

Parliamentary.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

On TUESDAY the 30th ult., the House of Assembly after the reception of petitions for various objects was occupied in the discussion of a bill introduced by the Hon. Attorney General to regulate voting by ballot at elections.

After some time spent on this measure the House went into Committee and passed several Local Bills and Acts of Incorporation.

On WEDNESDAY two petitions one with 453 signatures, of inhabitants of Annapolis County asking that the Supreme Court be held at Annapolis only, and the other a counter petition with 590 signatures were presented.

Mr. Desbrisay from the Committee on provincial and local bills reported on several bills relating to Halifax.

A petition was presented asking aid towards a railway from Pugwash to meet the Intercolonial.

An discussion arose on the Report of the Commissioner of Mines.

Hon. Commissioner explained that there was a misprint in the statement, making the cost of printing appear \$2587.15, instead of \$1386.65 and the general expenses \$3795.50 instead of \$4936.00.

Mr. Longley noticed a paragraph in the report of Hon. Com'r. of Crown Lands on which he asked for an explanation.

He did not want to find fault with the hon. Com'r., but if he had as little to do as the report indicated, the department seemed to be hardly worth sustaining, especially as its expenditure about equalled the receipts.

Hon. Com. of Crown Lands said he had laboured to reduce the expenditure since he occupied the office, and it was his intention to reduce it still further, but he thought it was a department that could not be done without, however it might be changed.

Mr. Longley said it required to have its expenses reduced one half, or it would be better to give away our Crown Lands.

Mr. McKay said he thought the time had arrived when the department should be done away with or combined with some other department and worked by a clerk and a deputy, which would save \$6,000 or \$7,000 to the country.

Mr. Longley said there seemed to be nothing in the report to shew the actual expenditure of the office. There should be in every report submitted to the house a definite and clear statement of receipts and expenditures. He referred to the item "Miscellaneous," as per accounts rendered \$1085.83, and said he thought there should be a classification of the expenditures. He did not know what the report cost, but in the course of some interesting investigations he had been making lately, he had learned that a pamphlet not much larger had cost \$150.

Hon. Com. of Crown Lands said that such a pamphlet could not have cost anything like \$150 for 200 copies.

Mr. Longley said it was plain that not one dollar of income was received from that office.

TUESDAY brought forth its usual batch of petitions for grants of money and acts of incorporation.

Mr. Woodworth asked attention to the condition of the Legislative Library and the absence of files of newspapers which should be preserved there.

Hon. Provincial Secretary promised to devote some attention to the matter.

The hour for naming the Committees to try the Cumberland and Halifax counties elections, the Speaker ordered a call of the House. The number of members present was insufficient and it was made the order for the following day.

On FRIDAY at the hours appointed the election petitions were again brought to the attention of the House but as there was still an insufficient number of members present and the petitioners failed to appear at the bar of the house the petitions were discharged.

Hon. Provincial Secretary introduced a bill to amend chap. 75 Revised Statutes of Licenses. He explained the object of the bill to be to declare and provide that wherever a tavern shall have been established a petition of two-thirds of the ratepayers shall not be necessary to continue it, as would be required in the case of a new establishment, but that no licence shall in such case be continued if two-thirds of the ratepayers petition against it.

Some question having arisen as to the limits of the power of the Local Legislature to legislate on the prohibition of the sale of intoxicating drinks,

Hon. Atty. General said the House would have to be exceeding careful not to pass laws that were beyond their power. The British North American Act gave the Local Legislatures exclusive power in regard to shop, saloon, tavern, auctioneer and other licences, in order to the raising of a revenue for provincial, local or municipal purposes. But the moment such legislation assumes a prohibitory character, it passes into the sphere in which the Dominion Legislature had exclusive control.

Hon. Prov. Secretary laid on the table the report of the Superintendent of Education.

Mr. Holmes introduced a bill to amend

chapter 74 of the acts of 1863 for the Board of Dalhousie College.

The house in committee on bills proceeded to consider the bill regulating vote by ballot at elections.

On the clause providing a penalty of \$100 for a sheriff who should fail to furnish a ballot box, register and poll book, it was considered that the penalty was insufficient and it was ultimately agreed to make the penalty \$200.

The ballot bill occupied the remainder of the day. The clause providing that any person, disclosing the name of the candidate for whom a voter has devoted his ballot, should be imprisoned for a term not exceeding six months, was, after a brief conversation, amended on motion of Mr. Longley so as to make the punishment \$20 penalty or three month's imprisonment.

The principal item of business in the House of Assembly on MONDAY, was the reading of the report of the Select Committee to enquire into the cost of Public Printing. We have not space to-day to shew our readers what they have been paying for this service, but shall endeavor to find room in our next.

Local News.

SONS OF TEMPERANCE.—Grand Scribe Parsons has placed in our hands the Journal of the last Quarterly Session held in Canning the last of January. In execution and finish it is one of the finest we have ever seen and reflects great credit upon the Order and Messrs. Bowes, the printers.

It contains about 40 well filled pages which

the table of contents tells us comprises reports of the varied works under the control of the Grand Division.

The finances are healthy, showing over \$300 in the hands

of the Treasurer. "Forms to be used in enforcing the Destruction Clause," are inserted on the last page of the pamphlet and we should think from a hasty glance at them that they are just what is needed by the temperance men who are determined to expel the illicit sale of liquors from their neighborhoods. The next session is to be held at Elmedale, Hants Co., commencing Thursday afternoon 27th inst. Reduced fares on R. R. are expected.

BAIRNS ARRIVED.—Mrs. Birt arrived on

Monday night in the steamer "Moravian" from Liverpool, G. B., with 64 orphan

children.

THE GRAND LODGE OF FREEMASONS have changed their plans respecting the new Hall they propose building. They now propose selling the lots on Barrington St., 90 feet by 90; and building their Hall on Granville and Salter Streets 60 feet by 60.

FACTORY DESTROYED.—On Thursday afternoon, Mr. James Dempster's Steam Planing, Saw Mill and Sash Factory on North George Street, was almost completely destroyed by fire. Its contents, comprising a large quantity of manufactured articles, machinery, tools and raw material, were nearly all either consumed or badly damaged. The fire originated in the engine room and spread rapidly, being far advanced when the firemen arrived. Mr. Dempster's loss is very severe, his only insurance being \$1000, in the Queen office.

THE FRANCHISE—A meeting was held on Tuesday last by some young gentlemen to discuss the subject of the franchise and the need of its extension. Resolutions were passed of which the following is the principal:

Resolved, That we regard manhood suffrage, with appropriate restrictions, as being the most feasible system for present adoption by this province.

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At the hour for striking the Committee on the Annapolis election the Speaker announced that no bond having been filed on behalf of the petitioners the order was discharged.

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DARTMOUTH was the scene of a stabbing affair on Thursday night. Two men belonging to the American schooner *Eastern Star* were stabbed by a comrade named Fitch with whom they had an altercation.

One man had his nose cut off and the other received four deep, though not serious wounds. Fitch was disarmed by the Captain and was afterwards arrested. He bears a very bad character and has already served a term in the States prison.

The prisoner is committed to jail to await his trial at the next term of the Supreme Court.

The Woodsides property at Dartmouth has been purchased by Mr. Hesson, of the Halifax Hotel.

PROSPECT.—A serious accident occurred here on Wednesday last. A young man named James Power had been out in his boat gunning, and on returning to the shore accidentally discharged the weapon, which lodged in his forehead, making a dangerous wound.

JONAH W. BARS, ESQUIRE, of Wolfville has received a highly complimentary address from a number of the prominent men of Kings County on his retirement from the Wolfville Agency of the People's Bank. They are pleased among other things to say: "By your business tact and financial skill in its transactions have extended, till the agency has become an important banking institution, and the facilities it has afforded have had an extensive and most beneficial influence on the business enterprises of the County."

In reply Mr. Bars expresses his thanks for the kind address and says: "The establishment of an Agency in Wolfville was an experiment, there being at the time no similar institution and no existing bank between the City of Halifax and the Town of Yarmouth. But I felt sanguine as to the results, and entered enthusiastically upon my work, feeling thoroughly convinced of the soundness of the business generally in Kings County; and a review of the operations of the Agency during the ten years referred to, unattended by losses or lawsuits, and the recollection of the almost unvarying promptness with which individuals and parties met their obligations, have proved that my estimation of the stability of this county's trade was not incorrect."

PICROU has a horse disease on hand. Some have died from its effects.

QUEENS.—The news from this county

comprises a bear killed at Broad River;

a cow giving birth to twin calves; and a

supposition that moose are being killed

contrary to law, as we learn from the

Recorder.

The Liverpool Advertiser gives an ac-

count of a sad affair that occurred there.

A man by the name of I. N. B. Tudor

having been found in his shop in a dying

state, having shot himself in the head

by a small pistol which was found tightly

grasped in his right hand; the ball it

appears, entered his head at the top of his

right ear, carrying away a small portion

of the ear and lodged in the left side of

his head. He died the same evening.

THE GRAND TRUNK COMPANY has contract-

ed for the delivery of this year's coal sup-

ply of 156,000 tons, 95,000 from Penn-

sylvania and Ohio mines, to be delivered in

the West, and the balance, chiefly from

Nova Scotia, to be delivered in Montreal.

Reductions on an average of about \$1.10

per ton were made, so keen was the competi-

tion, and it is said the company effected a

saving estimated at about \$160,000.—*Cit.*

ANAPOLIS.—Mr. Lawrence Delap has

offered to a company a site on the Island

for the erection of a machine shop for the

manufacture of shingle and clap board ma-

chines. This enterprise will doubtless pave

the way for a flour mill, which is sadly re-

quired in our midst.—On Tuesday morning

23rd inst., an elderly lady, Miss Fanny

Potter, of Clements, died suddenly, while

seated in a rocking chair.—*Farmer.*

Dr. Cramp begs to inform a friend who

has written to him that the account of the

Mennonites, which he inclosed in his letter

to Dr. C., is substantially correct.

Marriages.

On the 28th Jan., at Bedeque, P. E. I., by Rev. A. Chipman, Mr. James Caleb Sentur, of Loyalist Road, Lot 32 P. E. I., to Miss Annie Foy, of Tryon.

On the 31st ult., by the Rev. J. S. Thomas,

Mr. James Silard, of St. Johns, Antigua, to

Mrs. Isabella Smith, of Kingston, Jamaica.

At Kempt, March 30th, by Rev. G. A. Wethers, Worden Reynolds, to Miss Leah

Bryson, both of Newport.

Deaths.

On Monday, April 5th, after a long and painful illness, Fannie E., beloved wife of Herbert H. Read, M. D., in the 29th year of her age.

On Sunday, 4th inst., Clara, fourth daughter of Robert G., and Emily Noble.

At Cheverie, Nov. 23rd, Elizabeth, wife of Stephen McCumber, aged 62 years.

Although not a church member, she was led to look to Christ as her only refuge. We trust she has

made a happy exchange.

On Monday, Mr. Patrick Costello, in the

60th year of his age.

On the 4th inst., George Thomson, Esq., aged 67 years.

Suddenly at Mount Pleasant, on the 12th Feb., Mr. Israel P. Woodman, in the 40th

year of his age, leaving a wife and five small children to mourn the loss of a kind and affectionate father.

At Westport, March 12th, 1875, John

Hyslop, aged 77 years, a native of Dumfries.

At Smith's Cove, on the 9th ult., Mrs. Leah Fowler, relict of the late Robert Woodman, in the 82nd year of her age.

At Marshall Town, on the 20th ult., Mrs. Fitzgerald, aged 83 years.

At Upper Aylesford, March 11th, Mr. James W. Cox, aged 73 years, leaving a widow and three daughters to mourn their loss.

At Greenwich, Cornwallis, March 14th, Annie Jane, eldest daughter of John and Amoot Lutz. She died in the triumphs of faith.

At Amherst, March 29th, 1875, William Donkin, Esq., aged 90 years, for many years a deacon of the Baptist Church.

At Dartmouth East, of Consumption, March 18th, J. W. J. Starr, aged 31 years.