

Provincial Parliament.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

TUESDAY, March 8, 1859.

Mr. Chipman presented a petition from Cornwallis, also, one from Horton, against the passage of the Representation Bill.

Mr. Bill presented a petition, numerously signed, from the electors of Aylesford and Cornwallis, praying for the passage of a Prohibitory Liquor Law. The hon. gentleman moved for a special committee on the subject. The following committee was appointed—Messrs. Archibald, Bill, Moses, Morrison, and McLellan.

Mr. Webster presented petitions from Aylesford against the Representation Bill before the House.

Hon. Attorney General presented a petition from Annapolis, praying for a Prohibitory Liquor Law.

The hon. the Provincial Secretary asked leave of the House for Mr. Bent to return home after to-day, in consequence of indisposition. Leave granted.

On motion, the adjourned debate on the Representation Bill was resumed.

Mr. Morrison and Mr. Annand addressed the House.

The House adjourned at six o'clock, for an hour.

In the Evening Session the following gentlemen addressed the House—Mr. Wier, Mr. Tobin, Mr. McFarlane, Mr. Chambers, Mr. Martell, Mr. McLellan, Mr. Munroe, Mr. McKeagney.

A conversational debate then ensued as to the propriety of closing the debate that night. The galleries were cleared at 11 o'clock, on a question of order.

The House sat with closed doors until twelve o'clock, and then adjourned until half-past two o'clock the next day.

WEDNESDAY, March 9.

Hon. Provincial Secretary, by command of His Excellency, laid on the table the Report of the Commissioners of the Normal School. Also, the Report of the Commissioners of St. Peter's Canal, and the Report of Mr. Laurie on that work.

Mr. Shaw presented a petition from Weymouth, for a Draw Bridge.

Several private and local bills were read a second time.

Mr. Ryder presented a petition from Argyle, praying for a Prohibitory Liquor Law.

The Provincial Secretary, in answer to the request of the member for Newport, laid on the table Mr. Laurie's estimate of the cost of a railway to Hantsport.

Mr. McLellan was substituted for Mr. Archibald on the Temperance Committee.

Mr. McFarlane presented the petition of Gaius Lewis, praying for compensation.

Mr. Tobin presented a petition from Margaret's Bay, in favor of the Representation Bill.

On motion of the hon. Attorney General, the adjourned debate was resumed.

The following gentlemen addressed the House—Messrs. Webster, Brown, Parker, Morrison, hon. C. J. Campbell, Mr. Churchill, hon. Mr. Young.

Hon. Mr. Young moved the following amendment:

"Whereas the bill entitled 'An Act for better Equalizing the Elective Franchise in certain Counties,' while it leaves many of the present anomalies untouched, abolishes county representation in Halifax, Pictou, Colchester, Hants, and Kings, and abolishes also township representation in Amherst, Arichat, Annapolis, Clare, Cornwallis, Digby, Falmouth, Granville, Horton, Lunenburg, Newport, Pictou, Sydney, and Windsor, and introduces other extensive changes in the representation of the Province, on which the constituencies of said counties and townships, and the people at large, who have had no notice thereof, ought to be consulted before they became law: Therefore Resolved, that the bill be published for general information, and that the further consideration thereof be postponed until the next Session.

The hon. Provincial Secretary then addressed the House.

The question was then taken on the Hon. Mr. Young's amendment, when there appeared for the amendment 22, against it 28.

For the amendment—Messrs. Munroe, Bailey, B. Smith, Rhinard, McDonald, Webster, Archibald, Geldert, McKenzie, Parker, McLellan, Robinson, Young, Locke, Morrison, Chambers, Howe, Chipman, Davidson, Wier, Annand and Esau—22.

Against the amendment—Wade, Bent, Moses, Shaw, Brown, Bourneuf, Martell, Churchill, White, McLellan, Ruggles, McFarlane, Killam, J. Campbell, Wilkins, hon. C. Campbell, Tobin, Ryder, Henry, hon. Attorney General, Bill, McKeagney, hon. Financial Secretary, hon. Provincial Secretary, McKinnon, Robicheau, Caldwell, and Smith—28.

The question was then taken on the second reading of the bill. The number stood on division as above.

Hon. Attorney General asked leave to present a petition from the inhabitants of Dartmouth, in favor of the Representation Bill.

THURSDAY, March 10.

House met at 2 o'clock, and sat with closed doors until half-past 4 o'clock.

The following bills were read a third time:—An act for escheating lands, which have been forfeited to the Crown; and an act relating to the Indian reserves.

At the request of the member for the county of Halifax, (Mr. Annand,) the hon. Attorney General deferred the consideration of the Representation Bill in committee until the next day.

The house resolved itself into committee on bills, and passed a number of private and local bills.

The house resumed.

Hon. Prov. Secretary, by command, laid on the table a copy of a despatch from the Colonial Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor on the subject of the expense of firing fog signals. Also, a copy of the correspondence between the Secretary of State for the Colonies and the Lieutenant Governor, on the subject of compulsory pre-payment of postage. Also, a return of names of persons employed in the various public offices—in answer to the request of the member for Halifax, (Mr. Annand.)

Mr. Tobin, as chairman of the committee on Trade and Manufactures reported the tariff for the ensuing year, as submitted by the Fin. Secy. It is proposed, in future, to collect the duties in currency, instead of sterling monies, as formerly, and where the duty has been imposed on articles by the hundred weight of 112 lbs.; it is proposed by the new tariff to have it calculated on the hundred pounds.

Hon. Mr. Howe, from the railway committee, reported a resolution to the effect that the committee had unanimously resolved to recommend the government to advance £500 to Jas. Burgess, of Windsor, on account of railway damages. A long discussion ensued. The question was then taken on the resolution, when there appeared for the resolution, 17; against it, 13.

For—Messrs. Bailey, McKenzie, Churchill, B. Smith, Tobin, Parker, Henry, Esau, Wier, Young, Howe, Chambers, Attorney General, Webster, Annand, Chipman and Archibald—17.

Against—Messrs. Ryder, Bill, Bourneuf, McKinnon, Caldwell, Shaw, Robertson, Financial Secretary, Killam, Moses, Brown, P. Smith and Provincial Secretary—13.

So the resolution passed.

Hon. Fin. Secretary gave notice to rescind.

FRIDAY, March 11.

The following bills were read a third time, and ordered to be sent to the Council for concurrence:—An Act to amend the Act to constitute Argyle a separate district; an Act to legalize the appointment of commissioners of streets for Liverpool; and an Act to naturalize certain Aliens.

Mr. Wade, as chairman of the committee on private bills, reported several bills.

The house in committee.

The Representation Bill was taken up. On motion that the first clause pass, hon. Mr. Young addressed the committee, and moved the following resolution, on the subject of county representation:—

Resolved, That the county representation shall prevail over the whole Province, except in the city of Halifax.

Which was seconded by Mr. Munro.

The Attorney General replied, and opposed the motion.

Hon. Mr. Young followed.

The following gentlemen then addressed the committee—Hon. Mr. Henry, Mr. Locke, hon. the Speaker, hon. Mr. Howe, and Mr. Tobin.

SATURDAY, March 12th.

Mr. White introduced a bill to alter two electoral districts.

Dr. Webster and Mr. Chipman presented petitions against the representation bill.

Hon. Fin. Secretary introduced a bill for naming Port Mulgrave in the county of Guysboro.

Mr. Ryder inquired of the government what progress had been made in the new edition of the Revised Statutes.

Hon. Atty. General replied that after considerable progress had been made on the work the printers were obliged to stop for want of paper, the paper mills in Boston not being able to furnish the supply, from the severity of the weather. This happily had now been obviated, and he had no doubt that the remainder of the work would be speedily executed.

The house in committee.

Hon. Atty. General moved the second clause of the Representation Bill.

Hon. Mr. Howe moved the amendment that the members of Hants, Kings, Pictou and Colchester shall be county members to be elected at one and the same time. After some remarks from hon. Mr. Howe, hon. Atty. General, Mr. McLellan, Mr. Morrison, hon. Mr. Henry, hon. Mr. Young, hon. Provincial Secretary, Mr. Parker, on division there appeared for the amendment 14, against 25.

Mr. McLellan moved another amendment to the second clause, that in each of the counties of Hants, Kings, Pictou and Colchester, there be two county members, and two electoral districts, each returning one member.

The amendment was negatived, and the committee adjourned until 3 o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The hon. Atty. General moved the second clause of the Representation Bill.

Mr. Wier moved an amendment, which was put and passed in the negative, 26 to 22.

Mr. Annand then moved an amendment that the county of Halifax should be divided according to the school district divisions, each district to return one member, and the city of Halifax to return one. After some conversational remarks from Mr. Annand, Mr. Morrison, the Provincial Secretary, Mr. Wier, Mr. Tobin, Mr. Esau, hon. Mr. Young, the amendment was put and negatived 26 to 22.

Mr. McDonald moved an amendment to the second clause. Messrs. Young, Howe, Prov. Secy., Wilkins and Atty. General addressed the house. On division the resolution was negatived 26 to 22.

Mr. B. Smith then moved an amendment. After some observations from hon. Mr. Howe the amendment was negatived 22 to 26.

To the fourth clause the Atty. General moved

an amendment to meet the objection made in debate by Mr. Chambers and Mr. Young.

Mr. Chambers moved four amendments, which were lost by 26 to 22.

The question was then taken on the amendment of the hon. Atty. General, which passed in the affirmative, 26 to 22.

The hon. Atty. General then moved the fifth clause.

Mr. McLellan and Mr. Morrison moved amendments. Negatived 26 to 22.

The fifth to the eleventh clauses passed.

The committee then rose.

The Prov. Secretary laid on the table certain correspondence relating to the sale of St. Peter's Island.

MONDAY, March 14th.

House met at 3 o'clock.

Mr. Wade presented a petition from the inhabitants of Digby Neck, asking for the passage of a prohibitory liquor law.

Hon. Prov. Secretary, by command, laid on the table papers connected with claims before the railway committee. Also, report of supervisors of high roads for the county of Halifax. Also, certain accounts relating to Indian affairs.

Mr. Tobin asked special leave to introduce a bill respecting assessment in the city of Halifax.

Mr. Tobin, as chairman of the committee on trade and manufactures, reported.

Hon. Mr. Young objected to that portion of the report of the Committee on Trade and Manufactures, which rejected the application of Messrs. Symonds for a return of duties on articles destroyed by fire. Mr. Tobin explained that the Committee had carefully examined this case and they had come to the conclusion that it would establish a dangerous precedent.

A long discussion ensued on that portion of the report which referred to the bounties received by French fishermen and the propriety of imposing a duty on French fish imported into the Province.

Mr. Annand presented two petitions against the Representation Bill.

The hon. Atty. General moved the third reading of the representation bill.

Mr. McFarlane asked leave to introduce a bill to amend chapter 48 of the revised statutes, of township officers.

Mr. Killam, from the committee on retrenchment, reported, recommending among other things that the members' pay for this session be £60 each, instead of a pound a day.

Hon. Mr. Young moved the following resolution:—

Resolved, That for the reasons already entered upon the Journals of the house, when the bill proposing to be for the better equalizing of the representation was read a second time, that the consideration of the bill be deferred for three months.

On division there appeared: for the resolution 21—against it 27—so it passed in the negative.

For—Geldert, B. Smith, McKenzie, Reinhard, Bailey, Webster, Parker, McDonald, Locke, Munroe, Morrison, McLellan, Hon. Mr. Young, Chambers, Annand, Hon. Mr. Howe, Robertson, Wier, Davidson, Esau.—21.

Against—Wade, Hon. Mr. Henry, Ruggles, Killam, Bourneuf, Brown, Hon. John Campbell, Churchill, Martell, Caldwell, Moses, McKeagney, White, Wilkins, Bill, Tobin, McFarlane, McLellan, Ryder, Hon. Prov. Secretary, Hon. Atty. General, Shaw, Hon. Mr. McKinnon, Hon. Financial Secretary, P. Smyth, Robicheau, Hon. C. J. Campbell.—27.

Hon. Mr. Young, Hon. Mr. Howe, Messrs. McLellan, Webster, Chipman, Wier, Annand, McDonald, Bennett Smith, Parker, Chambers and Morrison then moved the several amendments proposed by them when the bill was in committee, which were again rejected. The names and numbers on division standing as above.

The bill then finally passed and was ordered to be sent to the Legislative Council for concurrence, the names and numbers remaining the same.

European & Foreign News.

THE PROSPECTS OF PEACE.

The occurrences and rumours which we hear of from abroad, leave us much where we were. We read of the profound sensation produced by the Emperor's speech among the Romans, who yet were careful not to express their opinions where they might be overheard; of the warlike character of the debate in the Sardinian Chambers on the proposal for a loan; of the misunderstanding between Sardinia and Austria over an affair of a customs league with Modena; of Austria forbidding horses to be taken across the Sardinian frontier, and Sardinia retaliating by prohibiting the sale of forage to Austria; of a notice being given to Austria by Sardinia, that the latter terminates the treaty for the extradition of deserters, and that hundreds of young Italians escape the Austrian conscription, and enlist under the banners of Sardinia. While on the part of France we hear of the construction of large floating batteries, and an immense number of flat-bottomed boats suitable for disembarking troops. All this time we have the Emperor's ambiguous speech, representing France as interested in the redress of wrong everywhere, and chiding excitement; warlike pamphlets, and yet *La Presse* warned for warlike articles, with a rise of the French funds in consequence; peace in professions, war in mysterious hints, and unusual warlike preparations. Louis Napoleon is still on the throne. While he is there no nation dares return to a peace establishment. Alas, England dares not; in 1860, Louis Napoleon will cost us a perpetuation of the income-tax. We shall still have to outbuild the ever-increasing navy of our Ally.—*Freeman*.

INDIA.

The Campaign in Oude ended on the 8th of January. The Begum, and it is supposed the Nena with her, had escaped into Nepal; we shall, therefore, now see what our old ally, Jung Bahadoor, will do. Unfortunately at present there is some misunderstanding between him and the Governor-General, relative to a Resident to whom the Nepal Ministry objects, by whom our Government cannot censure. Some time ago his successor had not been appointed. Many of the natives most implicated appear to have followed their leaders into Nepal, and indeed to have made an irruption from thence into British territory, but to meet, as usual, with a signal repulse. All the forts had been destroyed in Oude, 400,000 stand of arms surrendered; ten leaders had also surrendered themselves, and a Zemindaree settlement is said to be proceeding successfully. In Central India, Tania Topee and Feroze Shak were still at large. Besides mention of severe marches and successful attacks on these leaders, we read of a communication from the Commissioner of Rohilkund, of a body of 20,000 or 30,000 rebels being encountered and defeated, apparently in his own vicinity. That such numbers can be collected now does border on the marvellous.

"ALEXANDRIA, Feb. 11."

The steamer *Northern* from Bombay arrived at Suez on the 8th inst., Bombay date Jan. 25.

"The rebellion in Oude is entirely suppressed. The Begum and some followers have gone by night marches into Nepal, partly forcing, partly bribing, her way; the Sepoys of her party are said to be plundering the Nepal villages.

"A corps of observation remains on the frontier.

"The Nena is supposed to be with the Begum.

"Brigadier Showers, with a column from Agra, came up with the rebels under Tania Topee, at Boshia, on the 16th of January, having marched ninety-four miles in three days. They defeated and dispersed them, killing about 300. Three chiefs fell on the field, and one, on an elephant, was overtaken and killed by Lieut. Hadfield, of the Agra police cavalry.

"On the same day a body of rebels crossed the River Sarlah into Rohilkund, but where driven back.

"The following is the latest intelligence from Allahabad:—

"Jan. 18, 7'23 p. m.

"The commissioner of Rohilkund reports that the rebels, who numbered from 20,000 to 30,000 were defeated with slaughter, and driven across Sartheas, their guns taken, and Nurput Sing of Rooza and Benec Sing killed.

The news by the recent telegrams from India is considered so satisfactory that the War Office has resolved on sending no more troops thither via Egypt. All detachments sent out will now, therefore, proceed to India by the Cape of Good Hope.

FRANCE.

The French paper, *La Presse*, had been "warned" on account of an article "on the hopes of Italy." The general tenor of this article is said to be in precisely the strain that *La Presse* has adopted for the last six months. It is also affirmed that the warning has been given on the representation of the Austrian Ambassador. The following passage may be taken as an index of the tone of *La Presse*:—"Italy does not rely on her own unaided efforts to throw off the yoke of her oppressors; she invokes the co-operation of generous nations. Ought we not to welcome with gratitude the opportunity of putting a term to the anxiety which torments Europe," &c.

It is said the Austrian Ambassador threatened to demand his passports if some satisfaction were not given for these assertions, and that, consequently, in opposition to the opinion of Prince Napoleon and several members of the council, the notice was given.

Military preparations have not in any way abated. The army of Lyons is ordered to be placed on a war footing without delay.

A Paris correspondent of the *Independence* of Brussels says:—"I am informed that France is preparing a memorandum to the Powers for the purpose of explaining what is reprehensible in the present situation of Italy.

The correspondent of *The Daily News*, writing on Friday, says:—"The idea that the Conference, summoned for the purpose of settling the affair of the Moldo-Wallachian election, will attempt to meddle with the thorny Italian question, is now definitely abandoned; but the rumour of the day is that France, England, Russia, and Prussia, are agreed to ask Austria to consent to a Special Conference with a view of considering what reforms it may be practicable to introduce into the Roman States, in order to prepare the way for their evacuation by foreign troops. Scarcely any reasonable hopes are entertained of good from such a meeting.

It is stated in a despatch from Vienna, Feb. 17, that Austria will send representatives to the Paris conference, provided England and Prussia guarantee that the Italian question shall not be mooted.

The correspondent of *The Daily News* says:—"I learn from a private source, in which I place confidence, that the Emperor is preparing tents, horses, arms, uniform, &c., to take the field in person. I am as convinced as it is possible to be of any proposition not mathematically demonstrated, that his bosom burns with the ambition to command an army in actual warfare."

The late leader of the Pope's brass band, Mr. G. H. Moore, has just covered Montalembert with all the abuse which Irish Romanists know so well how to apply. He is now, "a restless pilgrim from one shrine to another—the wandering preacher of every fanaticism which will own him as a teacher."