

A Bill to repeal the Liquor Law, and revive the Licence Law, was introduced by Hon. Mr. Gray, and read a first time.

A motion for its second reading was resisted by Mr. Smith and others. It was ultimately read a second time.

Mr. Sutton moved that the House do go into committee on his Bill for repeal of Prohibitory Law. On this there was some discussion, Messrs. Johnson, Watters, Smith, and others, insisting on his right to introduce the Bill. Mr. Sutton said he acted without any preconcert on his own motion. Mr. Gray, and other Government supporters, said it was not right to interfere when the Government had declared in the Speech their intention to introduce such a measure. The Bill was not committed.

The following petitions were then presented: From the Victoria College, St. John, praying endowment in wild lands. From Gilbert Flaglor, St. John, praying that the salaries of the Board of Health be abolished.

On the motion of Mr. Lawrence a Bill was introduced to divide the Parish of Carleton, St. John, into two parishes, and read a first and second time. Mr. Lawrence stated that the rector was aware of the petition before the House. The Bishop was not inclined to oppose the measure, and parties were anxious to commence the erection of a church.

Mr. Botsford's Bill, to amend the Charter of Moncton Rural Cemetery, was committed and passed in committee.

At half-past two the House went to Government House with the Address; a few of the opposition and none of the late Council went.

The House resumed business.

Mr. Harding presented the petition of John Johnston, Esq., Police Magistrate of St. John, praying an increase of Salary, on the ground that his duties were constantly increasing.

Mr. Kerr moved that the house do go into committee on the Bear Bounty Bill. Much discussion followed. Several members stated that the number of bears had greatly increased, and back settlers had suffered much from their ravages; they believed it was owing to the abolition of the Bounty. Only a few opposed the bill as likely to lead to imposition. Mr. Macpherson made a humorous speech, and the Bill passed by a large majority.

In reply to Mr. Fisher's question, do the Government intend to bring forward any measure relating to Railroads?—what has been done and what do they propose to do in regard to them, and when did they intend to survey the line from Fredericton to Woodstock?

The Attorney General announced that the Government would carry out the existing law relating to Railways, until other legislative action was commenced thereon, and it was not their intention at the present Session to introduce any measure on the subject. Mr. Light had been appointed Chief Engineer, and had been instructed by the Government to receive tenders for the construction of the Seadouc Bridge and also for other parts of the line from Shediac to the Bend, and the construction of the works would be proceeded with, with all despatch. The route from Fredericton to Woodstock would be surveyed without delay.

Mr. Fisher asked if the Government intended never to make any change in the Railway Bills?

The Attorney General replied that he was not prepared now to say what they might do next Session. He would only say they intended to make no change this session.

Mr. Mitchell asked, if the Government intended to submit any measure in reference to the Import Duty of 2 1/2 per cent. passed at the late session of the Legislature, with a view of relieving the trade of the country?

The Attorney General replied that the duty was set apart for a particular purpose, and the Government was not prepared to submit to the Legislature a measure on the subject.

FREDERICTON, 25th July.

This morning, Mr. Hatheway moved Bill to declare the Licence Law revived with certain amendments.

Messrs. Smith, Fisher, Kerr and others protested against this, asserting that Mr. Gray distinctly stated on the previous day that it was the intention of the Government, as foreshadowed in the Governor's speech, to introduce a Bill to repeal the Prohibitory Law, and had declared that if private members persisted in the practice of introducing Bills calculated to take the wind out of the sails of the Government, it would strike at the roots of Responsible Government, and no Government would be liable to any responsibility. That yielding to these remonstrances, Mr. Sutton withdrew his motion, and now another private member, belonging to the Government party, introduced another Bill of precisely the same character. They said the Government wanted to shirk responsibility, and were resorting to their old manoeuvres.

Mr. Gray denied and promised to introduce this Bill as a Government measure; he was satisfied as a lawyer, that by a repeal of the Prohibitory Law the Licence Law would be revived as on the Statute Book, and that this would be sufficient. But he believed it better to remove all doubts on the subject and declare the Law in force, making a few amendments in it. The Government were not prepared to introduce a new License system this Session, but next session would propose such alterations as might be found necessary.

Mr. Smith and others contended that the House must not merely for the purpose of repealing the Prohibitory Law, and that it was absurd to say that any responsibility attached to a proposal for its repeal. The country also expected a proper License Law, and the Government had had time to mature such a Bill. The country would not be satisfied with the old Law, and the regulations for granting Licences &c., instead of being left to the local magistrates, should be defined by law. This was a measure entailing responsibility, and the Government shirked it.

Messrs. Wilmot, McPhelim, Montgomery and End, denied that the Government undertook to bring in such a Bill. Mr. End contended that it was no matter who brought in the Bill, and he asserted the right of private members to introduce Bills and vote for a good bill introduced by any one.

After much warm discussion, Mr. Gray said he would put an end to the controversy by assuming the responsibility of the Bill, and would incorporate it with that introduced by himself. The only object of the Government was to avoid a lengthened discussion and waste of time; as they believed if the Bill were introduced as a Government measure, it would prove a bone of contention. He thought Mr. Sutton was quite satisfied with what was done, as the bill was compared with his and was essentially the same.

Mr. Smith said the loss of time was occasioned by the course adopted, as if the bill had been introduced by the Government, there would have been little discussion.

Mr. Sutton withdrew his motion in amendment of Mr. Hatheway's, viz. :—that his own Bill be committed, Mr. End was called to the Chair, and the two Bills passed as one in the following form. The Bill introduced by Mr. Hatheway commences at the sixth section.

A Bill to repeal the Act to prevent the importation, manufacture and traffic in intoxicating Liquors and to regulate the sale thereof:

Be it enacted by the Lieut. Governor, Legislative Council and Assembly as follows:—

1st. That an Act made and passed in the 18th year of the reign of Her present Majesty, entitled "An Act to prevent the importation, manufacture and traffic in intoxicating Liquors," be, and the same is hereby repealed.

2d. In all prosecutions for penalties under the said Act pending (whether on appeal or otherwise) at the time of the passing of this Act, it shall be lawful for the defendant in any such prosecution, if he shall think proper, to require all proceedings therein to be discontinued, on paying or tendering the amount of taxable costs, under the said Act, to the person entitled to receive the same, and on such payment or tender, such prosecution shall be immediately discontinued.

3d. Whenever Liquors and packages have been seized under the said Act hereby repealed, and have not been destroyed, the Governor in Council may order such Liquors and packages to be restored to the owner thereof, on payment of the taxable costs of such seizure, and the payment of the duties if any, to which the same are by Law liable.

4th. All duties imposed by an Act made and passed in the 18th year of this reign, entitled an Act imposing duties for raising a revenue on any article, the importation of which was prohibited by the act hereby repealed, shall be henceforth levied and collected as if the said act so repealed had never been passed.

5th. The general or special session or other bodies empowered under the said act to appoint agents for the sale of Liquors may make such arrangements for the disposal of any Liquors in charge of any agents appointed by them respectively—and for the compensation of such agents, as they may deem proper—and therefore the bonds given by such agents shall be discharged.

6th. An Act made and passed in the 17th year of the reign of her present Majesty, entitled an Act to regulate the sale of Spirituous Liquors, and an Act made and passed in the 18th of the same reign, entitled an Act to explain an Act intitled an Act to regulate the sale of Spirituous Liquors, are hereby declared to be in full force.

7th. The Justices of any special session are hereby empowered to grant Wholesale and Tavern Licences under the last mentioned Act, on such terms and conditions and upon payment of such sum as they shall deem just and proper, not exceeding the sum mentioned in the said act—the licence so granted to continue in force until the first quarter sessions thereafter.—All licences to be granted and regulations to be made in the city of Fredericton under the said Act hereby declared to be in force shall be granted and made by the City Council of the said City, and in all incorporated towns the licence to be granted and the regulations to be made as aforesaid shall be granted and made by the town Councils respectively.

8th. All complaints for violation of the said Act passed in the 17th year of her present Majesty's reign, entitled an Act to regulate the sale of spirituous Liquors within the police district of the City of St. John, or within the Parish of Portland in the City and County of St. John, and proceedings for penalties under the said Act in those districts shall be severally made, heard, tried and determined before the Police Magistrate of the said City, or the Sitting Magistrate at the Police office there, or before the Police Magistrate of the said Parish of Portland, or the Sitting Magistrates at the Police Office there—in whichever of the said districts the offence may have been committed, and not elsewhere.

Mr. McLellan explained that he would oppose the Repeal of the Prohibitory Law, because he was still a prohibitionist, and believed that the Law, if amended, could be carried out, and had not had a fair trial.

Mr. Gillmor would not vote for the Repeal, because doing so would be a partial justification of the act of the Governor, because the law had not had a fair trial. The whole turmoil and confusion was owing to the conduct of many in the last House who were neither prohibitionists in principle nor practice, and who did not act on their own conviction, but through dread of Temperance voters in their counties. They voted for the Law and against its repeal, and threw the country into confusion, heaping all the odium on those who were sincere and still avowed their principles. There never was a majority of prohibitionists in the House.

Mr. McPherson said Mr. Gillmor condemned the conduct of his own party. He once saw at Government House dinner, the late Speaker and Mr. Fisher, who had both voted a day or two before against the repeal of the Law, pass the bottle.

Mr. McAdam did not wish to do anything to show an approval of the dissolution.

Mr. Lawrence made a long speech against the Prohibitory Law, explaining his own conduct and change of opinion.

Mr. Waters, Mr. Johnson and others supported the Repeal.

Finally the Bill passed, no amendment being proposed to any section but the last, to which Mr. Watters attempted to move an addition, increasing the salary of the Police Magistrate of St. John but the House would not, at present, entertain the motion.

While Mr. Johnson was speaking, Mr. Mitchell rose and stated that some one in the lobby was making insulting remarks, and interrupting Mr. Johnson. The Speaker being called to the chair, the disturber was arrested by order of the House and taken into custody by the Sergeant-at-arms. After some discussion, on the motion of Mr. Watters, he was ordered to be discharged, with a caution to behave properly in future. Several members wished it to be understood, that order must be maintained.

In reply to a question respecting the Miramichi Branch Railway, the Attorney General answered that the law would be carried out.

A petition was presented from Sunbury complaining of the undue election of Messrs. Tapley and Perley.

It is said that the Gloucester Scrutiny Committee will report to-morrow (Saturday) to the house.

In the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, the Bear Bounty Bill, and Moncton Cemetery Bill, passed.

Correspondence of the Sentinel.

FREDERICTON, July 26.

After prayers, Mr. Fisher introduced a Petition from the County Council of York; but from the nature of my position I could not exactly understand its prayer.

On motion of Mr. End, the House went into Committee on a Bill to provide for the expenses of the Legislature. Mr. Gilbert moved an amendment which would have the effect of excluding all the paid members of the Government from receiving the daily allowance to members; which was seconded, after some delay, by Mr. Mitchell, who did so for the purpose of affording the hon. mover an opportunity to make known his reasons for the motion; but after having been rather severely handled by several hon. members, the question was taken on the amendment—which was lost by the almost unanimous vote of the House.

Mr. Mitchell asked the Attorney General whether or not he was prepared to answer his question relative to the documents connected with the dissolution, and other matters connected with the finances of the country. Mr. Gray said they would come by message.

Hon. Mr. McPhelim, the Post Master General, answers the following questions:—

First. Whether there ever had been any order in Council, defining the duties of his office? Answer, No such order made, and yet unprepared to make them for want of information. He should travel over the Province, after which the Council will be the better prepared to act.

Second. Whether the Hon. the Post Master General had made any changes in the department? Answer, He had made no changes in the department, and had not instructed, as had been alleged, any mail to run on Sunday.

Mr. Lawrence moved, that the House should go into Committee of the whole on a Bill to divide the Parish of Carleton, St. John, into two Parishes, for ecclesiastical purposes; which motion was spoken to by several members, and finally lost.

Mr. Gillmor moved, that the House should go into Committee of the whole on a Bill to extend the Gaol Limits in each County to the bounds thereof; to which Mr. John Earle moved an amendment that the House go into its consideration this day three months—which was carried.

Mr. Gilbert moved a resolution, having for its object the amalgamation of the offices of the Commissioner of Board of Works and Railway Commissioner; thereby saving to the country six hundred a year.

Mr. Kerr spoke in terms condemnatory of the mode adopted by the hon. mover in a matter of such great moment, and having been followed in a similar strain by several hon. members, the hon. mover consented to withdraw the same, and gave notice that at the next session he should be prepared to bring in a Bill on the subject, unless forestalled by the Government.

Mr. Tibbitts asked the Government whether it is their intention to do anything with the Grand Falls Bridge. The only member of the Government present was the Honorable Mr. McPhelim, Post-master General, and the answer from that hon. gentleman was, that he was unprepared to give an answer, but that the same should be given in 24 hours. When informed that before that period the House would be prorogued, an event which he seems to have forgotten, he said an answer should be given in two hours.

Some question having arisen respecting the debates, and the manner in which the contract was being carried out, several members expressed themselves in very strong terms of dissatisfaction.

Mr. Desbrisay was completely disappointed. He was on the committee to make the arrangement, and he must confess that the manner in which the contractors were fulfilling their agreements was very far from satisfactory.

Mr. Kerr also expressed himself to be very much dissatisfied; but Mr. Hatheway took upon himself the honor of smoothing over the matter, and thereby inflicting upon the public purse a charge of

probably more than one hundred pounds, which will, in all probability, be dear to the country at one hundred pence. Mr. Hatheway appears to understand such work.

Mr. Johnston said that the best reports were those of a brief character which were made for the daily papers.

Mr. Gillmor said that, at the opening of the House, he had asked that the petitions which had led to the late dissolution of the Assembly should be laid before the House, but no such documents had made their appearance.

(Surely Mr. G. did not entertain the thought for a moment that either Wilmot or Gray would ever accede to such an application. Dodge after dodge would be resorted to, and call after call may be made; but it will be like calling spirits, &c.—they are not to be caught so easily.)

The Committee on the McNaughton and End Scrutiny reported in favor of the former gentleman, who took his seat just before the House was prorogued.

The Speech was delivered at 3, P.M.

The Governor was cheered on leaving the House. Two straw hats were raised,—one belonging to a gentleman from Roast-a-Goose.—the other didn't.

A Champagne Supper at the Barker House closed the labors of hon. members.

In the evening, a large bon-fire, and very clever display of fire-works was made in front of the Cathedral, in honor of the repeal of the prohibitory liquor law and the Governor, thereby honoring Church and State.

P. P.

l
l
g
I
t
o
n
o
a
t
s
t
i
e

s of

ance,

many persons from the United States, who visited the Province from pleasure or business, complained much of the arrangements and accommodation afforded at our Hotels.

Several of the leading American papers furnished well-written articles, from gentlemen who had passed through the Province, admiring the natural scenery and beauty of our rivers and country, but condemning in no measured terms the management of both steamers and hotels, as affording neither comfort nor convenience for the traveller. Ever awake to speculation, the new field was soon entered, and a patronage, in proportion to the outlay and superior conduct of hotels under American direction, extended.

Whether the improvement in this department of our social existence may be attributed to foreign example, as above referred to, is for the public to judge; but true it is, that a marked improvement is readily observed, and ladies and gentlemen may now, on the River St. John at least, find hotels where the comforts and luxuries of life are furnished, without the knowledge of an equivalent in dollars and cents being necessary.

Some of the hotels recently erected by our own people, in St. John and Fredericton, as solid and ornamental structures, are a credit to the owners and the Province; and, although a Governor may set the example of patronizing an American hotel in St. John, while that of an Englishman or New-Brunswicker, affording accommodation equally good, is open for him, the appreciation of the imported article by such authority may not be entirely lost to the public.

Not the less observable is this neglect of native effort at Fredericton. While the members of our Legislature consider, with other grave matters, the subject of our foreign relations, and approve a reciprocity, we do not consider it at all incompatible with justice that they should, during their deliberations at Head Quarters, render a portion of those things which are Caesar's unto Caesar. It is a question, whether Fredericton being military head quarters is an advantage to its citizens or not. Some, from an attachment to their native place, remain, hoping, almost against hope, that better times may arrive, that ability, in whatever department, will be appreciated and rewarded. But its political atmosphere is its curse.

Time unemployed, incident to official stations, begets habits of dissipation, and the energies of our