precipitated a crisis. A glance at the correspondence in question will show that the Lieutenant Governor made no allusion to the conduct of Mr. Wilkins as a member of Parliament. He only asked for an explanation of certain expressions said to have been used by the Attorney General of the Province, one of His Excellency's sworn advisers; and it can hardly be supposed that the 'privilege' of Parliament as regards freedom of debate, however extensive and absolute, can prevent the Lieutenant Governor from asking a question as to the loyalty of the men with whom he has to sit in Council. We feel assured, therefore, that if any such step as that indicated in the Recorder of Wednesday evening was ever contemplated, it must have been under a misapprehension of facts which only needed to be explained to remove the difficulty. As the House sat with closed doors on Tuesday and Wednesday, nothing can be known positively of what was done; but we are authorized to assert that no state affair such as that indicated by our contemporary exists, and that there is no want of harmony between His Excellency and the House or the Cabinet.

The following is from the Morning Chronicle of Thursday morning: Our attention has been directed to a highly sensational article in the "Recorder" of last evening, which affects to accurately report a discussion in the Legislative Assembly on Tuesday last, when the House was in secret session, whilst the reporters and all but the members and officers of that body were excluded by the rules of the House. The writer in the "Recorder" has evidently drawn upon his imagination for his facts, with which we should not perhaps find fault, only that the tendency of the entire article is to create the impression in the country that the Lieutenant Governor and Executive Council are in a state of excited and settled antagonism toward each other. We have been confidently assured that the reverse is the fact, and that from the first formation of the government to the present hour the most cordial feelings have existed between His Excellency and his confidential advisers. The Lieutenant Governor may or may not approve the policy pursued on all occasions by his Council, but we are not aware that in a single instance he has exceeded his authority as a constitutional ruler. That a suspicion of the sort was created in the Assembly—naturally and properly sensitive in respect to its privilege of free speech—by the correspondence between His Excellency and the Hon. Attorney General, is, not doubt, correct; but it was entirely owing to misapprehension, and passed away as soon as the facts were made known. It is true, we believe, that the House, in the absence of facts and information necessary to a proper appreciation of the merits of the case, did, on Tuesday, pass a resolution protesting against an imagined invasion of its privileges, but we are happy to hear that the explanations offered by members of Government were such that the House was completely satisfied on the following day. For ourselves we believe that His Excellency is not the man to exceed his authority as a constitutional Governor; if he does we are sure that the Representatives of the people will not hesitate a moment to vindicate their privileges and assert their rights.

The Unionist of Friday morning gives the following on the subject: It is currently reported that a serious antagonism exists between His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor and his constitutional advisers, growing out of the correspondence which passed between His Excellency and Attorney General Wilkins, respecting some alleged disloyal sentiments uttered by the latter in closing the debate on the repeal resolutions a few days ago. We have it upon what we deem pretty good authority that the House was not unanimous on the resolution censuring His Excellency, several members expressing themselves opposed to the adoption of any unprecedented, or extreme measure. Judging from the drift of matters at present the probabilities are that there will be a "burst up" in the Anti-Confederate ranks, before long, and that the more moderate section, under the leadership of Mr. Howe, and Mr. E. M. McDonald, will leave the extremists to carry repeal as best they can.

The Recorder of Friday said: "Since our last issue the House of Assembly sat again with closed doors, and it having transpired that some communication containing explanation had been sent to the Government by His Excellency, which had through some misunderstanding not been presented, the resolution of the previous day was expunged. There is no doubt, we believe, that harmony now exists between His Excellency and his advisers. There are well-founded rumours to day in the street, of a communication from a General in the United States, to an official in this Province offering fifteen or twenty thousand troops to Nova Scotia, if necessary, to ensure our secession from the Dominion."

larger amount.—The item of expenditure estimated this year for the Provincial Exhibition will not be required next year, and the agricultural grant may also be reduced,—we have also been obliged to include \$30,000 for the construction of the Poors' Asylum and Hospital, under an Act passed in 1867. Up to this time we have paid for that building \$19,000, and I fear that a larger sum than we have provided will be requisite. It might be well to appoint a Committee however, to see whether any reductions can be made. Our assets stand as follows:

Balance in hands of Treasurer \$39,700.53  
Education (being advances repaid)..... 22,357.77  
Immigration, (am't paid by mistake)..... 1,000.00  
Arrears..... 119,599.28  
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183,135.58

The Revenue we estimate as follows:—  
Department of Mines..... \$90,000.00  
Hospital for Insane..... 20,000.00  
Crown Lands..... 22,000.00  
Balance of Subsidy..... 235,953.18  
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367,953.18

Total..... \$551,088.76  
It will be in the recollection of the House that when Confederation was going into effect, it was said that the Crown Land Department would yield a revenue of \$20,000. Last year we received from Crown Lands \$45,000, but after the experience of eight months we find we can only calculate on receiving \$22,000, while the expenses of the Department, including Salaries, will be \$28,000 or \$6,000 above the receipts. It was supposed by some that we would be in a position to increase the grants for roads and bridges, but after cutting down all the services to the lowest point and only allowing \$100,000 for the roads and bridges, we find that we shall be \$13,000 in debt and this deficit may be increased by further expenditure for the Hospital. In the Estimate for next year which I have prepared, we make the following allowances:

Agriculture..... \$3,000.00  
Salaries..... 21,900.00  
Criminal Prosecutions..... 3,000.00  
Coroners Inquests..... 2,500.00  
Crown Land Department..... 20,000.00  
Deaf and Dumb Institution..... 2,000.00  
Immigration..... 800.00  
Education..... 165,000.00  
Legislative Expenses..... 30,000.00  
Miscellaneous and Adv's..... 15,000.00  
Navigation Securities..... 8,000.00  
Public Printing..... 20,000.00  
Poor Asylum..... 500.00  
Road Compensation..... 8,860.00  
Steamboats, Packets, and Ferries..... 15,000.00  
Department of Mines..... 5,000.00  
" Local Works..... 3,400.00  
Transient Poor..... 40,000.00  
Interest on Public Debt..... 32,040.00  
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\$456,000.00

Roads and Bridges..... \$240,000.00  
Less Balance..... 32,040.00  
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\$207,960.00

Mr. Northup presented a Petition from Ministers and office bearers of Protestant Churches in Halifax against Separate Schools. The petition was referred to the Committee on Education.

FRIDAY, Sept. 11th.  
The House opened at 3 past 2. A number of bills were passed through Committee.

A Bill introduced by Mr. Desbrisay to prevent malpractices by the officer appointed to sell alcoholic liquors for medicinal and mechanical purposes. The object of the bill is to repeal 37th clause of the Act respecting the sale of intoxicating liquors, and substitute for it one providing that the Agent appointed for the above purpose shall be a member in good standing of some Temperance organization in the township. A warm debate arose, Messrs. Kirk, Chambers, Freeman, and the Hon. Provincial Secretary supported the measure, and the Hon. Speaker and Mr. Northup opposed. On division the Bill was carried 13 to 10. Mr. Northup gave notice that he would move on its third reading; that is operation be restricted to Lunenburg County.

Mr. Kidston moved that on Tuesday the House should go into Committee of the whole on the general state of the province for the purpose of discussing Educational affairs.

SATURDAY, Sept. 12.  
The House sat for about two hours in Committee on Bills. One of these proposed to increase the payment of jurors from 50 cents to one dollar. At the request of the Attorney General it was laid on the table for the purpose of more mature consideration.

MONDAY, Sept. 14.  
The House spent the forenoon in Committee on bills.

In the afternoon the formal presentation of the vote of thanks to the Delegates took place. The Chronicle says:—"Hon. William Annand, Hon. J. C. Troop, and H. W. Smith, Esq., late delegates to England, being present, were requested by the Speaker to take seats inside the bar. Hon. Joseph Howe was not present. The Speaker then addressed the hon. gentlemen, conveying the vote of thanks passed on Thursday last."

The Express says in reference to the occasion:—"The whole proceeding was a most uninteresting one; a few members of the Legislative Council were present, and about thirty or forty persons in the galleries."

The Hon. Mr. Howe was in the City—and indeed was observed walking with a friend up and down the sidewalk, opposite the Provincial building, at the time the Resolutions of the House containing the vote of thanks was being presented to his Co-Delegates."

The House afterwards went into Committee of Supply.

Mr. Pineo made statements in reference to the financial condition of the province, that instead

of a deficit there would be a surplus of \$100,000 at the end of the year.  
Hon. Provincial Secretary replied, and the Chronicle says "gave Master Pineo 'a lecture' (to use the words of the honorable the opposition) that he will not soon forget."

Mr. Dickie laid on the table a notice that he intended to move for the appropriation of \$50,000 for secret service. He considered some such vote necessary in the present state of the country, and he had every confidence that if the Government had occasion to use it, the amount would be expended carefully and with a due regard to the public interest.  
The House then adjourned.

LATEST FROM EUROPE.  
By Atlantic Telegraph.

ENGLAND.—London, Sept. 11.—The "Times" has another long article on the treaty recently concluded between the United States and China. The writer reviews the course of British policy in China which he characterizes as one of peace, subject to frequent aggressions. The disregard of treaties, fraud, ill-faith and evasion, until leniency is interpreted at Pekin as fear. The article ends with the assertion that only the rulers of China cling to exclusion. The people want free intercourse and its duty of England to sustain this wish of the people against the rulers.

Sept. 12.—Queen Victoria has arrived at Windsor.  
It is reported that Spain has offered 30,000 troops to garrison Rome in the event of a European war.

The "Gazette de France" publishes a despatch from the Prussian Under-Secretary of Foreign Affairs announcing that King William has issued an order for the reduction of the Prussian army by 12,000 men. The despatch states that the King, by this act, wishes to give a new pledge of moderation and to show his confidence in the prospect of peace, and adds that he thinks nothing menaces.

FRANCE.—Paris, Sept. 10.—The Emperor reviewed the troops at the Champ de Chalons today. The whole army, including cavalry, artillery, infantry, engineer corps, pontoon and baggage trains were drawn upon the plain. After going through a series of evolutions all the Corps marched by the Emperor in review, each regiment as it passed cheering with great enthusiasm for the Emperor, Empress, and Prince Imperial. An immense multitude of spectators covered the neighboring hills.

The Queen of England, who is now in this city, is the guest of the British Ambassador, Lord Lyons. No ceremony is observed by Her Majesty or her attendants, but the privacy of the party is strictly maintained.

ITALY.—Florence, Sept. 10.—It is reported that General Garibaldi has left Caprera for Naples to attend the Congress of Democrats to be held in that city.

It is reported that Italy has requested France to withdraw her troops from Europe.

The United States.  
FATAL ACCIDENT.—Steamer "Hippocompus" capsized on Lake Michigan on Tuesday night the 8th inst. in a severe gale, and of sixty people on board only fourteen were saved. She was bound from St. Joseph's, Michigan, for Chicago.

Prince Edward Island.  
The Charlottetown papers report that on Tuesday, 1st inst., a large fleet of about three hundred American fishing vessels ran into Malpeque. It was a fine sight to see them, with all sail set, in a light breeze making the port. On Wednesday a stiff "Norther" kept them in, but on Thursday, they went out like a flock of birds; and on that and the following days of last week took more or less Mackerel, although the catch was not large.

PROGRESS.—The Patriot a few weeks ago said: "We observe this year, for the first time, many of the country-women coming to market with garden vegetables, &c., also bring in bouquets of flowers. We should like to see this practice become more general. Flowers are beautiful ornaments on our market tables, and their cultivation and arrangement indicate good taste."

South America.  
NEW YORK, Sept. 14.—Advices from South America state that there has been terrible earthquakes on the southern coast. They occurred 16th August. The cities of Arica, Arequipa, Equiqua, Cuolo, and Chincha have been utterly destroyed. From 25 to 30 thousand lives were lost. The loss of property between Tacha and Arica is estimated at 14 million dollars. The water rose to such a height that a tidal wave of 40 feet high rolled with resistless fury upon the ships in the harbor, and precipitated them on the main land. The U. S. storeship Fredonia was capsized and all on board were lost. The Fredonia had on board \$1,800,000 worth of naval stores. The vessel rolled over and was smashed to atoms by the advancing tidal waves.

The U. S. steamer Waterer was carried half-a-mile inland, and left high and dry. Only one sailor of her crew being drowned. It will be impossible to ever get her afloat again. The Peruvian corvette America was also carried ashore in the same position. Her loss was 3 officers and 30 sailors and marines. The American merchantman Rosa Rivera, the English ship Chancellor, and the French bark Eduardo were all lost. The surviving inhabitants of the cities destroyed are in a terribly destitute condition.

Provincial Parliament.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

TUESDAY, Sept. 8th, 1868.

The House met at 3 o'clock, and remained in session with closed doors until half-past five o'clock, when they adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, Sept. 9th.

The House met at 3 o'clock, and remained in session with closed doors until five o'clock.

A message was received from the Legislative Council, stating that they had agreed to a number of bills; among which was one to incorporate the French Mission of the Baptist Association of Nova Scotia.

The House in Committee on bills, took up the bill to incorporate the New Glasgow and Cape Breton Coal Company, and continued in its discussion till the time of adjournment.

THURSDAY, Sept. 10th.

In the morning session the House, shortly after opening, in Committee on Bills, passed several. After which the bill to compel the Windsor and Annapolis Railway to pay Dyke Rates was discussed at some length and eventually passed.

In the afternoon after a call of the House, the Attorney General moved a vote of thanks to Lord Stratheden and Mr. John Bright for their advocacy of the resolution concerning Nova Scotia in the British Houses of Parliament; which were carried unanimously.

A vote of thanks was also moved and carried unanimously to the late Delegates, "for the untiring zeal and ability with which they pressed the claims of their native province upon the Government, Parliament, and people of Great Britain."

It was subsequently agreed that the said vote be formally tendered to the delegates on Monday.

The Estimates were then presented to the House by the Hon. Prov. Secretary.

EXPENDITURE.

Civil List or Salaries.....	\$21,800.00
Crown Land Department.....	20,000.00
Criminal Prosecutions.....	3,000.00
Coroners Inquests.....	2,000.00
Education.....	165,000.00
Immigration.....	800.00
Legislative Expenses.....	34,000.00
Miscellaneous.....	16,520.00
Deaf and Dumb Institution.....	2,000.00
Agriculture.....	6,000.00
Dept of Works.....	50,000.00
" Mines.....	15,000.00
Navigation Securities.....	10,000.00
Poors' Asylum.....	20,000.00
Public Printing.....	8,000.00
Poors' Asylum (new) on account of construction.....	30,000.00
Relief.....	3,000.00
Road Compensation.....	500.00
Roads and Bridges.....	100,000.00
Transient Poor.....	3,400.00
Steamboats, Packets, Ferries, &c.....	8,860.00
Provincial Exhibition.....	3,000.00
New Provincial Building.....	41,000.00
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ASSETS.

Bal. on hand 1st January, 1868.....	
By Statement of Treasurer.....	\$39,700.53
Education.....	22,357.77
Immigration.....	1,000.00
Arrears.....	119,599.28
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Dept of Mines.....	90,000.00
Hospital for Insane.....	20,000.00
Crown Lands.....	22,000.00
Bal. Subsidy to 31st Dec., 1868.....	235,953.18
Balance.....	12,791.24
-----	\$563,880.00

The Hon. Prov. Sec., said: It will be seen that the large sum of \$165,000 has to be provided this year for Education. I have prepared for information of the members an estimate for 1869, and it will be seen from this that it will be necessary before next session to ascertain whether the Educational grant cannot be reduced. That service will in future take too much money, and while it is important that every child should receive a free education I am sure that we can hereafter only make provision for a common school, and I hold that this is all we have any right to take money from the treasury for. By lopping off the grants heretofore made to the colleges and superior schools we will effect a reduction. The education grant is the last that I should like to see reduced, but we must begin with those of a