

of any measure adopted for the purpose of introducing into the Province the different kinds of machinery for farming purposes. The hon. gentleman explained most fully the great saving that would be effected in manual labor, by the introduction of such machinery, and thought that something should be done in this respect, as laborers were very scarce and wages very high. Each kind of implements were used in the United States and Canada to great advantage. Hay could be got by one man and a horse quicker and better than what could be performed by six or seven men in the ordinary way, also in harvesting by the use of machinery. A great amount of labor could be performed with comparatively little expense. In some parts of the States, they do the chief part of the farm labor by the use of machinery—such might be the case in this Country by importing the necessary articles. If each County had Patterns, Farmers and Mechanics could copy from them so that they would become general amongst Farmers. He thought it would be a good time for some person to go on for the purpose of seeing all the different articles used during the time of the great exhibition in New York.

Hon. Mr. Saunders would most cordially support the resolution, and was pleased that it had emanated from a practical Farmer, one who had accumulated wealth by farming pursuits. If such resolution had been introduced by a Theoretical person merely he would have viewed it with a great deal of suspicion, but such was not the case—he thought that if there ever was a time when something should be done to assist in farming operations it was now, when laborers were scarce and wages high. If reasonable sums of money were given by the Legislature for the purpose of introducing such machinery into each County, as contemplated by the resolution it would be one of the most useful appropriations that could be made, as it would be conferring a great benefit on the Country. He recollected hearing an instance of one man, and a small boy doing all the work of a large farm—when asked how it was possible that he performed so much labor with such few hands—“Why said he, I do my work by the use of Machinery.” Such would be the case in this Country with little exertion and proper aid from the Legislature. He most sincerely hoped that something would be done in this respect before the Session closed.

Hon. Col. Hatch thought the resolution one of great importance, and hoped that something of the kind as contemplated would be done before the Legislature was prorogued. He considered the Fisheries of great importance to the Country, but Agriculture of still greater importance. The grant made last year to aid the Provincial Exhibition he considered had a good effect, as the productions there exhibited must continue to have a tendency to stimulate Farmers and others to promote the interests of the Country. When it was known that one man and a horse could do more work at different kinds of Farming by the aid of Machinery than six or eight could in the ordinary way, certainly something should be done by the Legislature to encourage the introduction of machinery into the Country. He thought the resolution should still go further than it did—Agriculture was a science and but imperfectly understood in this Country. Something ought to be done in this respect also, for the encouragement and benefit of Farmers.

Hon. Mr. Steves had no objection to the resolution if properly drawn up and made more definite. He thought that if the Legislature could advance the interests of Agriculture, by making reasonable grants for the introduction of Machinery into the Country it would be money well expended. He also thought that if any one individual by his own means would introduce such articles into the Country, he would deserve and receive a great deal of credit for it. As to the resolution if put into a practicable shape, he should not oppose it.

Received on the table to be taken up at a future day.

House adjourned.

Monday, April 11.

Hon. Mr. Chandler in the Chair.

Bill to build a Lock up House at the

Bend of Petecodiac after a few words of explanation from the Chairman the bill passed.

A Bill to incorporate the St. Stephens Gass Light Company was committed. Hon. Mr. Hill explained the Bill.

Hon. Mr. Brown did not think it necessary to make a speech as the bill was almost an exact copy of the one for St. Andrews that passed a few days ago which was taken from the Fredericton bill, but he thought that there being a penalty attached in it, and its originating in the Council, there might in consequence be an objection to it in the House of Assembly.—He would like to hear the opinions of honorable members on the subject.

Hon. Mr. Hill thought it advisable that progress be reported in order that the penalty be attached to it again in the lower House.

Hon. Mr. Hazen would advise that the course recommended by the Chairman be adopted the penalties could again be inserted in the Lower House, and then the Bill would pass without difficulty.

Progress reported.

TUESDAY, April 12.

St. Stephens Gass Light Company Bill re-committed and passed.

Hon. Mr. Brown said two sections in the bill would be struck out, as they authorised the Magistrates to impose penalties—when the Bill went before the Lower House they could be inserted again, as that Branch of the Legislature being the only proper place for the introduction of a Bill imposing penalties—the Bill at present was a complete transcript of the Fredericton Act, but that was first introduced in the House of Assembly.

The Bill passed with the alterations.

Mr. Read member of the Assembly informed the Council that the Assembly had made several appropriations.

The St. John City Charter Bill committed.

Hon. Mr. Hazen.—The citizens of St. John asked for this Bill. When the city charter was first granted, the mayor was appointed by the Government, and continued to be so until two or three years ago, and he believed the appointments thus made had on the whole given satisfaction. In 1849 or 1850, he did not know which, the mayor was elected by the Council Board from among their number—but by the present Bill he would be elected by the people. Another alteration was that all the members of the Common Council would be elected by ballot. He was aware that there were objections to elections by ballot in the minds of many persons, but he believed the system a proper one—he was informed that the ballot had worked well in the city elections for Councillors for Fredericton and believed such would be the case in the city of St. John. No alterations would however be made in the mode of election this year as the season was so far advanced that the principle could not be carried out, a clause therefore would be inserted that this year the elections take place in the usual way. Another alteration was that the improvements of the streets and squares shall be the subject of property tax. He would move a resolution to avoid a difficulty that might arise, in case of vacancy by death, removal, or in any other way that the election to fill such vacancy shall be as heretofore, and that no election shall take place under the present Bill until next year at the annual elections.

Hon. Mr. Brown.—The present Bill is one of an unusual character for the city of St. John, as it introduces the system of election by ballot, and thinks that it will be a very great improvement on the present system, and hoped that the day was not far distant when the elections throughout the Province would be by ballot, as such a system would be the means of preventing a great deal of fraud, intimidation, and corruption that takes place under the present law. As to the extension of the Franchise, the people are not so anxious for that as for the ballot. He also thought a proper registration of votes would add to the improvement—he was aware that there were some who objected to the ballot as being un-English, but if a man wished the public to know for whom he voted, that could be easily done by reading out the names on the ballot when he came up to vote, therefore that objection was of no avail—he approved of the ballot and wished it to become general.

Hon. Mr. Hill wished to see the elections conducted by voting by ballot, that all persons when they came forward to vote might do so without fear of offending any party.

Bill passed with the amendments.

Mr. Hathaway member of the Assembly informed the Council that the Lower House had passed the amendments made in the Bill relating to the Local Government of Counties, Towns and Parishes in the Province.

Council in Committee on appropriations.

Several grants passed.

A grant of £50 came up to support a poor school in Fredericton in aid of individual subscription.

Hon. Messrs. Wark and Steves thought that this was a new claim, and that there was not sufficient information before the house to justify its passing.

Hon. Mr. Saunders observed that the claim was not a new one, but had been made every year for more than twenty years past, and a more beneficial appropriation could not be made, there were upwards of seventy poor children attended this school, who were taught the lower branches of an English education, and also sewing was taught to the girls in the school which was very useful all must admit, he considered it was one of the best conducted schools in the Province, and he was certain a more useful school was not to be found in the country.

Hon. Mr. Gilbert would like to know if so many poor schools were necessary in Fredericton, as the infant school and one or two others that had been named.

Hon. Mr. Harrison thought such appropriations ought to be made more general throughout the country, and not be confined to the Towns and Cities.

Hon. Mr. Steves said before such grants were made, full information ought to be laid before the Legislature, showing the number of scholars in attendance, and the branches taught, and full and ample returns, in order that hon members may be enabled to come to just and equitable conclusions in making appropriations for such purposes.

Hon. Mr. Brown thought that it was highly necessary that such grants should be made in populous places such as the cities of Fredericton and the town of St. Andrews, in order that they might have a just and fair appropriation of the public funds for schools, for in the ordinary way they would not have—therefore it was necessary that special grants should be made for the purpose.

Passed.

A short debate took place on the old ship “Lushtook” case, and passed as there was a guarantee that this would be the last asked for. House adjourned.

Wednesday, April 13.

Hon. Attorney General, Member of the Assembly, informed the Council that the House had passed a Bill for the Protection of the Coast Trade Fisheries, and for the prevention of Elicit Trade.

Hon. Mr. Saunders in the Chair in Committee of supply.

A discussion arose on a motion made by Hon. Mr. Brown last evening for the reconsideration of a Grant of £200 for a draw in the Bridge at Richibucto.

Hon. Mr. Wark—there is a petition very respectfully signed by several Magistrates, Merchants, and other inhabitants, in favor of a Grant for a draw in the Bridge. There is also an application to improve a Bar—when done the Navigation will be very much improved, so that Vessels can go up, and there was a prospect that there would be a Steam Boat around there if the Bar was improved, and a draw in the Bridge she could go up the river several miles for the accommodation of the people, and I do doubt by making the different improvements after a while a steamer there would remunerate the owner. There was no less than ten million feet of lumber went down the river, and no less than eight saw mills above the Bridge, all the lumber from those mills if there was a draw in the Bridge could be taken down by aid of a Steamer which would be a great saving and accommodation to the public in that part of the Country. He knew that the peti-

tioners would not have made the application if it was not required.

Hon. Mr. Chandler thought a grant for so important a purpose ought to pass. He thought perhaps the hon. gentleman who had moved for the reconsideration of the grant after the explanation given would oppose it no longer. The petition stated that Ship Building, Fishing and other Branches of industry could not be prosecuted to the extent desired for want of a draw in the Bridge. He hoped the grant would not be allowed to pass, and then the Government would see that it was really a necessary appropriation before it was drawn, as it was ascertained how near the railroad would pass the Bridge.

Hon. Mr. Brown, his object for moving for a reconsideration was to get information, as he was apprehensive that putting a draw in the bridge would injure it, but from the information received he did not feel disposed to make further objections.

Hon. Mr. Hill thought that as the bridge had been built at public expense, and business had increased in that part of the Country, the inhabitants ought to put in a draw at their own expense. He thought the grant altogether premature.

Hon. Mr. Gilbert thought it very strange that the necessity for a draw had not been discovered at first. He thought it time enough to make the grant when Ships were being built above the Bridge, and when there was a steamboat there to go up the river. He did not think the Legislature was called upon to pass such a grant at present.

Hon. Col. Hatch felt disposed to support all necessary grants where a good case was made out.

Hon. Mr. Steves had heard there were no more Fish above the bridge to be caught than what was necessary for the inhabitants. He thought that a draw should have been put in at first, after all that had been said, and the explanation given, he did not feel disposed to give it further opposition.

Hon. Mr. Botsford said the river was a Navigable one, and ought not to be obstructed.

Hon. Mr. Saunders thought more information ought to have been given. He much feared that by cutting a passage way through the bridge would weaken it very much—abutments must be built. He never would countenance anything that would obstruct the free navigation of a river.

Hon. Mr. Hazen—a bridge across a navigable river without a draw in it was a nuisance, and was liable to be judicted. He thought it very necessary that the present grant should pass.

Hon. Mr. Harrison thought that whenever it was found necessary to build a bridge over a navigable river, it ought to be with a draw in it.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton would vote for the grant by having a clause inserted in the Bill, to the effect that the government will not allow the money to be expended until it is ascertained where the railroad will pass.

After a few words of explanation by the Hon. Mr. Wark, the grant passed.

The Clerk, Geo. Botsford Esq., read a letter from the Hon. Charles Connell, tendering his resignation of a seat in the Council, and thanking His Honor the President and the Councillors generally for the courteous manner in which he had been treated, while a member of that body.

Hon. Col. Hatch was glad that there was a prospect of Mr. Connell becoming a member of the Assembly again, and thought it not at all improbable but what he would soon become a member of the Executive Council, and then the Western part of the Province would have at least one representative in the Cabinet.

His Honor the President thought it very strange that a member of the Assembly would accept the appointment to a seat in the Council and remain a year or two, and then resign it for the lower house again—he thought it was paying a very poor compliment.

Hon. Mr. Hazen—the proper course to pursue was for a member of the Government to announce the resignation of Mr. Connell, and probably that would be done tomorrow.

A bill to facilitate the construction of the St. Andrews and Quebec Railway—Passed.