

statement appended to the report, had been compiled with a great deal of care, showing the rates charged for the government printing as compared with fair trade rates.

The evidence taken by the committee would speak for itself, and the best proof that could be given of the impartiality of the committee was found in the fact that the report had been signed by every member. He invited particular attention to the evidence taken by the committee; from which it would be found that at least one-half of the large sum now expended for public printing could be saved. He had no hesitation in saying that if the public printing were put up to tender, and no favoritism was shown, an annual saving equivalent to the interest on \$170,000 could be effected.

Mr. Longley moved the adoption of the report.

Hon. Prov. Sec. suggested that it be laid on the table. He thought other facts should be obtained as to the cost of public printing in other years than those in the report.

Mr. Holmes said he did not think that it ought to be contended that if extravagance existed before 1867, it should be condoned. The facts were quite plain, distinct, and easily comprehended. There was no necessity of detaining the house and country by laying the report on the table.

Mr. Gayton thought that before going into a discussion of the matter some opportunity of investigating the evidence and the report was necessary. As one of the committee, he had not expected that the report, with all the information connected with it, would be passed at the present sitting of the house.

Mr. Holmes said that the exhibit made by the report of the committee showed a state of affairs that should not be permitted to exist for a single day, and the house should at once devise a remedy. He had no doubt that the chairman of the committee would consent to the delay asked for, but he thought that it was very extraordinary that the Government should require it.

Mr. Longley said he did not see why the Government were unprepared, but he had no objection to adjourning the debate with the view of taking it up to-morrow. He for one did not admit that this pernicious system had been in vogue 25 years. He believed that the Assembly printing had been done by tender and contract from 1843 to 1859. It was a singular thing in looking over the accounts for several years to find that three firms running almost neck and neck, each one unwilling that the others should get the advantage.

Mr. J. J. McKinnon said the only object he could conceive for having this report printed must be to give the printers a last chance of making money out of the province.

After a lengthened conversation the debate was adjourned till the following day so that the report might be printed.

Mr. Longley asked if Government would be willing to give a subsidy of \$6000 a mile to the Niagara and Atlantic Railway. He considered that the appropriation of a certain amount for subsidy to this road would induce the expenditure of a much larger amount from abroad, and so augment the resources of the Province.

Hon. Prov. Sec. said the subject had engaged the attention of the Government, who were anxious to do everything in their power. They were most favorably disposed towards the work.

Mr. Longley said he would have felt better satisfied had the Government been able to promise encouragement to this work.

Mr. Holmes asked the Government to lay on the table a copy of the certificate on which any sums of money were advanced to the Western Counties' Railway Company in accordance with the law from the 1st January to the present date.

On Tuesday after some miscellaneous business had been transacted the subject of Public Printing was resumed by the Hon. Prov. Secretary intimating that he had received a letter stating that the Report would not be printed until the following day.

Mr. Longley thought there should be more expedition in getting printed matter ready for the House.

Hon. Atty. Gen. moved that the House go into Committee of the Whole to resume the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Longley moved in amendment that the House take up the subject of the report on public printing.

Mr. Woodworth said the Opposition thinking how this would be, had the report printed and he laid it on the table. He had much pleasure in laying on the table a hundred copies. He seconded the motion of the hon. member for Annapolis.

A call of the House was being made when

Mr. Woodworth rose to a question of order. The hon. Prov. Secretary had stated yesterday, and members thought his personal honor a sufficient guarantee, that the report on printing would be laid on the table at the earliest moment, and now he said it would be ready to-morrow. The report he had under his hand had been printed in some three hours on good paper, and correctly as far as he knew. A delay of twenty-four hours had been granted, and now the hon. Prov. Secretary and the hon. Com. of Mines had all they required, the report and the tabular statement in print, and yet the hon. Prov. Secretary asked for a call of the house. This was trifling. No reason was given for delay.

Hon. Prov. Secretary said that he had no communication with the printer except the note he had received. He could only say that he had acted in good faith.

Mr. Holmes said that without the assistance of the Queen's printer, who was

paid such high rates for doing the work of this house, a sufficient number of copies, printed, he understood from the hon. member for Kings, in three hours, had been placed on the table, to supply all the information asked for, and he did not see why the house should not go into the consideration of that report at once.

Hon. Prov. Secy. said it was certainly a most unheard of thing, when the house had ordered certain papers to be printed, that a private member lay on the table what purported to be printed copies of the papers.

Mr. Longley said that it would have been quite easy to have had the papers printed and on the table, had the Government chosen to do so. Delay was evidently their only object.

Dr. Campbell moved an amendment to the amendment that the report in public printing be now received, and that the discussion be postponed till to-morrow.

Hon. Comr. of Works and Mines said the house should wait till the report came in the regular manner.

Dr. Farrell said he for one wanted all the facts with regard to the public printing, which would not be before the house if that report was adopted immediately.

Hon. Comr. of Crown Lands said the house yesterday authorized the Government to print the report, and it was consequently the business of the Government to lay upon the table the printed report, the Opposition by getting the report printed during last night had assumed the functions of the Government. He had never heard of such a proceeding.

Confusion taking place in the galleries His Honor the speaker said the galleries would have to be cleared.

Mr. McKay said he was astonished-had at the Speaker attempting to clear the galleries without being asked to do so by a member of the house.

Hon. Commissioner of Crown Lands requested that the galleries be not cleared. If the house was to be treated in this way, it was time the government was turned out.

Mr. Woodworth—Hear! hear!

Mr. Holmes said he was astonished at the course of the Government, there was no reason why the report should not have been on the table at three o'clock, or even at ten o'clock this morning. He would undertake to say that any printer ought to get that report out in an hour. The excuse lay between the Government and the printers, who, having been paid large sums, now seemed to be turning up their heels at the Government. Why this delay? Was it that these iniquitous transactions might be concealed from the country?

Hon. Prov. Secy said the reason influencing the Government was simply the desire that the truth, and the whole truth, should be arrived at, and that the discussion and decision of this question should not be based on a partial view of the case. It was impossible to do justice to the question now. If there was anything wrong in regard to this matter the Government were prepared to remedy it.

Mr. Holmes said the Opposition had no desire to gain anything but what was just. The question was this, is the public printing costing too much, and if so, what remedy should be adopted?

Hon. Comr. of Crown Lands said it was true that such wrongs as had been brought to the notice of the house were of daily occurrence, the fact was not creditable to the hon. Leader of the Opposition, or to himself, who had sat here year after year and permitted these things to go on. The hon. member for Pictou was mistaken if he supposed that the Government were desirous of shutting out what ought to be made public.

Hon. Prov. Secretary, in answer to the remark that he had impugned the report of the committee, said that he had not done so, but had only censured the haste of some hon. members who sought to force upon the house the consideration of the report before they had an opportunity of considering it in all its aspects.

Mr. Woodworth asked what the Government expected to gain by delay? The committee had closed their labors, and could not alter their report. It was here for rejection or adoption. It was known that the printers, who would not live for three months if their pay was taken away, were in league to defeat the adoption of the report, if possible, and that the Government were in league with them.

Hon. Comr. of Crown Lands said the motion was not that the house should not receive the report of the committee. He would not vote for such a motion as that. He had every respect for the report, but he wanted to know what he was voting about.

Mr. Longley said he would not accuse the Prov. Secretary of falsifying his promise, but he had no doubt that if he hon. Prov. Secretary had told the printers that the report must be ready by 3 o'clock to-day it would have been here. Either the government had not used the diligence they should have shown in the matter, or the printers had set them at defiance. The Press was no doubt a great power in this country, but there was a power greater than the press and that was the power of the people.

The House went into Committee on Bills the remainder of the day.

On Wednesday after the presentation of petitions and other routine business. Mr. Holmes gave notice that on the following day he would move a resolution having reference to the Public Printing and the payment of the subsidy to the Western Counties Railway contrary to the Act of the Legislature. The whole subsidy payable by the Government for the ninety miles of road at \$6000 a mile, was \$540,000; of

which \$214,000 had already been paid, leaving a balance of \$326,000, all the remainder of the subsidy. There had been constructed only one-sixth of the road, according to the usual calculation, that the grading of the road to formation level represented about half the total cost, whereas two-fifths of the whole subsidy had been paid by the Government. But there was every reason to believe, indeed it was known to be a fact, that only the easiest portions of the line had been constructed, and expensive bridges and cuttings had been left to be completed afterwards. So that instead of one-sixth of the road being completed, it was probable that not more than a tenth of the work was done. The money of the province had therefore been squandered without seeing to the efficient prosecution of the work, and if the course adopted by the Government was to be followed up, the road would be thrown upon the Province in an unfinished state, and would be useless to the counties that it was intended to benefit. The country was about entering upon the construction of 160 miles of road in the eastern part of the Province, and there were branch railways that were claiming assistance from the revenues. It therefore became the duty of the house to enter into a careful consideration of the real financial position of the country and of the manner in which the public money was being paid away. He would move to-morrow:—

Whereas by a resolution passed in this House a Committee was appointed to inquire into the subject of public printing, and it possible to ascertain the annual cost of the same

And whereas, the said Committee has reported to this house that the public printing since the year 1867 has been almost wholly confined to the proprietors of three newspapers supporting the Government, that thus far in their researches they find \$26 582 50 has been paid out the last year for that service, while the financial returns show only a cost of \$6,416, and further that the Committee express the opinion that from the evidence of the City Clerk Messrs Barnes, Bowes & Sons, and McKinlay, the cost of printing for the public service if put up to tender and contract would be lessened at least one-half without impairing the efficiency of the public service, and have concluded their report by stating that sufficient supervision has not been exercised over the expenditure of the public money for printing, and that the interests of the country require a thorough change in the method which has heretofore been followed in providing for this department of the public service.

And whereas, by an act passed by the Legislature last session it was provided that the Government were authorized to advance certain sums of money from the provincial revenue by way of subsidy to the Western Counties' Railway Company to aid in the construction of a railway from Yarmouth to Annapolis, under conditions and restrictions therein set forth,

And whereas, the said act provided that for every forty thousand dollars actually expended bona fide by the said company in the construction of the said railway, twenty thousand dollars should be paid out of the provincial treasury.

And whereas, it was manifestly the intention of the said act as expressed therein that the province should contribute six thousand dollars per mile towards the construction of such railway and no more.

And whereas, it appears from returns laid on the table of this house, that the amount expended by the said company in the construction of the said railway up to the 24th of March last past, was only \$270,727.50.

And whereas it appears by said returns that the Government had advanced, up to the said 24th of March to the said company, from the Provincial revenue, the sum of \$213,844.45, being \$78,475.68 in excess of the amount authorized by law.

And whereas it further appears that only 30 miles of the said railway have been graded, on nine miles of which only have the rails been laid, but no portion of the road has yet been completed.

And whereas the length of the said road as appears by the said return is 90 miles, and its estimated cost \$2,070,000, and the amount expended by the company to the said 24th of March, exclusive of provincial subsidy, is only about one-sixth of the sum necessary to complete the railway, while about two-fifths of the whole subsidy provided to be advanced by the Province has already been paid.

Resolved, therefore,—That in the opinion of this house the Government are censurable for thus illegally and corruptly applying the public moneys of the country and do not possess the confidence of this house.

On Thursday Hon. Atty. General, on behalf of the hon. Prov. Secretary, who was unwell, asked the hon. leader of the Opposition to consent to the postponement of the debate on the "want of confidence" resolution.

Mr. Holmes assented, expressing at the same time his regret at learning of the hon. Prov. Secretary's illness, and he hoped that he would soon recover.

On Friday the late accident at the Montague Mines, which resulted in the death of two men, was brought before the House, by Mr. Woodworth. Hon. Atty. General said the Inspector who is now in England had fully investigated the case. Mr. Woodworth asked if the results had been reduced to writing. Hon. Attorney General replied, No. Mr. Woodworth regarded the investigation as most unsatisfactory.

Various Reports were laid on the table and Miscellaneous business transacted.

On Monday last the House was occupied with the resolution of "Want of Confidence" in the Government, moved by Mr. Holmes and seconded by Mr. J. J. McKinnon. Previous to this an effort was made by members of the Opposition to have some action taken on the Report on the cost of Printing, but the Provincial Secretary refused to take up that subject again until the Want of Confidence motion had been disposed of.

### Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

#### TEMPERANCE.

BRIDGEWATER, April 12th, 1875.

About eighty of the members of Phoenix Division S. of T. met at this place in their Hall, last evening to celebrate the 21st Anniversary of the Division. Only two of those present were charter members, viz., B. W. C. Manning, the first W. P., and W. J. Gates, the first A. C. This Division never before was in such a prosperous condition. An active Social Committee issues printed programmes for each evening's entertainment. Some of the older members offered as an excuse for staying till 12 o'clock that many present would not have the pleasure of being present at the next 21st Anniversary, and wished to spend a nice long evening, as they were now out of their time.

One thought.—Where will these 80 temperance men and women be 21 years from this Anniversary? Who is able to answer this question?

The following is the programme of the proceedings of the evening:

- 1st. "Opening Remarks," by the Wor. Patriarch, James Starratt.
2. Address.—By Brother B. W. C. Manning, E. q. Review of the Division.
3. Song.—By the Choir, "Beautiful Belts."
4. Address.—By Bro. W. J. Gates, Sketches of Bridgewater history. Progress of Temperance, &c.
5. Comic Song.—By Bro. Jeffrey.
6. Speeches.—By Bros. West and McDonald, on the former intemperance of Bridgewater.
7. Song.—By the Choir, "When will the birds come back."
8. Dialogue.—"Not at home," by the young ladies of the division.
9. Refreshments. Cake, temperance drinks, fruits, candies, &c., &c.
10. Recitation.—By Bro. G. W. Mitchell. Women of Marblehead, tarring and feathering, and riding in a cart, an unfeeling sea captain who passed a vessel in distress and let her founder at sea, because the captain had said he sold poor fish. Says he "I'll teach you to tell such things" and so passed them by.
11. Song.—By the Choir, "Come join the Temperance Band."
12. Dialogue.—"The Young Teetotaler."
13. Gaelic Song.—By Bro. McDonald.
14. Recitation.—By Bro. E. L. Nash. The Drunkard fallen in a cellar.
15. Song. By the Choir, "Shells of Ocean."
16. Recitation.—By Bro. O. C. Nash. The man-by invention.
17. Song.—By the Choir, "Good Night."

For the Christian Messenger.

#### TO FARMERS AND MECHANICS.

Mr. Editor,—

Your correspondent "A friend of the Farmer" has offered some excellent suggestions in regard to "Wheat growing" which it is to be hoped our farmers will put into practice.

I have sold thousands of barrels of flour and pocketed the profits, yet I would willingly forego this pleasure if our farmers would raise their own wheat and help to bread their own country. Our gold goes over the border and to Canada for flour, and manufactured goods, which should be kept in our own Province. Our shipments to Canada, and of late years to the United States, are small compared with our large importations. Readers look well into this matter. Let our farmers do what they can to bread the country. Flour may not always be as low as at the present time—and let the purchasers before sending their cash out of the country, look around them and see if they can't do just as well and even better—by patronizing their own countrymen, and thus aid each other.

Many of our active, enterprising young men would engage in manufactures instead of pushing off to other countries if more encouragement were given them. There is, we fear, too strong a prejudice against home enterprise. I shall cite an instance. A Plough Factory was started some years ago in Bridgewater, and though the proprietor placed an article fully equal to the American at \$2 less retail, and \$4 less wholesale, he had to plod on for years ere he drove the American article out of the

market: and finally placed his Plough at \$10 single, just \$4 less than the same style could be retailed at when imported. Is it to be wondered at that so many of our best young men leave the country when such facts meet them on every hand?

I may say, however, that in some places our farsighted ones are foreshadowing coming events, and doubtless in the future there will be less and less cause for complaint in this direction.

Yours, &c.,  
MERCHANT.

### Religious Intelligence.

ISAACS' HARBOUR, April 7th, 1875 —

Dear Editor,—Two worthy brothers being elected to the deaconship of this church were, on 17th ult., ordained to the office. A deep solemnity, such as had often been noticed on ordinary occasions during the winter, pervaded the congregation. A few days after this we were encouraged to commence a series of meetings. The first five days two brethren from Antigonish rendered profitable assistance. The Master of assemblies has been with us. Wanderers who had long been away from their Father's house have returned.

Our Conference on Friday evening was a meeting not soon to be forgotten. Yesterday eight happy converts in the presence of a large congregation, followed Christ in the ordinance of baptism, and were received into fellowship with this church. As many more profess conversion to Christ and will shortly be "buried with him by baptism." Many are asking, "What shall we do to be saved?" We simply direct them to "the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world." The interest is widening. We continue our meetings. Pray for us.

Yours, &c.,  
L. M. WEEKS.

P. S.—I have just returned from our evening meeting. We had a pentecostal season.

L. M. W.

CENTRAL ONSLOW.—I am rejoiced to inform you that the Lord is carrying forward His work among us, and that two others were added to our numbers yesterday by baptism. We trust others are seeking Christ, and will soon follow in the footsteps of their Lord.

Yours in Christ,  
April 5, 1875. STEPHEN MARCHE.

Our brethren in St. John have been disappointed in their wish for a visit from Rev. A. B. Earle. His labors recently with the Second Baptist Church, Chicago, have been much blessed. At the Sunday-school nearly one hundred expressed a determination to serve Christ, and gave their names to the teachers; while during the day at least two hundred and fifty expressed a determination to lead a new and Christian life.

At the late monthly meeting of the St. John, N. B. Home Mission Board. Reports were received from Rev. A. W. Burs, and Rev. G. W. Springer. The labors of the latter have resulted in 140 baptisms. Brethren H. J. Foshey, S. W. Keirstead, F. D. Crawley, E. W. Kelly, and J. Goodwin, students at Acadia College, intimated their desire for fields of labor during the summer vacation.

Miss M. J. Starratt, by letter, offered to make over to the Board the meeting house recently built by her at the Logg Beach, for the sum of \$150. A special committee was appointed to consider the matter and report.

St. JOHN, N. B.—On Sabbath last Rev. G. M. W. Carey baptized eight believers, and received them into the fellowship of the German Street Baptist Church.

Rev. J. D. Pope baptized four candidates at the Lower Cove Slip, on Saturday morning last, and in the evening, they, and three others, received by letter, were welcomed into the fellowship of the Leinster Street Church.

CARLETON.—Rev. E. Hickson administered the ordinance of baptism to two candidates on Sabbath last, and gave them the hand of fellowship into the Carleton Baptist Church, making in all twenty one within the past three weeks.

SMITHTOWN, March 31st.—The Lord has remembered His people in this place. Eight persons have declared their attachment to their Saviour, and have followed Him in His ordinance.—Visitor.

### Home and Foreign News.

HALIFAX, N. S., APRIL 14, 1875.

The Ottawa Parliament was prorogued on Thursday last by His Excellency Earl Dufferin after giving his assent to a number of bills passed during the session. The closing speech referred to some of the principal Acts passed, concerning the Supreme Court and Court of Exchequer—The Insolvency Law—the Act providing for the better government of the North Western Territories—The New Postal Law—the Copy rights Act and the Insurance Act.

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