

No business was done in the House of Commons after the opening of Parliament, on Tuesday.

On Wednesday, Mr. A. G. Archibald was introduced by the Hon. Messrs. Howe and Tupper.

Sir John A. McDonald introduced bills respecting Elections and the creation of a Supreme Court of Appeal.

On Thursday, Mr. Savary from Digby, N. S. moved the address in reply to the Governor General's speech. His R. H. Prince Arthur was present. The allusions made to the loyal feeling existing and attachment to Britain were enthusiastically cheered.

On Friday during the debate on the Address, Mr. Galt spoke strongly in opposition to the government in their recent appointments, especially that of Sir Francis Hincks, Minister of Finance. Several other members spoke in a similar strain and indicated their opposition to the government.

Sir Francis Hincks, replied shewing that the objections made were principally against the men, and not against the policy of the government.

Hon. Mr. Howe spoke on the statements made respecting himself and the Red River affairs, and characterized them as base slanders.

Hon. Mr. McKenzie in a speech of two hours attacked the policy of this government.

Hon. Dr. Tupper made a speech of some length in defence of the government, shewing that the public interest demanded a firm commercial policy in relation to the United States, contending that by such means alone reciprocal trade might shortly be secured.

We learn from a special telegram to the Colonist that on Monday, the Hon. Mr. Howe spoke at length denying the charges brought against him in the Toronto Globe, in reference to his visit to the Red River territory.

Hon. Mr. McDougall replied, severely criticizing Mr. Howe's action in the North-west.

LOCAL LEGISLATURE.

OPENING OF THE SESSION.

The Local Legislature was opened on Thursday last, Feb. 17th by His Honor Sir Hastings Doyle, who was attended by the usual staff and many other official personages and private gentlemen. A number of ladies were also present in the Council Chamber.

The House of Assembly was summoned, and His Honor read the following

SPEECH.

Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

I am happy in being enabled to call upon you to resume your Legislative duties at a season of the year which, to most of you, will I feel assured, be far less inconvenient than the period at which, on the last two occasions, circumstances compelled me to summon you for the despatch of business.

It is my pleasing duty to inform you that the reception given to His Royal Highness Prince Arthur, on his arrival in this Province in August last, afforded gratification not only to His Royal Highness but also to the Queen, as a proof of the loyal feelings which animate Her Majesty's subjects in this ancient Colony.

As facilities for transport and inter-communication are essential to the prosperity of any country it affords me much satisfaction that I am able to congratulate you on the successful completion of the Windsor and Annapolis Railway; a work which, undertaken by a private company, and liberally subsidized by the Legislature, must tend to the rapid development of the internal resources of one important section of the country.

The extension of the railroad in the west to Digby and Yarmouth, and to Cape Breton in the east, is very desirable, and I trust such measures may be adopted as will induce the Dominion Legislature to secure the construction of these important works.

In consequence of the accumulation of arrears of business before the higher Law Courts throughout the country, it has become necessary that such an alteration should be made in the existing Statutes as will remedy this very serious inconvenience: and I have to inform you that a measure to afford the necessary relief will be submitted for your consideration and approval.

The correspondence between the Dominion authorities and my Government, in relation to the Resolutions adopted by the House of Assembly at its last session, respecting the fisheries, trade, taxation, finance and constitutional changes, will be laid before you.

The subject of attracting a larger number of Emigrants to this Province has engaged my earnest attention.

Correspondence in respect to this important topic, together with a Report, prepared by the Immigration Agent, with a view of circulating reliable information on the advantages offered by Nova Scotia, as a home for the artisans, and useful but unemployed classes of Europe, will be also laid before you.

I have to call your attention to the crowded state of the Hospital for the Insane, which will make it necessary to complete the present Building, as soon as the financial condition of the Province will warrant the expenditure.

While I have to regret a diminution in the receipts from our Gold and Coal Fields, it affords me pleasure to inform you that the revenue from the sale of Crown Lands is in excess of the estimated amount.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

The accounts of expenditure for the financial year ending 31st December last, and the estimates for the current year, which have been prepared with a due regard for economy, will be laid before you at an early date.

Mr. President and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

We have to thank Divine Providence that the harvest of the past year, which was above the

average in quantity and quality, was secured in excellent condition; and that the hardy class of our people engaged in the inshore and deep-sea fisheries have met with an abundant return for their labours.

Many are the other blessings for which the thanks of the inhabitants of this Province are due to Almighty God—a healthy and bracing climate, extensive seaboard, noble harbors, great mineral wealth, inexhaustible fisheries, and a large extent of fertile soil,—advantages which, with open markets for our natural productions, would make Nova Scotia one of the most prosperous countries in the world; and I rely upon your patriotism to develop and utilize, as far as lies in your power, the great and manifold resources with which a kind Providence has blessed this portion of Her Majesty's Dominions.

After the members of the Assembly and the Lieutenant Governor and suite had withdrawn, a bill pro forma was presented by the Hon. Mr. Whitman.

Hon. Mr. Chipman moved, the address, in reply to the opening speech, which was seconded by the Hon. Mr. Brown. Its consideration was deferred till Friday. A committee on Reporting and Publishing the Debates in the Council was appointed, consisting of the Hon. Messrs. Brown, Stairs, and Parker.

On Friday, the Address was read, clause by clause, and passed. The Council then, in a body, proceeded to Government House for the purpose of presenting it. The Council then adjourned to Monday, at 2 o'clock.

On Monday, Hon. Dr. Parker presented a petition from Mr. F. W. George, late Inspector of Schools in Cumberland County. This subject occupied the whole of the sitting. The whole of the correspondence in relation to this and the dismissal of Mr. Rand, was asked for.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

On the members returning from the Council Chamber, the opening speech was read by the Speaker.

Mr. Desbrisay moved a bill pro forma. Mr. Dickey moved the Address which was seconded by Mr. Townsend.

Mr. Purdy asked that all the Correspondence respecting the Inspector of Schools, and between the Government and Mr. Rand respecting his dismissal should be laid on the table.

The House then adjourned.

Friday, Feb. 18, 1870.

The Address was taken up and read. Mr. Pince said he did not intend to offer any opposition to the address. House as willing to join in thankfulness to the Higher Power, but did not feel called upon to thank the pretens government.

The address which was merely an echo of the Speech, then passed the House. A committee for the nomination of Standing Committees was then appointed.

Mr. Purdy renewed his request of the previous day for correspondence relating to Education.

Hon. Attorney General explained that the letter respecting the Schools at Arichat was handed to him by the Bishop of Nova Scotia, although not addressed to him. He (the Attorney General) handed it to Mr. Rand with certain restrictions which he said had not been observed.

Mr. Purdy said the remarks of the Attorney General were premature. He thought that a member of government should not have acted upon said letter without the consent of his constituents.

Hon. Prov. Secretary said it had been stated that a good deal of agitation existed on the late dismissal, but he thought it was confined within about a mile of the Province Building. He alluded to the absence of the education question from the Opening Speech as proof that the government had no intention of introducing a measure having the effect of sweeping away the Free Schools.

Dr. Murray expressed the opinion that as to education the large majority of the people are of one heart and mind and will not permit any retrogression or any tampering with the present School System.

The House then adjourned to Monday at 3 o'clock.

Monday, Feb. 21, 1870.

Mr. Ryerson asked for all papers and correspondence relating to the dismissal of F. W. George, Esq., and T. H. Rand, Esq.

The Committee reported the list of Standing Committee. Hon. Mr. Troop wished to have a standing committee on the Fisheries. Several members spoke on the subject, some for and others against it. The motion passed by a small majority.

Hon. Mr. Troop introduced a bill to incorporate the Moselle Wharf Company, at Annapolis.

Mr. Pince brought in a bill respecting Marsh Land in Cumberland County.

Religious Intelligence.

St. JOHN, N. B.—The work of revival here is still advancing. On Lord's Day the 13th, there were baptisms in each of the churches as follows:

At Leinster Street, 12, by Rev. W. S. McKenzie. At Germain Street, 11, by Rev. G. M. W. Carey. At Brussels Street, 8, by Rev. T. Harley. At Portland 4, by Rev. E. C. Cady, and at Carleton, 3, by Rev. I. E. Bill.

Elder Knapp has been sent for to return to Boston to hold a series of meetings at the Tremont Temple, but had he not last week any present purpose of leaving the work at St. John

Berwick.—Rev. E. O. Read writes on the 21st: "On the first sabbath of the present year we had an interesting baptism at Berwick. We are now holding some extra services, prospects are brightening, some have found peace in believing, and others are saying 'What must I do to be saved?'"

AUSTRALIA.—The Victoria correspondent of the English Independent writes:—The Bill for the Abolition of State Aid to Religion progresses, though some members of the Government are opposed to it. The treatment of the money part of the question is simple, but the land grants bid fair to make trouble. Shall the churches have the fee simple of the land given them, and so be left at liberty to do what they please with it, or shall they be bound down to devote it solely and simply to the purposes for which they profess to hold it?

Dominion and Foreign News.

New Brunswick.

Some excitement has been caused by the dismissal of Mr. Botsford the clerk of the Legislative Council and the appointment of Mr. Bliss. Mr. Botsford nevertheless appeared in the clerks place, ignoring the Governor's act. The Council has taken up the question warmly against the Lieutenant Governor, insisting that they have the right to appoint their own officers.

Mr. Botsford is charged with avowing Annexation principles and with being indebted to the Crown on a bond for the sum of £780. It is an awkward complication.

SACKVILLE.—On the 15th, a gash-box was stolen from the bed-room of Mrs. Arthur King, at her Hotel. The box was afterwards found near the railway. Four men have been arrested on suspicion.

CHARLOTTE COUNTY.—On Tuesday the 8th inst., two men named respectively Doherty and Irvine quarreled respecting a boundary line, when the former shot the latter in the jaw. The injury was not a fatal one.

LATEST FROM EUROPE.

By Atlantic Telegraph.

ENGLAND.—In the House of Lords on Monday the 14th inst, Earl of Carnarvon moved for Colonial correspondence with Canada and the Colonies relative to recall of troops. He favours Confederation of which Albion would be the centre, commended Canada for consistent conservatism, and deprecated the theory that Colonies should be allied, but should be independent communities.

Lord Monck explained his reasons for asking for more troops. When he was Governor-General of the Canadas, the Battle of Sadowa had been fought, war in Europe ended, and the Government could spare men. The Fenians, supposed to be armed with breech-loaders, had just made a raid into Canada, the Colonies were in a panic and clamoured for protection. Under these circumstances he was led to call for reinforcements from England.

Earl Derby congratulated Earl Granville that the colonies were not to be left utterly defenceless, and that their relations with the home government were harmonious.

Lord Lynden asked serious consideration to be given to the policy of colonial independence.

On Wednesday last the Times in reviewing Monday's debate in Parliament, rejoiced that the government had adopted the idea of withdrawing the troops from Canada. The Times admits that Canada is the only English colony liable to be invaded in case of war, yet peace is so well assured that it is foolish to provide now for its rupture.

In the House of Commons on Friday the Under Colonial Secretary of State stated that the Hudson Bay Company's demand had been transferred to Canada, but no money had been paid. The transfer had been brought about through the concurrence of England, Canada, and the Hudson's Bay Company. The Red River difficulties would be speedily settled, but how soon it would be premature to say.

The "Spectator" in an editorial on Saturday thinks England might let Canada be independent. The country is as reluctant to surrender her empire as the United States was to surrender the Southern Confederacy.

The weather in England and throughout Europe during the past week was unusually cold.

The Nova Scotia Ship Riva has been lost off the coast of Lincolnshire. She was bound to Boston with a cargo of coal. Eight lives were lost.

The bark Undine from New York, caught fire and was destroyed on Wednesday last.

An important measure for promoting education among the English and Welsh lower classes, was brought into the House of Commons on Thursday night.

The Irish Members of Parliament will support Gladstone's Land Reform Bill. The Examiner says the strongest point against it is, that it will foster litigation.

The released Fenians are to have a grand public demonstration at Dublin.

The Irish Members of the House of Commons at a private meeting agreed to support the Irish Land Bill. There will be no opposition to the second reading of the bill.

In the House of Lords on Friday last Lord Cairns demanded the return as to the condition of the Agricultural laborers, and tenures of land in Ireland.

LONDON, Feb. 20.—The Carlist committee are vigorously at work. Embassies from Spain and other countries are arriving every day.

A divorce suit now on trial in England is filling the country with scandalous reports, with which the name of the Prince of Wales is intimately connected.

FRANCE.—A Paris despatch says the Government have proof of a plot to assassinate the Emperor and Prince Imperial.

The Emperor of France has revoked the decree by which he assumed authority to send to penitentiaries and Colonies political agitators.

The recent visit of the Duke Montpensier to Madrid causes much talk in European Capitals, and is regarded as an indication of a desire on the part of those now in power to confer the throne upon him.

Father Hyacinthe has remained silent since his return to Paris.

RUSSIA.—Several members of the Russian Cabinet have been detected in a conspiracy; and they have resigned.

ITALY, Feb. 20.—Despatches from Rome state that the Carnival opened with the customary ceremonies. The number of strangers who took part in the festivities is small, and the scenes on the streets are not so lively as usual. Placards against papal infallibility were found on walls last week, and torn down by the police as soon as discovered.

Marriages.

By the Rev. R. R. Philip, at New Harbor, Jan 11th, Mr. Michael Gille, to Miss Elizabeth Hull.

By the same, at the Baptist Meeting House, Manchester, Jan. 19th, Mr. Thomas Cavanaugh, to Miss Harriet Hartly.

At Brooklyn Street Church, Feb. 10, 1870, by the Rev. A. Stronach, Mr. Stephen Eaton, to Miss Annie Rand, both of Corwallis.

On the 19th inst., by the Rev. P. G. McGregor, George McKenzie, of Shubenacadie, to Sarah Jane, second daughter of Philip Horne, of Elmistate.

Deaths.

At Springfield, on the 5th inst., Esther, the beloved wife of Mr. Geo. Swallow, and daughter of Mr. Wm. Charlton, aged 44 years.

On the 14th inst., after a long and painful illness, James Cordwell, aged 49 years.

On 10th inst., Susanna, relict of the late Rev. James Knowlan, Wesleyan Minister, in the 85th year of her age.

On the 15th inst., Mrs. Mary Tatt, wife of the late Gunner Henry Tatt Royal Artillery, aged 24 years.

On Wednesday, 16th inst., Catherine Parcell aged 67 years.

At Ohio, 24th ult., Sarah A., wife of Hiram Crosby and second daughter of Samuel N. and Nancy Cann, in the 25th year of her age.

At Port Latour, on the 25th ult, Mr. Charles Doty, aged 44 years. His end was peace.

At Great Village, Nov 2nd 1869, of Consumption, David Archibald Peppard, aged 30 years, leaving a large circle of relations and friends to lament their loss.

When the progress of disease gave indications of approaching dissolution he became fully awakened to a solemn sense of his condition as a lost sinner. In conversation with a friend he said "With this world I have done forever—I die now in the Grace of God in my heart." A short time before his departure, he found peace and joy in believing, and died in hope of a glorious resurrection.

On Sunday, 20th, Emma Akernan, of Wiltshire, Eng and, in the 65th year of her age.

On Sunday, 20th inst., Francis, relict of late William Dalling, in the 87th year of her age.

Shipping List.

PORT OF HALIFAX.

Arrived.

Tuesday, Feb. 15.—Britt Ocean Star, Carroll, New York—to Geo W Halls; scur Ocean Star, Lemau, Boston.

Wednesday, 16.—R M S Delta, Sham, Bermuda, and St Thomas—to S Cunard & Co.

Thursday, 17.—Barque Josephine, Forbes, Baltimore.

Friday, 18.—S S Chase, Mulligan, Portland—to G P Black; scur General Williams, Lanton, Boston—to Corbett & Richardson.

Saturday, 19.—Stur Monticello—New York bound to Newfoundland; scur Vivid, Dixon, Boston, Lawson Harrington & Co.

Sunday, 20.—Britt Louise, Gammon, Cienfuegos (18 days), R Book Jr.

Monday, 21.—Steamer Carlotta, Colby, Portland—to Geo P Black; brigts Lizze, O'Bryan, Cienfuegos—to D Cronan; Halifax, Power, Cienfuegos—to R I Hart; scur Mary Fraser, Costa, St Pierre, Miq—to J S Belcher.

Cleared.

Tuesday, Feb. 15.—S S Carlotta, Colby, Portland, barque Gella, Turner, F W Indies; scur John Gilpin, Kony, Sheet Harbor.

Wednesday, 16.—Britt America, Duddy, Boston.

Thursday, 17.—Scur Grand Master, Cochran, New York.

Friday, 18.—Britt Kenneth, Stephens, Porto Rico.

Saturday, 19.—Steamer Chase, Mulligan Portland; britt Topaz, Hubbard, Havana.

Monday, 21.—Britt Mayflower, Nauffis, Boston; scurs Sentinel, Duane, Porto Rico; General Williams, Lawton, Mahone Bay; Vivid, Dixon, Liverpool, N. S.

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