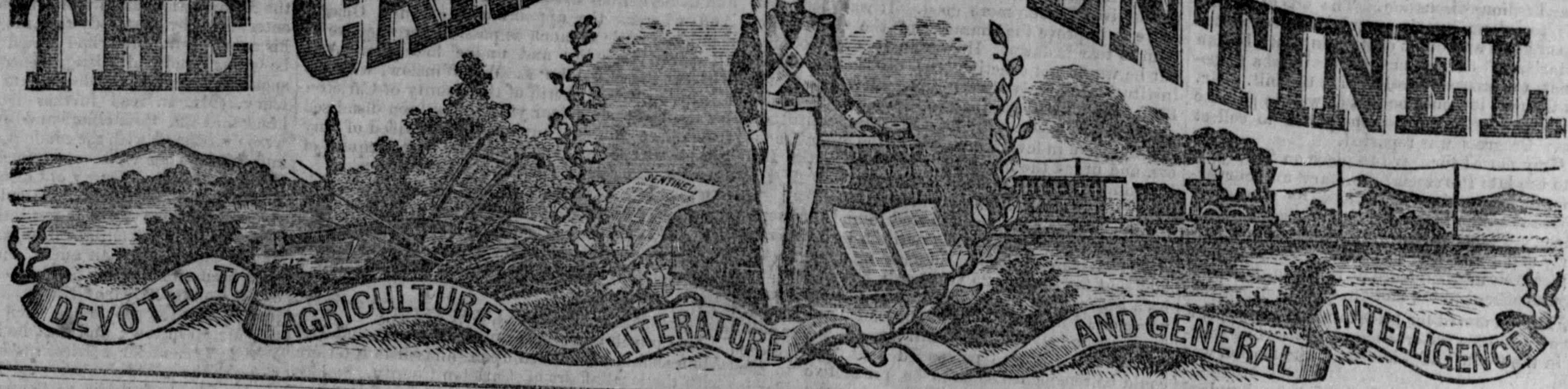


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[By JAMES McLAUCHLAN.

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Provincial Parliament.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Reported for the Carleton Sentinel.

April 14th.

This morning the Hon. Mr. Fisher introduced a bill relating to Municipalities, the most prominent feature of which consisted in the amendment of the present Law, so as to enable Municipalities to make further and more comprehensive rules for their own governance. It being a bill of some importance, progress was reported.

Two bills from the city of St. John were under consideration, upon one of which it was decided to report progress, while the other was passed after much discussion upon an amendment thereto proposed by Mr. Watters. There was also a discussion of some importance upon the application of a person from the County of Kent for a sum of money in consequence of a loss of remittance sustained by him, owing to the default of a mail carrier. The House established a precedent by refusing the grant. Mr. Connell's bill to abolish the grant to Kings College, was taken up in the afternoon. The following is a synopsis of his speech:

Mr. Connell stated that the object of the bill and the motives by which he was guided in introducing it. He referred to the various steps that had been taken by this House from time to time in respect to this Institution, and the unsatisfactory results which had followed. The bill contained two simple propositions, one of which was all that some would consider necessary owing to the supposition that the Government were likely to introduce an Educational measure. He proposed appropriating the money hitherto used for the support of the College to a fund which might be expended in assisting to carry out a proper system of Education that might be agreed on thereafter. The bill however made provisions for the continuance of the affairs of the Institution, for a certain period to come. Mr. Connell next alluded to the progress that had been made by the Commissioners. From reading their Report and from the fact that they had allowed the Institution to remain as it was, he had come to the conclusion that the College was not accomplishing any good purpose. He thought it would be necessary to pass this bill before going on with any Educational scheme. This would induce the gentlemen now connected with the Institution to choose other situations. It was no use to talk of remodelling. There must be a new set of officers, otherwise the prejudices against the Institution would still continue to be entertained by the people of the Province. He (Mr. C.) had realized the fact that the Institution was inefficient when he was obliged to send his own son abroad to receive a Collegiate Education. There was evidence enough however to satisfy any one that something must be done, and that immediately. The rising generation required more facilities for obtaining an education in our own Province. He was opposed to the remodelling of the Institution, and he believed it would have the effect of sweeping off the grants to the other Educational establishments throughout the Province. As to the proper mode of supporting Common Schools, he held that no measure would answer unless it involved direct taxation. This was the system which had been adopted in Nova Scotia, and was found to work well. He did not see much prospect of any School measure being introduced this Session. The Government he thought in this respect, were derelict in their duty, but they might have an object in view by delaying. He (Mr. C.) would much rather that no measure had been introduced than the bill which had been brought in by Mr.

Fisher. He did not believe there was any thing which gave so much dissatisfaction to the country as this grant to Kings College, to corroborate which he would refer to some statistics connected with the Institution. According to a recent return there were scholars in attendance, three of whom were "residents." Dr. Jacob received a salary of £550. Dr. Robb, £300. W. B. Jack, £300. Mr. D—, £120. John Henning, £45. S. Henry, £15. H. Wardlet, £40. L. Neville, £10. George Turner, £10. Rev. G. Coater, £5. Rev. Q. Ketchum, £5. Register, £100. Incidental expenses, £242 0 2. Scholarships, £73 6 8d. Lehany, £276 3 6. The total sum, £2,091 10 4. Collegiate School—Mr. Roberts, 2905 Mr. Coater, 1007. John Stephen, 127 10. G. Robinson, 377 10. Total, 3507. Incidental, 1447 3 11. Income Rent Roll, 174 11 3.—1047 0 6. Joint Fund, 457 0 6. Plate Fund, 37 5 0. Delapidated Fund, 17 16 9. Total, 3287 14 0. This added to balance &c., &c., 21737 11 5d makes in all 25027 5 5. leaving a balance in hand of 867 3 11. This shows that one thing is certain, whether any one has been benefitted or not by attendance at the College that out of 25000, only 867 is left. Mr. C. also spoke of the large amount which was granted to the Grammar School, (5907.) being equal to that received by five Schools of the same class in other Counties. He computed the amount for each Scholar in attendance at the College, at 175s. In addition to this, four of the Scholars had an additional sum allowed them from the funds of the College, of 15s. a year. He (Mr. C.) did not think the House was prepared to submit to such an incubus on the public funds of this country, received from the hard earnings of the industry of the people; and this for the purpose of educating the sons of a few people about Fredericton, at an expense of 1907 each, per year. They might continue to do it, but it would not be with his consent. Mr. C. spoke further on the subject, and urged the necessity of passing the bill, in order that the way might be paved for the introduction of a better system of Education throughout the Province.

Mr. End spoke in opposition to the bill, as did also Mr. Brown, after which progress was reported.

A Committee consisting of Messrs. Allan, Gilmore and McPhelim, were appointed to wait upon His Excellency with the Address moved by Mr. Allan respecting the appointment of the Sheriff of Carleton.

April 16th.

With the exception of a few bills the College question was the principal subject before the House yesterday. The most characteristic of the bills referred to, was one introduced by Mr. McNaughton. The object of the bill was to compel persons to attend the House of God on the Sabbath, under a severe penalty. It also made compulsory provisions for the pursuing of a course of rectitude and integrity through life. Although the purport of the bill was serious in its nature, the House seemed disposed to treat it with farcical contempt, and it was wisely suggested that the provisions be made applicable only to members of the lower branch of the Legislature. The bill was quietly postponed for twelve months, and members seemed quite indifferent as to whether it should be disposed of in this or any other way. Mr. Connell's bill to abolish the grant to Kings College, and Mr. Fisher's bill relative to a comprehensive system of University Education, were taken up and discussed together during the afternoon. Messrs. Cutler, Hannington, Smith and J. A. Harding, spoke in favor of the former, and the Hon. Attorney General, Provincial Secretary, and Mr. Hatheway in favour

of the latter. Most of the speeches were very brief with the exception of that of the Attorney General, who spoke for upwards of one hour in support of the bill which he had introduced. The question is pending before the House and several speeches are yet to be made.

To-day the House was in supply during the greater part of the time. Mr. Fisher's bill relative to Municipalities, was carried after much discussion. Mr. Wilmot spoke of the propriety of adding a clause giving Municipalities the power to elect their Sheriff. Mr. Connell related some facts connected with the Sheriff of Carleton and the Municipality of that County. In Supply, Mr. Hatheway moved that there be granted to William Segge, of Fredericton, the sum of blank pounds for the use of vehicle and two-forty in the Session of 1851, for the benefit of the members of the House at that time. The motion was sustained, when Mr. Hatheway moved that the blank be filled with the sum of 257. Mr. J. A. Harding moved as an amendment, that the Chairman leave the chair, report progress, and ask leave to sit again. Mr. Connell took Mr. Harding severely to task for his efforts to hinder the business of the country from being transacted. Mr. C. also advocated the claim of Mr. Segge as being a just one, and contended that at this late period of the Session, the House should proceed immediately with the business of the country. Mr. Montgomery stated that Mr. Segge had received 507, and that was sufficient for carrying three men. Mr. Hatheway defended the claim, and said that the coach procured by Mr. Segge, for that purpose, cost \$150. Mr. Harding stated that the stage at the time only carried Mr. Segge's boarders. Mr. Boyd denied this. Mr. Cutler stated that several members of the House rode in it. Mr. Smith looked upon it as an insult to the House and a species of coercion. Mr. Hatheway hoped that the blank would be filled and the question for ever settled. The motion to reconsider was lost. Mr. Smith then moved that the Chairman leave the chair, and took the Speaker to task for not preserving the dignity of the House. His Honor the Speaker replied that he would support the dignity of the House as much as any other member; he denied however that he was bound to maintain the dignity of the House as Speaker, when another gentleman at the time referred to was acting in that capacity. Mr. Hatheway stated that Mr. Smith was out of order, and that for once Mr. S. was in opposition to the principle that the majority should rule. The amendment was decided to be out of order, and after much more speech making, Mr. Hatheway's motion for 257. was sustained. Mr. Sutton moved for a grant of 507. for a wharf at Newcastle. Several members supported it. Mr. Connell stated that the grant had been rejected by the Committee of Trade, but as the door had been fairly opened yesterday by a similar grant to the town of St. Andrews, he could not vote against the motion. Mr. C. also expressed himself opposed to the principle of Church Corporations having control of ferries, as was stated to be the case at Newcastle. Mr. Tilley said that Mr. Connell voted for the motion because it affected the Church of England. Mr. Connell replied to Mr. Tilley and defied him or the House to point out a vote of his that had been given against the interests of the Church of England. Mr. Johnson in a humorous strain referred to the course pursued by Messrs. Tilley and Connell, when they both voted in favour of Mr. Gray's bill relative to the Parish of St. Mark's, and considered by some to be against the interests of the Church of England. Mr. Tibbit's hoped the mover would not press the motion. It seemed he said to be a question between the Church and State, (or between the Church corporation and the Sessions,) and he

hoped that a compromise between the bodies would be effected. He should be compelled to vote against the motion until this was done. Mr. Cutler was not an enemy to the Church, but he held that she should not get into difficulties in this way. Mr. C. during his speech administered a severe but wholesome rebuke upon Mr. End for his interruption with "Can't hear a word, Mr. Chairman,"—an expression which not unfrequently comes from the same source. Mr. Sutton finally withdrew his motion. A grant to Philips & Brothers of St. John, met with some opposition. It was for return of duties on machinery. Mr. Tibbits opposed the motion for the reason as he stated, that the machinery might have been procured in the Province.—Mr. T. also opposed a similar grant to Thorn and Lee, and contended that there were too many motives of this kind coming from St. John. The Trade Committee presented their Report and recommended a sum of money to be appropriated to those who had sustained losses by the working of the Prohibitory Law. Mr. Connell stated that the Trade Committee had pursued a most extraordinary and improper course. He was a member of that Committee, and had never been asked to sit, nor was it intimated to him that such a report was to be presented. The Report was received, but not with the understanding that the recommendation would be carried into effect. Mr. Tibbits moved for leave to place on Supply the sum of £150 to be applied in promoting a "cut through the rock," on a road near the Tobique. In this instance Mr. T. was successful, and although a faint opposition presented itself, the motion was carried.

April 17th.

Any spectator in the House of Assembly this day, need not have been informed that the Supply Book was about to be closed. At times honorable members would seem to lose sight of the importance of preserving the dignity of the House, so undignified were the efforts to have a share in the general scramble. It generally happened that the member who possessed stentorian lungs, was the better man for his constituents in so far as the getting of public money was concerned. Mr. McPherson succeeded in placing a grant of £100 on the Supply Book, for the purpose of erecting a steamboat wharf at Spring Hill. Several grants of this description are said to be on the Supply Book, and if one is rejected, it is probable they will all meet with the same fate. Mr. Allan from a Committee appointed to wait upon His Excellency with the Address respecting the appointment of a Sheriff for Carleton County, reported that he had attended to that duty, and His Excellency was pleased to state that he would communicate to the House by message. Subsequently the Honorable Attorney General laid all the documents before the House, and the Royal Gazette of yesterday, containing notice of the appointment of Mr. Dickerson as Sheriff of Carleton, in place of Mr. Winslow who was left out by the Government. Mr. End inquired of members of the Government respecting documents connected with Liquor cases tried before George L. Raymond, of Woodstock.—Being replied to, Mr. E. moved an Address to His Excellency, which was sustained by a small majority. A bill to revive and continue an Act relating to dockage and wharfage in the city of Saint John, passed without opposition. Mr. Cutler obtained permission to place on the Supply Book, a sum of £300 to be granted Charles Fisher, Esq., for services performed in connection with the Codified Laws. The bill to make Sheriff Street, in the Parish of Portland, a Public Highway, was opposed by Mr. Connell, who complained of the amount of legislation that had to be transacted for Saint John. The bill was rejected. A grant of £60 was