

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

(Continued From the last Loyalist.)

PROVINCIAL LUNATIC ASYLUM.

Mr. PARTELOW agreed fully with all that had fallen from His Honor the Speaker; he regretted, however, that not one of the hon. members for York were then in their places to answer the *very* liberal upon Frederickton. The objections raised by the select Committee, and the public generally, against Saint John, were on account of the prevalence of fog at that place during the summer months; he thought however could have no weight with the Committee. Another reason against Saint John was, that the hon. members for Charlotte kept a record against that place; they had Saint John charged with all the money granted to the Provincial Penitentiary, and other public works; and he supposed if £50,000 was now granted to build an Asylum not more than £2000 of that sum would be required this year.

Mr. HANINGTON thought it highly necessary that something should be done. A large portion of the Lunatics now in the Asylum at St. John, came from the adjoining Provinces, and he thought if a large Building was erected it would be filled with persons from the same quarter. He agreed with His Honor the Speaker that Buildings could be erected, & public establishments carried on at a moderate rate at Saint John, than at Fredericton; he came to that conclusion from the manner in which Government money was expended about Government House, and other places; he thought that his honor the Speaker had been too moderate in estimating the difference in favour of Saint John at thirty three and one third per cent. (Mr. H.) thought that there was a difference of fully fifty per cent. The only way by which he could account for this, was Fredericton was small, in comparison with St. John, and consequently there was not that competition that existed in that place. He however felt anxious that the building should be erected somewhere—the symptoms of human nature would certainly prompt them to do all this in their power for the comfort of this unfortunate class of individuals. In the mean time proper care should be taken to guard against the admission of too many of these unfortunate persons from the neighbouring Provinces; the Committee had recommended the site below Fredericton, and the other two would recommend no particular spot; and he thought the best plan, as the whole affair might safely be left with the Executive, who would doubtless dispose of it, if required to do so, without referring it to any third party.

Mr. HILL said it was a reflection on the House, that after hon. Members had been unanimous in avowing St. Andrews the *very* best situation which could be found, they nevertheless were about to adopt the *very* worst spot which could be chosen.

Mr. WILSON had no hesitation in saying that he was against the original resolution. He looked upon St. John as the very last place in the Province to build an establishment of this kind; there were certain indispensable requisites for an Asylum; there ought to be pure air, pleasant prospect, shady walks, and fine gardens, and how could these requisites be had at St. John amongst the rocks and fogs. Laying all local feelings to one side, he seriously hoped that an Asylum would now be built, the expense of such an undertaking should be a secondary consideration; the situation should be the first grand object. He thought St. Andrews as far as climate and every thing of that kind went, was perhaps the best situation in the Province; a place before St. John; what, he would ask would be the benefit of Dr. Lee's recommendation, that the situation should command a variety of scenery, a river or bay studded with craggy cliffs, and a sea which had been described by an hon. Member, if the Asylum was to be built at St. John? No matter how delightful the surrounding scenery might be, they could see nothing for the fog. He had no sectional feelings in the matter, let them choose the best possible situation, anywhere; only keep the fog and rocks of St. John, and let them be built between St. John and Gagetown, he would choose Gagetown; if between St. John and Fredericton, he would choose Fredericton. The hon. and learned Member for Gloucester, (Mr. END) had eulogised the establishments of this kind which he had visited at Boston, Worcester and Hartford, in the United States, and he now turns round and makes an objection to Fredericton on account of the heat—the heat was as great, if not greater, at either of the above places than it ever was at Fredericton. He (Mr. W.) called upon hon. Members to put all local feelings to one side, and let them unite in erecting, (in the best possible situation) a building for the reception of this unfortunate class of individuals. With these views he should oppose the Resolution.

Mr. PAXTON said if he should declare for St. John, he should be accused of prejudice; this however, was not the case. In 1836 a Committee had made a most excellent report upon this subject, recommending the building of an Asylum &c., but notwithstanding all this, they were now as far from having an Asylum as they were then. He thought St. John preferable for many reasons, the services of Medical Gentlemen could be obtained at a cheaper rate, building materials were cheaper, and in fact the whole establishment could be carried on at a much less expense at St. John, than at Fredericton; and a site could also be purchased at a cheaper rate in the vicinity of Saint John. If, however, Saint John should not be chosen, perhaps St. Andrews would be the next best place; but St. Andrews was not clear of fog. The Hon. and learned Member for York, (Mr. WILSON) had talked about St. John being enveloped in fog half the time; he (Mr. P.) had never seen so much fog—he thought there was not more than 6 days of foggy weather there last season. It was also said that the Saint John fogs were unhealthy—he thought they were not so much so, as the morning fogs on the River, such fogs were extremely unhealthy. However, he was not particularly wedded to any place; they had talked for ten years about building a Lunatic Asylum, and he now trusted they would not let another year pass without having at least commenced the building.

Mr. HANINGTON said that the report of the select Committee had anticipated the arguments that might have been brought to bear upon this subject; consequently there remained but little to be said. He trusted the Committee would now agree to build the Asylum somewhere; he was in favour of St. John for many reasons. (Here the hon. Member read from the Report of the Commissioners appointed to look out a site for an Asylum.) It would be seen that these gentlemen had spoken highly in favour of a situation near Poverty Hall; he thought somewhere in the vicinity of St. John would be preferable to Fredericton. Much had been said about the Saint John fogs, he thought however, the climate of St. John with all the fog, more healthy than that of Fredericton; it was so cold in the latter place in the summer mornings as to require a great coat, and so hot through the day that a white man could hardly live. Should the Committee be unable to fix upon a site, he thought it would be as well to leave it to the Governor and Council, and let the matter be decided without any more delay.

Hon. Mr. HAZEN said that the hon. and learned Member for York, (Mr. WILSON) had dwelt very much upon the injurious effects of the Saint John fogs; (hon. Mr. H.) would read the opinion of the Medical faculty of that City upon the subject. (reads.) The hon. Member would now see that it was the opinion of those gentlemen—gentlemen too who stood high in their profession, that those fogs were not unhealthy; and if hon. Members were not satisfied with this, let them look at him (Mr. H.) he had grown up amongst the fogs of St. John, and he thought no hon. Member would say that he had an unhealthy appearance. (Laughter.) There was also Mr. Smith, and the hon. Member for the County of St. John (Mr. Simonds) who had spent many years in the City of St. John; yet they enjoyed good health. (Laughter.) He would contrast their appearance with the appearance of the two hon. Members for York, (Messrs. WILSON & FISHER,) and let hon. Members decide which party presented the most healthy appearance. (Laughter.)

Mr. BOYD said the Committee had just listened to a very learned dissertation on fog, as to its good or evil effects; this hon. and learned Member for the City of St. John, (hon. Mr. HAZEN) had exhibited himself as a proof of its beneficial influence. (Laughter.) He (hon. Mr. HAZEN) had also pointed out other hon. members as further proofs of its benefits; these eminent gentlemen came from the same place, (laughter, and he said "farr'd with the same stick.") He (Mr. B.) was opposed to the Asylum being erected at St. John; he thought some situation on the sea board preferable, if not, then he would go for Fredericton.

Mr. HILL said the great object to be effected was the restoration of the prostrated minds of this unfortunate class of individuals. (Hear! hear!) In consideration of this, all other objects should give way. He therefore trusted the Committee would look at the subject in its true light, and not suffer sectional feelings to lead them astray; let the building be erected some where with as little delay as possible.

Mr. M'LEOD was in favour of St. John for many reasons; one of which was the advantage of Medical assistance, there are plenty of Doctors in St. John. As to the fog, about which so much had been said, he thought it seldom lasted more than a day at a time; (Mr. WILSON—you mean three weeks) and the most delightful view in the world was, when the fog was clearing away. (Mr. WILSON—you can see that at Fredericton any morning.) He (Mr. M'LEOD) thought Saint Andrews too near the border, the Asylum would be filled with persons from the other side. He thought £5000 too large a sum to be granted just now; let the building be commenced small at first, and in such a manner as that additions could afterwards be made, as occasion might require.

Dr. EARLE said the hon. and learned Member from St. John (hon. Mr. HAZEN) had quoted the opinion of the Doctors of that City, as to the influence of fog upon the health of individuals; and he (Dr. E.) supposed it would be tho't presuming in him to attempt to differ from that opinion. He would however ask, where was the use of beautiful scenery, &c. when the fog was as thick as midnight darkness? He had seen the fog so thick in that City that the sun was completely hid from view for weeks. He would say without hesitation that St. John was the last place in the Province to build an establishment. If the Committee intended to legislate for the benefit of a few individuals, let them decide in favour of Saint John; if for this unfortunate class of persons, Fredericton was the place.

Mr. FISHER made a few observations to the effect that he could not report himself as disinterested of all local feelings on the subject. It was plain that the projected building was erected either in the vicinity of St. John, St. Andrews, or Fredericton; as to Gagetown, it was entirely out of the question. There was a Report from the Commissioners appointed by the Government to investigate this subject, and he would read the portion of the Report which related to the building being placed in any other quarter than at Poverty Hall—it did not pretend to extend its enquiries any further. It was rather odd, he would say, that the reason assigned for wishing to place the Asylum in the vicinity of St. John was, that it was most likely to receive the inmates from that quarter, a circumstance which he (Mr. F.) could not have anticipated. It would most undoubtedly be wrong to found any Legislation on the Report of the Commissioners; as they had not travelled to make themselves acquainted with the best site, nor did they pretend to investigate the subject beyond the length in which St. John was concerned. The best, and land-fogs in the vicinity of Fredericton had been alluded to;—the latter he knew nothing about, for he never saw them; but it was in St. John, where the fog was almost permanent, that it became really disagreeable. In Fredericton, Fredericton seldom equalled that of Boston, where no inconvenience whatever was felt from that circumstance. Gloomy days were said to increase the tendency of gloom in the mind; and if this were the case, and he (Mr. F.) thought it was, no place could be selected less liable to the objection than Fredericton. The additional expense of erecting and supporting the Asylum at Fredericton had formed another objection; but he thought the sample of cheapness and economy already displayed in the management of the Asylum and Penitentiary in St. John, had not proved so satisfactory as to let the matter be advanced as a pretext—of at least ten per cent. of the newspapers' reports were to be credited. He thought, however, that the expense both in St. John and Fredericton would be nearly equal, for medical, and other attendance would be procured on the same terms in both places.

Hon. Mr. HAZEN remarked that the learned member (Mr. Fisher) had placed his (Mr. HAZEN's) observations in a wrong position—when he had alluded to the greater amount of inmates which St. John would probably furnish to the Institution, he only meant that there was a numerous population in that City, and that, in conjunction with the influx of emigrants, would as a matter of course furnish a large number of the unfortunate persons who required assistance.

Mr. J. A. STREET here made a few observations; and the question was then taken on Mr. Partelow's amendment, which goes to make a grant for the vicinity of St. John.—The Resolution was carried on a division.

SATURDAY, March 14.

A Bill was brought in by Mr. Fisher, to quiet the Title of certain lands in Fredericton.

Mr. FISHER said he had brought the present Bill in order to quiet a doubt which had arisen during the past year relative to the title of the Town of certain Lands therein mentioned. It was strange that those doubts had never arisen until the place in question was required for the use of the Cathedral, but however that might be, the object of the present Bill was to include those grants which had been made within the last 20 years, and to make them legal. The Bill contemplated nothing further.

Hon. Mr. HAZEN said it was an important point for the consideration, that while the present Bill legalized those particular grants, it might not (by implication) lend to the conclusion that all similar grants were invalid also.

Hon. Mr. HAZEN was in favour of the Bill, but he supposed, with his Honor the Speaker, that the passing of such a law would imply that all similar grants were defective in their titles.

Hon. Mr. FISHER rejoined.—It would not be prudent to legislate upon doubts raised by the Attorney General or any other officer of the Crown, such a course he thought it would be as well to leave to the Governor and Council, and let the matter be decided without any more delay.

Hon. Mr. HAZEN said that the hon. and learned Member for York, (Mr. WILSON) had dwelt very much upon the injurious effects of the Saint John fogs; (hon. Mr. H.) would read the opinion of the Medical faculty of that City upon the subject. (reads.) The hon. Member would now see that it was the opinion of those gentlemen—gentlemen too who stood high in their profession, that those fogs were not unhealthy; and if hon. Members were not satisfied with this, let them look at him (Mr. H.) he had grown up amongst the fogs of St. John, and he thought no hon. Member would say that he had an unhealthy appearance. (Laughter.) There was also Mr. Smith, and the hon. Member for the County of St. John (Mr. Simonds) who had spent many years in the City of St. John; yet they enjoyed good health. (Laughter.) He would contrast their appearance with the appearance of the two hon. Members for York, (Messrs. WILSON & FISHER,) and let hon. Members decide which party presented the most healthy appearance. (Laughter.)

Mr. BOYD said the Committee had just listened to a very learned dissertation on fog, as to its good or evil effects; this hon. and learned Member for the City of St. John, (hon. Mr. HAZEN) had exhibited himself as a proof of its beneficial influence. (Laughter.) He (hon. Mr. HAZEN) had also pointed out other hon. members as further proofs of its benefits; these eminent gentlemen came from the same place, (laughter, and he said "farr'd with the same stick.") He (Mr. B.) was opposed to the Asylum being erected at St. John; he thought some situation on the sea board preferable, if not, then he would go for Fredericton.

Mr. HILL said the great object to be effected was the restoration of the prostrated minds of this unfortunate class of individuals. (Hear! hear!) In consideration of this, all other objects should give way. He therefore trusted the Committee would look at the subject in its true light, and not suffer sectional feelings to lead them astray; let the building be erected some where with as little delay as possible.

Mr. M'LEOD was in favour of St. John for many reasons; one of which was the advantage of Medical assistance, there are plenty of Doctors in St. John. As to the fog, about which so much had been said, he thought it seldom lasted more than a day at a time; (Mr. WILSON—you mean three weeks) and the most delightful view in the world was, when the fog was clearing away. (Mr. WILSON—you can see that at Fredericton any morning.) He (Mr. M'LEOD) thought Saint Andrews too near the border, the Asylum would be filled with persons from the other side. He thought £5000 too large a sum to be granted just now; let the building be commenced small at first, and in such a manner as that additions could afterwards be made, as occasion might require.

Dr. EARLE said the hon. and learned Member from St. John (hon. Mr. HAZEN) had quoted the opinion of the Doctors of that City, as to the influence of fog upon the health of individuals; and he (Dr. E.) supposed it would be tho't presuming in him to attempt to differ from that opinion. He would however ask, where was the use of beautiful scenery, &c. when the fog was as thick as midnight darkness? He had seen the fog so thick in that City that the sun was completely hid from view for weeks. He would say without hesitation that St. John was the last place in the Province to build an establishment. If the Committee intended to legislate for the benefit of a few individuals, let them decide in favour of Saint John; if for this unfortunate class of persons, Fredericton was the place.

Mr. FISHER made a few observations to the effect that he could not report himself as disinterested of all local feelings on the subject. It was plain that the projected building was erected either in the vicinity of St. John, St. Andrews, or Fredericton; as to Gagetown, it was entirely out of the question. There was a Report from the Commissioners appointed by the Government to investigate this subject, and he would read the portion of the Report which related to the building being placed in any other quarter than at Poverty Hall—it did not pretend to extend its enquiries any further. It was rather odd, he would say, that the reason assigned for wishing to place the Asylum in the vicinity of St. John was, that it was most likely to receive the inmates from that quarter, a circumstance which he (Mr. F.) could not have anticipated. It would most undoubtedly be wrong to found any Legislation on the Report of the Commissioners; as they had not travelled to make themselves acquainted with the best site, nor did they pretend to investigate the subject beyond the length in which St. John was concerned. The best, and land-fogs in the vicinity of Fredericton had been alluded to;—the latter he knew nothing about, for he never saw them; but it was in St. John, where the fog was almost permanent, that it became really disagreeable. In Fredericton, Fredericton seldom equalled that of Boston, where no inconvenience whatever was felt from that circumstance. Gloomy days were said to increase the tendency of gloom in the mind; and if this were the case, and he (Mr. F.) thought it was, no place could be selected less liable to the objection than Fredericton. The additional expense of erecting and supporting the Asylum at Fredericton had formed another objection; but he thought the sample of cheapness and economy already displayed in the management of the Asylum and Penitentiary in St. John, had not proved so satisfactory as to let the matter be advanced as a pretext—of at least ten per cent. of the newspapers' reports were to be credited. He thought, however, that the expense both in St. John and Fredericton would be nearly equal, for medical, and other attendance would be procured on the same terms in both places.

Hon. Mr. HAZEN remarked that the learned member (Mr. Fisher) had placed his (Mr. HAZEN's) observations in a wrong position—when he had alluded to the greater amount of inmates which St. John would probably furnish to the Institution, he only meant that there was a numerous population in that City, and that, in conjunction with the influx of emigrants, would as a matter of course furnish a large number of the unfortunate persons who required assistance.

Mr. BOYD said the Committee had just listened to a very learned dissertation on fog, as to its good or evil effects; this hon. and learned Member for the City of St. John, (hon. Mr. HAZEN) had exhibited himself as a proof of its beneficial influence. (Laughter.) He (hon. Mr. HAZEN) had also pointed out other hon. members as further proofs of its benefits; these eminent gentlemen came from the same place, (laughter, and he said "farr'd with the same stick.") He (Mr. B.) was opposed to the Asylum being erected at St. John; he thought some situation on the sea board preferable, if not, then he would go for Fredericton.

Mr. HILL said the great object to be effected was the restoration of the prostrated minds of this unfortunate class of individuals. (Hear! hear!) In consideration of this, all other objects should give way. He therefore trusted the Committee would look at the subject in its true light, and not suffer sectional feelings to lead them astray; let the building be erected some where with as little delay as possible.

Mr. M'LEOD was in favour of St. John for many reasons; one of which was the advantage of Medical assistance, there are plenty of Doctors in St. John. As to the fog, about which so much had been said, he thought it seldom lasted more than a day at a time; (Mr. WILSON—you mean three weeks) and the most delightful view in the world was, when the fog was clearing away. (Mr. WILSON—you can see that at Fredericton any morning.) He (Mr. M'LEOD) thought Saint Andrews too near the border, the Asylum would be filled with persons from the other side. He thought £5000 too large a sum to be granted just now; let the building be commenced small at first, and in such a manner as that additions could afterwards be made, as occasion might require.

Dr. EARLE said the hon. and learned Member from St. John (hon. Mr. HAZEN) had quoted the opinion of the Doctors of that City, as to the influence of fog upon the health of individuals; and he (Dr. E.) supposed it would be tho't presuming in him to attempt to differ from that opinion. He would however ask, where was the use of beautiful scenery, &c. when the fog was as thick as midnight darkness? He had seen the fog so thick in that City that the sun was completely hid from view for weeks. He would say without hesitation that St. John was the last place in the Province to build an establishment. If the Committee intended to legislate for the benefit of a few individuals, let them decide in favour of Saint John; if for this unfortunate class of persons, Fredericton was the place.

Mr. FISHER made a few observations to the effect that he could not report himself as disinterested of all local feelings on the subject. It was plain that the projected building was erected either in the vicinity of St. John, St. Andrews, or Fredericton; as to Gagetown, it was entirely out of the question. There was a Report from the Commissioners appointed by the Government to investigate this subject, and he would read the portion of the Report which related to the building being placed in any other quarter than at Poverty Hall—it did not pretend to extend its enquiries any further. It was rather odd, he would say, that the reason assigned for wishing to place the Asylum in the vicinity of St. John was, that it was most likely to receive the inmates from that quarter, a circumstance which he (Mr. F.) could not have anticipated. It would most undoubtedly be wrong to found any Legislation on the Report of the Commissioners; as they had not travelled to make themselves acquainted with the best site, nor did they pretend to investigate the subject beyond the length in which St. John was concerned. The best, and land-fogs in the vicinity of Fredericton had been alluded to;—the latter he knew nothing about, for he never saw them; but it was in St. John, where the fog was almost permanent, that it became really disagreeable. In Fredericton, Fredericton seldom equalled that of Boston, where no inconvenience whatever was felt from that circumstance. Gloomy days were said to increase the tendency of gloom in the mind; and if this were the case, and he (Mr. F.) thought it was, no place could be selected less liable to the objection than Fredericton. The additional expense of erecting and supporting the Asylum at Fredericton had formed another objection; but he thought the sample of cheapness and economy already displayed in the management of the Asylum and Penitentiary in St. John, had not proved so satisfactory as to let the matter be advanced as a pretext—of at least ten per cent. of the newspapers' reports were to be credited. He thought, however, that the expense both in St. John and Fredericton would be nearly equal, for medical, and other attendance would be procured on the same terms in both places.

Hon. Mr. HAZEN remarked that the learned member (Mr. Fisher) had placed his (Mr. HAZEN's) observations in a wrong position—when he had alluded to the greater amount of inmates which St. John would probably furnish to the Institution, he only meant that there was a numerous population in that City, and that, in conjunction with the influx of emigrants, would as a matter of course furnish a large number of the unfortunate persons who required assistance.

Mr. J. A. STREET here made a few observations; and the question was then taken on Mr. Partelow's amendment, which goes to make a grant for the vicinity of St. John.—The Resolution was carried on a division.

SATURDAY, March 14.

A Bill was brought in by Mr. Fisher, to quiet the Title of certain lands in Fredericton.

Mr. FISHER said he had brought the present Bill in order to quiet a doubt which had arisen during the past year relative to the title of the Town of certain Lands therein mentioned. It was strange that those doubts had never arisen until the place in question was required for the use of the Cathedral, but however that might be, the object of the present Bill was to include those grants which had been made within the last 20 years, and to make them legal. The Bill contemplated nothing further.

Hon. Mr. HAZEN said it was an important point for the consideration, that while the present Bill legalized those particular grants, it might not (by implication) lend to the conclusion that all similar grants were invalid also.

Hon. Mr. HAZEN was in favour of the Bill, but he supposed, with his Honor the Speaker, that the passing of such a law would imply that all similar grants were defective in their titles.

Hon. Mr. FISHER rejoined.—It would not be prudent to legislate upon doubts raised by the Attorney General or any other officer of the Crown, such a course he thought it would be as well to leave to the Governor and Council, and let the matter be decided without any more delay.

Hon. Mr. HAZEN said that the hon. and learned Member for York, (Mr. WILSON) had dwelt very much upon the injurious effects of the Saint John fogs; (hon. Mr. H.) would read the opinion of the Medical faculty of that City upon the subject. (reads.) The hon. Member would now see that it was the opinion of those gentlemen—gentlemen too who stood high in their profession, that those fogs were not unhealthy; and if hon. Members were not satisfied with this, let them look at him (Mr. H.) he had grown up amongst the fogs of St. John, and he thought no hon. Member would say that he had an unhealthy appearance. (Laughter.) There was also Mr. Smith, and the hon. Member for the County of St. John (Mr. Simonds) who had spent many years in the City of St. John; yet they enjoyed good health. (Laughter.) He would contrast their appearance with the appearance of the two hon. Members for York, (Messrs. WILSON & FISHER,) and let hon. Members decide which party presented the most healthy appearance. (Laughter.)

Mr. BOYD said the Committee had just listened to a very learned dissertation on fog, as to its good or evil effects; this hon. and learned Member for the City of St. John, (hon. Mr. HAZEN) had exhibited himself as a proof of its beneficial influence. (Laughter.) He (hon. Mr. HAZEN) had also pointed out other hon. members as further proofs of its benefits; these eminent gentlemen came from the same place, (laughter, and he said "farr'd with the same stick.") He (Mr. B.) was opposed to the Asylum being erected at St. John; he thought some situation on the sea board preferable, if not, then he would go for Fredericton.

Mr. HILL said the great object to be effected was the restoration of the prostrated minds of this unfortunate class of individuals. (Hear! hear!) In consideration of this, all other objects should give way. He therefore trusted the Committee would look at the subject in its true light, and not suffer sectional feelings to lead them astray; let the building be erected some where with as little delay as possible.

Mr. M'LEOD was in favour of St. John for many reasons; one of which was the advantage of Medical assistance, there are plenty of Doctors in St. John. As to the fog, about which so much had been said, he thought it seldom lasted more than a day at a time; (Mr. WILSON—you mean three weeks) and the most delightful view in the world was, when the fog was clearing away. (Mr. WILSON—you can see that at Fredericton any morning.) He (Mr. M'LEOD) thought Saint Andrews too near the border, the Asylum would be filled with persons from the other side. He thought £5000 too large a sum to be granted just now; let the building be commenced small at first, and in such a manner as that additions could afterwards be made, as occasion might require.

Dr. EARLE said the hon. and learned Member from St. John (hon. Mr. HAZEN) had quoted the opinion of the Doctors of that City, as to the influence of fog upon the health of individuals; and he (Dr. E.) supposed it would be tho't presuming in him to attempt to differ from that opinion. He would however ask, where was the use of beautiful scenery, &c. when the fog was as thick as midnight darkness? He had seen the fog so thick in that City that the sun was completely hid from view for weeks. He would say without hesitation that St. John was the last place in the Province to build an establishment. If the Committee intended to legislate for the benefit of a few individuals, let them decide in favour of Saint John; if for this unfortunate class of persons, Fredericton was the place.

Mr. FISHER made a few observations to the effect that he could not report himself as disinterested of all local feelings on the subject. It was plain that the projected building was erected either in the vicinity of St. John, St. Andrews, or Fredericton; as to Gagetown, it was entirely out of the question. There was a Report from the Commissioners appointed by the Government to investigate this subject, and he would read the portion of the Report which related to the building being placed in any other quarter than at Poverty Hall—it did not pretend to extend its enquiries any further. It was rather odd, he would say, that the reason assigned for wishing to place the Asylum in the vicinity of St. John was, that it was most likely to receive the inmates from that quarter, a circumstance which he (Mr. F.) could not have anticipated. It would most undoubtedly be wrong to found any Legislation on the Report of the Commissioners; as they had not travelled to make themselves acquainted with the best site, nor did they pretend to investigate the subject beyond the length in which St. John was concerned. The best, and land-fogs in the vicinity of Fredericton had been alluded to;—the latter he knew nothing about, for he never saw them; but it was in St. John, where the fog was almost permanent, that it became really disagreeable. In Fredericton, Fredericton seldom equalled that of Boston, where no inconvenience whatever was felt from that circumstance. Gloomy days were said to increase the tendency of gloom in the mind; and if this were the case, and he (Mr. F.) thought it was, no place could be selected less liable to the objection than Fredericton. The additional expense of erecting and supporting the Asylum at Fredericton had formed another objection; but he thought the sample of cheapness and economy already displayed in the management of the Asylum and Penitentiary in St. John, had not proved so satisfactory as to let the matter be advanced as a pretext—of at least ten per cent. of the newspapers' reports were to be credited. He thought, however, that the expense both in St. John and Fredericton would be nearly equal, for medical, and other attendance would be procured on the same terms in both places.

Hon. Mr. HAZEN remarked that the learned member (Mr. Fisher) had placed his (Mr. HAZEN's) observations in a wrong position—when he had alluded to the greater amount of inmates which St. John would probably furnish to the Institution, he only meant that there was a numerous population in that City, and that, in conjunction with the influx of emigrants, would as a matter of course furnish a large number of the unfortunate persons who required assistance.

was impossible for any man to inspect all the Schools, as had been intimated, in 8 months. The only object contemplated in the Bill was to elevate the indifferent or inefficient parish schools, to the same standard with the good ones—in short, to make the bad, good. In order to convince the Committee of the necessity for particular information, he would tell them, he had himself visited schools—one in Hillsborough for instance—where the schoolhouse was large and well furnished—the attendance good—the appearance of the Teacher prepossessing, and yet the whole concern was woefully inefficient. On the contrary he had within a few miles of that same place found a most miserable slab building, a poor looking schoolmaster, but an excellent school. Instead of entertaining for a moment the opinion, that the present system would be broken down, he would inform the Committee that they would be worse than madmen if they did not supply, or endeavour to supply, what was lacking in the present law, and he declared that his object was to raise, not break down, the present system of Education.

Mr. HAZEN rose would own the truth of the observations made by the hon. member of the Bill; but still he begged leave to call the attention of the Committee to the well known fact, that the select committee appointed during the last year to investigate, and examine the Report of the Inspectors of the Parish Schools, had sat from day to day, and were still unable to make themselves masters of the subject which they felt so anxious to understand. This led to the recommendation that one or more of the Inspectors should, during the recess, prepare and publish an abstract of the large report, to be laid before the House during the present Session. He could not however, say, that the difficulty was removed by the present abstract, for the required information had not even yet been placed before the Committee; nor did he think it would be obtained short of spending a week or two in ransacking the whole of the Report. The abstract did not tell the number of qualified Teachers in the Country, and this was a most important omission; for let hon. members say what they might, in its favour, and he was willing to give much credit to Mr. Gregory for the talent evinced in his composition—he (Mr. H.) could not give his information from the abstract returns assigned by the commissioners. In fact the abstract gave nothing to form a Bill on, for out of 500 schools, only 166 were there alluded to. What conclusion then could the House arrive at, in reference to the rest? He wished to be and record, the information was no doubt in the Committee room, locked up in a trunk; but the Committee had it not—Mr. WILSON—"You ought to have it in your head."—Well, it was impossible to get it at present in one's head; and he would appeal to the hon. member whether the Select Committee had not last year acknowledged the difficulty, in the discharge given to have an abstract prepared from it to be laid before the House in the present Session. Even the hon. member for York (Mr. WILSON) had more theory than facts in his head; and however hon. members might boast of their knowledge of the subject, the facts were in his trunk. As an instance he would name that out of 500 Teachers receiving the Provincial allowance, only 47 were alluded to in the Abstract. He (Mr. H.) would be willing to pass a grant for the purchase of school books, to be placed in the hands of Commissioners to see them properly distributed; and in order to secure all the knowledge necessary for Legislating on the subject, he would secure the services of the hon. member (Mr. Brown) or some other individual, for making a thorough abstract to be laid before the House in the course of the next session. He would also have information on the qualification of every individual Teacher on each distinct subject brought under notice, let it cost what it might. The hon. member of the Bill had alluded to two schools, the one a good, and the other a bad one—this was easily accounted for.—In the district where the (Mr. H.) resided the people were generally pretty wealthy, and they were able to pay £60 per annum to a good Teacher; while in the neighbourhood of the other school, the people were all poor, and were forced to put up with the services of such as they could get. Here he thought the new Bill would operate unjustly, for instance, in a wealthy section of the country, where the people could raise £60, they would get £60 more from the Province, while in other parts, where they had the misfortune to be poor, they would meet with only a sited allowance; and this would be manifest injustice. He concluded by moving that the Bill be postponed six months.

Mr. TROSBROCK rose and said he also would oppose it. He was in favour of Legislating so much, and more especially on subjects which Legislation could not properly reach. The cause of the failure of the present School system would be found in the differences on subjects of Religion which unhappily existed in the Country. The children would not associate; and to such a pitch had this sectional feeling been carried, that some of them would think themselves contaminated by the slightest connexion with the others. This was not the case in Prussia, which had been named as an example for these Schools. There, there was one Established Religion and consequently a uniformity of thinking, which did away with the difficulty which existed here. Here then was the difficulty; in Prussia the people could be forced. In this Country they could not be persuaded even to a measure which involved their own welfare. But after all, what was the state of morals in Massachusetts? were they so much better than their neighbours, that they should be held up as a pattern for imitation? He thought not. Their youth would mostly be found to understand a little Christianity and the use of the Globe; but generally very little of a useful nature. He (Mr. T.) would grant a small sum for a Normal School; and he would not oppose the introduction of a regular set of books; but beyond this he would let well enough alone; and he would forbear from agitating the public mind by the introduction of more impracticable theories. Let the Sessions be induced to be more select in the appointment of Trustees; and let the rest be left to the disposal of the parents themselves, who were of course the parties most interested. He concluded by observing that a small grant given to the head of the Government would be a much wiser plan than any other which could be named for accomplishing the intended purpose.

Mr. J. A. STREET in rising observed, that the Bill was highly important, and reflected much credit upon the hon. member. He (Mr. S.) fully agreed with that hon. member, that the present system admitted many serious evils; and that it required amendment. Referring to page 15 of the Abstract, he found the present rule for admitting Teachers so lax, that even Mormons were on the list, and thought it extremely dangerous that people of such principles should be employed in teaching the youth of the Country, and in fact injuring the cause of Christianity. It is in vain for the House to legislate on the subject of Education, if the Board of Education would give certificates to persons as Schoolmasters who were evidently improper or incompetent. After however, hearing the arguments brought forward by the hon. member, (Mr. Brown) he would turn his attention to the Joint Report of the Inspectors; and here he would observe, that hon. members should be well satisfied that the recommendations in that Abstract were well founded, and would accomplish the object proposed, prior to their giving them their support. (Here the hon. member read several extracts from the Abstract, and then proceeded.) It appeared from the Report that the Legislature of New Brunswick made a larger grant for the purposes of Education than any other place with the same amount of population; but still the apathy of parents appeared to stand in the way of improvement; now it seemed that this same apathy was the very root of the evil complained of, and he thought, if the Bill did not suggest the remedy which could be offered, namely, the principle of assessment, the Bill did not contemplate a greater charge on the Revenue; but it was impossible to carry out its provisions without additional cost—and to meet this increased charge there was no plan suggested. The hon. member of the Bill had declared that its operation would not injure the present system, but that on the contrary it would amend it.

MONDAY, March 16.

The House went into Committee of the whole on the Parish School's Bill, postponed from Thursday the 12th inst.

Mr. BROWN waited in the first place to correct an erroneous opinion which appeared to be entertained by some of the members of the Committee, to the effect that it was the opinion of those gentlemen—gentlemen too who stood high in their profession, that those fogs were not unhealthy; and if hon. Members were not satisfied with this, let them look at him (Mr. H.) he had grown up amongst the fogs of St. John, and he thought no hon. Member would say that he had an unhealthy appearance. (Laughter.) There was also Mr. Smith, and the hon. Member for the County of St. John (Mr. Simonds) who had spent many years in the City of St. John; yet they enjoyed good health. (Laughter.) He would contrast their appearance with the appearance of the two hon. Members for York, (Messrs. WILSON & FISHER,) and let hon. Members decide which party presented the most healthy appearance. (Laughter.)

Mr. BOYD said the Committee had just listened to a very learned dissertation on fog, as to its good or evil effects; this hon. and learned Member for the City of St. John, (hon. Mr. HAZEN) had exhibited himself as a proof of its beneficial influence. (Laughter.) He (hon. Mr. HAZEN) had also pointed out other hon. members as further proofs of its benefits; these eminent gentlemen came from the same place, (laughter, and he said "farr'd with the same stick.") He (Mr. B.) was opposed to the Asylum being erected at St. John; he thought some situation on the sea board preferable, if not, then he would go for Fredericton.

Mr. HILL said the great object to be effected was the restoration of the prostrated minds of this unfortunate class of individuals. (Hear! hear!) In consideration of this, all other objects should give way. He therefore trusted the Committee would look at the subject in its true light, and not suffer sectional feelings to lead them astray; let the building be erected some where with as little delay as possible.

Mr. M'LEOD was in favour of St. John for many reasons; one of which was the advantage of Medical assistance, there are plenty of Doctors in St. John. As to the fog, about which so much had been said, he thought it seldom lasted more than a day at a time; (Mr. WILSON—you mean three weeks) and the most delightful view in the world was, when the fog was clearing away. (Mr. WILSON—you can see that at Fredericton any morning.) He (Mr. M'LEOD) thought Saint Andrews too near the border, the Asylum would be filled with persons from the other side. He thought £5000 too large a sum to be granted just now; let the building be commenced small at first, and in such a manner as that additions could