

May 10, 1856

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

April, 2.

Hon. Mr. Rice moved the second reading of the Bill for incorporating the Town of Woodstock.

Hon. Mr. Botsford objected, on the ground that the same Bill, as he understood it, had already passed in the Council, with certain amendments which on its return to the Assembly had been rejected, in consequence, as reported, of a penalty clause having been included in the amendments.

Hon. Mr. Rice said that in looking over that Bill he saw that it was the same as was rejected below but still it contained the same clauses which had been added in the Council.

Hon. Col. Hatch appealed to their Honors whether he had not on every available occasion lent his influence to maintain the rules of the House; and with this understanding in view he felt it impossible to depart from them at present.

Hon. Mr. Rice wished to remind their Honors that the Bill had now come up with a new title, and insisted upon the great solicitude felt for its passing by the parties interested.

Hon. Mr. Botsford declared that the amendments introduced by their Honors were highly necessary as they removed the most objectionable clauses; but beyond this their Honors had touched no section involving assessment, and had only amended one which applied to a penalty.

Hon. Mr. Minchin understood the objection in the other Branch to result principally from a money clause of £5 being taken out of the original Bill; but as they appeared to view this amendment as a breach of their privileges, and had since sent a Bill up, drawn precisely the same with that which had been passed here, he could see no reason why the wishes of the people should not be complied with.

Hon. Mr. Chandler stated that he had never attempted to interfere with the privileges of the other Branch, but if, at any time when the British House of Commons, was every day becoming more and more liberal in its policy, the Representatives in the popular branch in this Province must become more stringent than ever—esteeming an alteration in a mere application of penalty a breach of their privileges, he could not help seeing that it bid fair to make an end of all legislation in this Branch of the Legislature.

Hon. Mr. Saunders thought the question was, could a Bill of the same character come up a second time in the same Session? or could one like the present, having an altered title be committed? He believed the money clause should have no effect in the present case, for their Honors had no right to assume why the Bill had been rejected below.

Hon. Mr. Odell did not coincide in the views just advanced by his honor at the head of the Table. If there was any thing to complain of in the application of those stringent rules which have been spoken of, the fault rested not here, but where those rules had first been enforced.

which the commons had dispensed with the privilege of opposing penalty clauses, and conceding the difference between these clauses and those involving taxation. In the instance here, the case was purely local, and still less liable to objection.

Hon. Mr. Kinnear would be sorry to object to this Bill on the mere score of inconvenience, for it was generally understood that their Honors could command time enough for the discussion of all the Bills which came before them; and with regard to the relaxation of certain rules at home, he thought the principle could not well apply here, or could only apply to our connection with the mother country.

Hon. Col. Hatch again reminded their Honors that it was not the particular instance of this Bill which he alluded to, but the general principle of preserving the rules of the House from violation.

Hon. Mr. Steves said that if, as represented by the hon. gentleman (Mr. Saunders) the rule had already in several instances relaxed, he would be sorry to enforce it in a case so important as the present where the people of a whole Township sought an act of incorporation. He would not either inflict an injury on the County of Carleton, taking it even for granted that the lower House had done wrong in throwing out the amendments.

After some further explanations from the Hon. Mr. Botsford, the Bill received its third reading.—Reporter.

CONTINGENT COMMITTEE.—The committee appointed on the 14th day of February last, to take into consideration the Contingent expenses of the House of Assembly, beg leave to make their first Report.

The committee having before them, the Invoices of Lumsdale & Co., of Stationery imported by the Clerk of this House, find that there is charged in those invoices, ten Trunks, the aggregate value of which is £14 16s; two Portmanteaus, £6 6s; one Queen's Counsel's best Silk Robe, £9; one electric plated Shade with standing arms and shade, £9 9s together with 40 lbs. of best transparent Wax Candles, £5; amounting together to the sum of £44 11s sterling.

Your committee feeling that those items are not required for the Contingencies of this House beg to recommend that the Trunks, Portmanteaus, Queen's Counsel's Robe, Electric Plated Shade, and Wax Candles, be immediately sent to an Auction Room and sold at public auction, for the Benefit of the Province.

Your committee beg leave to make a further Report.

(Signed) FRANCIS McPHELM, JAMES A. HARDING, WILLIAM END, ROBT. D. WILMOT, GEORGE HAYWARD.

It was the Clerk of the House who imported the above articles, without the authority of members—the silk gown was for himself. The Clerk was much censured by the House.—Morning News.

A resolution has passed the Legislature of Nova Scotia, by a vote of 37 to 9, approving of taxation for the support of Schools.

THE PROHIBITORY LIQUOR BILL.—The Prohibitory Liquor Bill was postponed yesterday, on a motion of Mr. Tobin which was carried 28 to 21, several of the staunchest supporters of the Temperance movement in the House voting in the majority, on the grounds set forth in the following resolution:—

Whereas, An Act containing similar provisions to those in the Bill now under consideration, came into operation in the Province of New Brunswick, on the 1st day of January last, and the success or failure of the experiment tried in that Province, will exercise a large influence on public opinion among our own constituents, and it is therefore prudent to suspend the further action of this House until the beginning of the next session. Resolved, therefore, that the further consideration of the said Bill be postponed until the next session.

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY.

By Telegraph to the Sentinel.

April 4th.—House principally occupied with routine business this morning. The bill relating to Mining Licences was withdrawn and a resolution was adopted in its stead. Hon. Attorney General in reply to a question put by a member of the House, stated that the Sheriffs for the different Counties had with two exceptions been reappointed. The bill to amend the Charter of the city of St. John was taken up a few minutes before one o'clock. Mr. End moved its postponement for 12 months—lost by a large majority.

April 5th.—The bill to remove the Shiretown of Kings County was postponed for three months.—Mr. Connell introduced a bill to suspend the grants to Kings College, which was read a first time.—The second bill relative to the St. Andrew's Railway was passed without opposition.

April 7th.—Several grants for the maintenance of superior schools were placed on the Supply Book this morning. General opinion is that each and all of these at the proper time will be rejected. There was some discussion in reference to the time for taking up the bill for the Repeal of the Prohibitory Law. The mover was not anxious to proceed with the bill to-day, consequently deferred until to-morrow.

April 8th.—After routine business Hon. Mr. Waters introduced a Bill to authorize the Judges to extend the terms of the Supreme Court. House transacting business in the morning with closed doors, in consequence of a statement having been made to the effect that several Books and other articles belonging to members have since Saturday mysteriously disappeared.—There was a long discussion in reference to the Bill to increase the Salary of the Clerk of the Peace for York County.

April 9th.—Mr. Goddard's bill to amend chap. 117 of the Revised Statutes, passed in Committee. Mr. McLellan's bill to prevent the delivery and transportation of mails on Sunday, was postponed for 3 months. Mr. McNaughton's bill to revive an Act which was in force in the reign of Henry VIII, and read a first time. The bill to repeal the Prohibitory Law was taken up a few minutes before 12 o'clock.

April 10th.—After transaction of routine business Mr. Harding gave notice of his intention to move a resolution for establishing the principle of Assessment, for the support of Parish Schools.—The bill to authorize the ballot at the election of Parish Officers, was taken up and occupied the time of the House for several hours. The principle of the bill was sustained by considerable of a majority, after which progress was reported. The House was informed by message that the Legislative Council had agreed to the several Railway bills without amendment. Also the bill relating to Savings Banks. The bill for the Repeal of the Prohibitory Law was taken up in the afternoon. The Speakers in opposition to the bill, were Messrs. Ryan, Brown, Gilmour, Wilmot, Hayward, Fisher and Gilbert. In support of the bill the Speakers were Messrs. Watters, McNaughton, Smith, Laundry and Hatheway. Progress reported. House adjourned at six o'clock.

April 11th.—The return of the propeller Arctic, Captain Hartstein, to Sandy Hook, from her first cruise in search of the missing steamer Pacific, and her report of her want of success, has in many minds, resolved their gloomy forebodings into certainty. The Pacific is out fifty-nine days to-day, and yet we find from 60 to 100 days not unusually long passages, at this season of the year, for our best packets.

to be taken to-morrow. During the course of the debate there was some warm conversation between Messrs. End and Tibbitts, and charges of a serious nature were alluded to Mr. McNaughton, and inadvertently upon the remarks as unparliamentary. House adjourned at 6 o'clock.

THE SEARCH FOR THE PACIFIC—LONG PASSAGE OF OTHER VESSELS.—The return of the propeller Arctic, Captain Hartstein, to Sandy Hook, from her first cruise in search of the missing steamer Pacific, and her report of her want of success, has in many minds, resolved their gloomy forebodings into certainty. The Pacific is out fifty-nine days to-day, and yet we find from 60 to 100 days not unusually long passages, at this season of the year, for our best packets.

Amongst the arrivals at this port published in Thursday's and Friday's Herald, ship Cornelius Grinnell, 60 days from London; bark Coriolanus, 74 days from Bremen; brig Von Schack, 100 days from Newcastle; brig Frances, 40 days from St. Domingo; ship Macaulay, 92 days from Marseilles; ship Harvest arrived at the Capes of Virginia, in 90 days from Liverpool.

From these facts it will be seen that on the hypothesis generally thought most probable—that the detention of the Pacific has been caused by the fields of ice off Cape Race—there ought to be no grounds for real alarm, certainly none for despair, should she not be heard from for two or three weeks to come.

The propeller Arctic left New York, in search, on the 11th of February, and steered East-South-east and met with a gale on the 12th. It commenced about half past two o'clock in the afternoon, the wind blowing North-Northwest; it blew severely for about forty-eight hours and left the vessel with eight feet of water in the hold, by reason of the bunkers not being secured at the dock when leaving.—N. Y. Herald.

THE PEACE CONFERENCE.—The Paris correspondent of the New York Commercial has the following interesting gossip in regard to the Peace Conference:—

"The shrewdest man of the Conference, in debate, is said to be M. de Brunow, who has thus far shown an ability which has placed all his opponents on guard against him. He weighs and criticises each word with a power of mind that keeps the rest on the constant watch, and it is further said that his criticisms have retarded business very much, by the care that is required in the recording of the minutes.

The Count Orloff, a first Minister, has his instructions as to what Russia will do and what she will not do; the Baron Brunow does the pleading. Orloff lays down the plans; Brunow does the fighting, and watches the enemy. Brunow has also visited extensively in the imperial and other distinguished families, and every where praises enthusiastically the bravery and invincibility of the French arms. He told Marshal Vaillant he had the greatest troops in the world, and almost embraced the brave Gen. Mellinet, (whom he met the other night at the Princess Mathilde's,) and who has his whole cheek carried away by a shell."

To show the severity of the winter and the continuance of westerly winds, there are now due at New York alone from Europe, sixty vessels

Table with 2 columns: Number of vessels, and days out from 25 to 40 days.

PTTSBURG, March 29.—Railroad Casualty.—The train which left Philadelphia this afternoon for this place was thrown down an embankment fifteen feet, and was only saved from going into the river by the cars lodging in the trees. Two of the passengers were seriously injured, and others badly bruised.