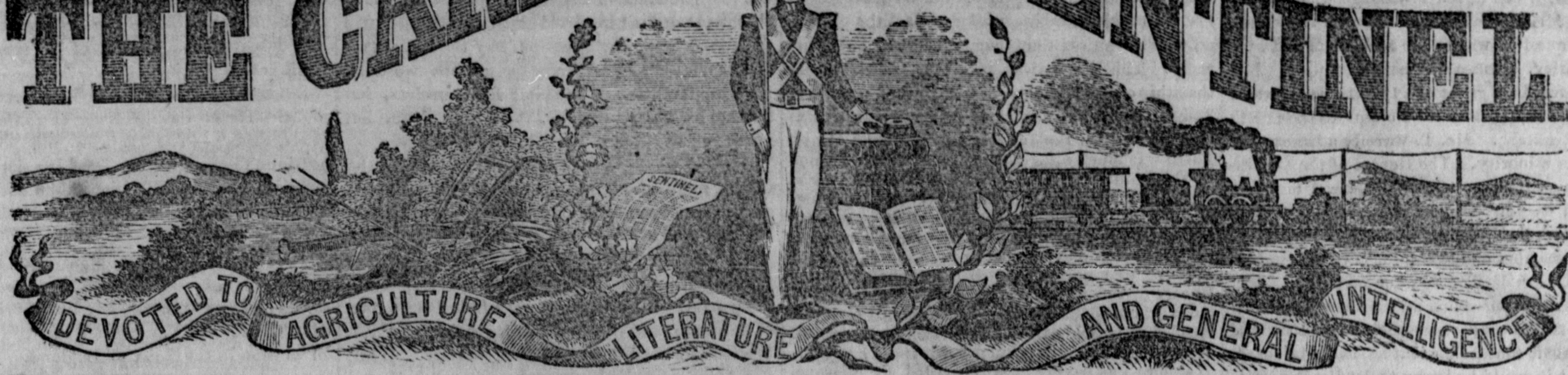


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[By JAMES McLAUCHLAN.

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NO. 33.

Provincial Parliament.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Reported for the Carleton Sentinel.

March 31st.

Several bills were disposed of to-day, and a considerable number of grants placed on the supply book. The most important bill was that which related to the Savings Bank, introduced by the Hon. Provincial Secretary. The bill provided for a loan and the issuing of debentures, and the mode in which they are to be paid off. There was no opposition offered to the bill, and it was allowed to pass after being slightly amended.

Mr. McPhelim complained that the correspondence which he had moved for a few days since, relative to the appointments made by the Government last year, had not been laid before the House. Mr. End also stated that he had moved for some correspondence relative to the Prohibitory Liquor Law and Mr. George L. Raymond. Mr. E further remarked that Mr. Raymond was protected by the Government, and that the latter should be careful of the line of policy they pursued in a case like this.

Hon. Mr. Tilley replied to both these gentlemen and expiated the causes which had prevented the papers from being laid before the House. In respect to Mr. Raymond, he said that the Government had as yet no documents to lay before the House connected with this question.

Some progress was made on the bill relating to the St. Andrews and Quebec Railway. This bill asks for an extension of time in order to enable the contractors to complete the work which it appears they had failed to do at the stipulated period. Several members appeared to think that the bill asked for more than an extension of time, this however was contradicted by the mover Mr. Boyd, who urged that it was of the utmost importance to pass the bill.

Mr. Connell also contended that it was very essential for the interests of the Province that the bill should pass immediately, and the work be proceeded with. He contended that it would be productive of numerous advantages if that portion of the road which is now completed was extended to the St. John River. The distance to be finished was only 25 miles. Mr. C. stated that if the bill passed, the contractors would either go on with the work or else it would fall into the hands of the Government.—Progress was reported with the understanding that the bill would be resumed to-morrow.

The House was in Committee of Supply and passed several grants principally to Educational establishments and School Teachers. There was much opposition offered to the regular grant being made to the Madras Board, and it was stated that many of the Teachers receiving portions of this amount, also received Provincial money under the Parish School Act.

Mr. Tibbits stated that this Board possessed a great extent of land, and in his opinion the Revenues from this were sufficiently large to maintain the Schools irrespective of any Legislative grant. Mr. T. also spoke in strong terms against the practice of Teachers receiving money as first, second or third class Licensed Teachers, and also receiving a portion of this money through the Madras Board.

Mr. Cutler supported the grant, although he wished to see the whole fabric torn down. It was warmly supported by Messrs. Street, Tilley and others, and sustained by a large majority. There was another discussion respecting a grant to Joseph Leggot of Kings County. Mr. McLeod stated that the man could live without this grant. There seemed to be a general desire to establish a proce-

dent upon this question, and thus preclude the possibility of a pension list being ingrafted for the benefit of superannuated Preceptors. The principle was negatived by the rejection of the motion.

April 1st.

The first of the bills relating to the St. Andrews and Woodstock Railway was passed this forenoon. The passing of this bill either compels the contractors to go on with the work or else it will be surrendered to the Province. The bill was warmly supported by Messrs. Connell, Boyd, Tibbits and others, and passed without a division. It is expected that the second bill will be taken up to-morrow.

This afternoon there was a long discussion relative to a proposal to grant Michael McGraw of Woodstock, the sum of £20 for his past services as School Teacher. The grant was strenuously opposed by several honorable members, and supported by Mr. R. Harding and others, but finally rejected by a large majority.

Among the grants moved to be placed on Supply this morning, was one by Mr. Tibbits, who proposed that a certain sum which he named be appropriated to Mr. John Baird, an individual who resides in the vicinity of Grand Falls, and who has for a number of years back, been engaged in the "delightful task of teaching young ideas how to shoot." Having become a veteran in the service and being anxious to return to his native country, (Ireland,) but lacking the "needful" to carry him hither, he respectfully solicited a small slice from the Provincial chest for the purpose. Mr. Tibbits accordingly moved in the matter, but the House not acceding to the request, Mr. T. announced his intention of moving the grant every day until he accomplished his object. The bill to grant a further extension of time to the St. Andrews and Quebec Railway Company was again committed. Mr. Kerr was apprehensive that the bill asked for something more than an extension of time. Mr. Connell assured Mr. Kerr that his apprehensions were groundless, and that the object of the bill was to have the work completed as soon as possible.

Mr. McAdam made a short speech in support of the bill. Mr. Hatheway entered into a brief history of the facts connected with the progress of this line of Railway, and urged that it would be an act of great injustice to the class A shareholders not to pass this bill. Hon. Mr. Tilley said that the Government had been abused by a portion of the press for negligence displayed towards this work, when in reality it was not in their power to proceed with it. Mr. Tibbits and several other members spoke in favour of the bill, when it was finally carried by a sweeping majority. The House again went into Supply. The proposal to grant to Michael McGraw of Woodstock, a sum of money for his long and labourious services as a Preceptor of youth met with much opposition. Mr. Connell said that this was different from the grant which was rejected yesterday, and that the petitioner had taught school for a length of time for which he had not received Legislative aid. (Mr. C. then read the certificate of the School Inspector, which went to show that the School had been regularly kept.) The amount of property which he possessed was small, and his daughter was on the Parish. Hon. Mr. Smith asked what put her there. Mr. C. replied that she had a broken leg. Mr. Hatheway strenuously opposed the grant. Mr. Tibbits said it was the practice with some honorable members to make political capital out of such matters as this. He did not say this was the case with the present grant, but he believed the passing of the Loan Bill had caused some honorable members to be extremely liberal, besides habuving them with an ardent desire to participate in the general

scramble. Mr. L. R. Harding stated that the petitioner was an old and infirm man, and had undergone a long course of teaching; he was of opinion that the grant was a just one and should be made. The most observable feature in the whole discussion originated in a statement made by the Hon. Surveyor General, that his prayers had been answered when he solicited that one of these veteran pensioners had been removed from the stage of life, and therefore the House was relieved from granting the individual any further pecuniary aid. Mr. Gilmour stated that there were many incompetent School Teachers throughout the Province, and he was in doubt as to whether he should support the grant. It was finally lost by a large majority. Several other school grants were taken up and disposed of. A grant to one Miss Estey of Fredericton, for teaching School was rejected and afterwards reconsidered and placed on the Supply Book. A grant to a destitute Teacher in Gloucester was strenuously urged by Mr. End, who stated that the man would not live two years at the furthest, and therefore the Legislature was not likely to be troubled with a recurrence of the motion, it was finally sustained by a small majority. A discussion arose upon the propriety of granting a sum of money to the Inspector of Schools for Sunbury, who it appears has also been acting in the capacity of Teacher, and been attending to the administration of the duties of the two stations at the same time. The case was considered a novel one. Some honorable members wondered how the gentleman could efficiently inspect the Schools and attend to the duties of a Teacher, which required nearly every day in the year, Sunday's and vacation days excepted. The motion to place the grant on the Supply Book was however sustained by a considerable majority.

Mr. Tibbits asked the Government if it was their intention to have a Bridge constructed at the Grand Falls. Mr. Fisher said that what was in the power of the Government to do should not be left undone.

April 2nd.

There was a brief conversation this morning in which Mr. End assumed the initiative respecting a printed pamphlet, a copy of which had been enveloped and sent to each member. The author was credibly supposed to be a gentleman, by the name of Gregory, and the pamphlet in question referred to Education. Mr. End was not disposed to treat the matter mildly and so he treated the reputed author to a piece of his mind upon the propriety of intruding his notices before independent members of this House in this style. What effect this gentle castigation had upon Mr. G's nerves has not been ascertained. The matter however was viewed mildly by most of the members, and so the would-be delinquent author was suffered to escape without undergoing the penalty of subjection to a vote of censure from those honorable members whose educational improvement he was then endeavoring to promote. During the remainder of the forenoon the House was occupied with the disposal of a bill relating to Mining Leases. Speeches were made in its favour by Mr. Allan and others, by all of whom it was argued that the bill was one of very great importance, as it was designed to place the complicated position of affairs connected with Mining difficulties on a more substantial and explicit basis. It contemplates that troubles occurring in future shall be settled by arbitration. On account of several members being absent progress was reported. The House next went into consideration of the Resolution to give up the money grants to the Executive Government. Mr. Hatheway as the mover made a short speech in its favour. Mr. End followed in direct opposition. Mr. McPhelim

also opposed the bill, and in speaking of Municipalities, stated that the County of Carleton did not seem to be benefited by their operation. Mr. Connell replied, contending that Mr. McPhelim was in error. He was aware of the necessity of having the different Counties incorporated prior to this Resolution being adopted. He had come to the conclusion however, not to move his amendment for the present. He believed that if the Resolution had been adopted years ago, a large amount of public money would have been saved. The advantages that would arise from its passing, would be in accordance with the well understood wishes of the people. He had not however changed his opinion in reference to the necessity of the amendment to make the establishment of Municipalities compulsory and simultaneous with the adoption of initiation. In reference to the Municipality of Carleton, it was not true that the amount of Legislation for that County had been as large as previous. If the bill could be amended, the amount of Legislation would be still less. The same would apply to St. John, the Corporation of which city should have the power to transact all of its local business without applying to the Legislature. If the Resolution passed, he hoped the Government would come down with a proper Municipal Bill, and thus give all the Counties the control of their own local affairs. We had ample evidence in the proceedings of the last few days of the necessity of the Resolution, and he hoped it would pass. Mr. Allan wondered why some members who had considered that the general establishment of Municipalities should be simultaneous with this measure, had not introduced a motion to that effect. He should like to have heard the opinion of experienced members before he had spoken, and he was compelled to vote against the Resolution in its present shape. Mr. Brown followed in support of the Resolution and Mr. McLeod in opposition. Several other members also made short speeches when the debate was adjourned.

April 3rd.

The first question taken up by the House to-day was the Initiation of Money Grants. It was opposed by Mr. Botsford. Mr. McLellan spoke in favour of and against the measure, but concluded to vote against the Resolution. Mr. Landry whose remarks are always characterized by straight forwardness and brevity, announced his intention to support the Resolution. Mr. McAdam advised Mr. McLellan to go to Dr. Wood's and be mesmerized, in order that he might have his ideas "right side up with care." Mr. McNaughton was favourable to the Resolution. Mr. Stedman advocated the necessity of Municipalities, and compared members who had tried to stop this measure as in many respects similar to Kilkenny Cats. Mr. Hayward did not tell the House that his County had adopted Municipalities, nor did he tell them that he voted for this Resolution in 1851. Such however was the case, but the gallant Colonel had just been shaved and closely cropped, besides exhibiting other barberous characteristics, so he told the House he must vote against the Resolution, also of his sorrow for having done wrong by doing the reverse, when another Government was in power. Mr. Wilmot was rather favourable to the principle of the Resolution, but he believed the Government had enough power now. Mr. Johnson changed home upon the gallant Colonel for changing his views without any reason, and spoke at some length of the effects of the Resolution in a constitutional point of view. Mr. Kerr spoke in his usual cautious way about the finances of the Country, and stated that he could not go for the Resolution. Mr. Gilmour hardly knew which way to vote, but as he was a man for progress, he