

Flowers of the morning! bright be your bloom,
 Weaving with beauty the slumberers' tomb;
 Flowers of the evening! open your eyes,
 O'er the dust of the saint, who has passed to the
 skies;
 Blossoms of night spread your petals so fair,
 'Midst the silence and shadows lingering there.
 As Hope looketh up amidst silence and tears,
 Looketh on through the dim shaded vista of years,
 For the morning of heaven which Death's slumbers
 will break;
 When the ransomed in "beauty immortal" shall
 wake.

—Communicated.

Religious Intelligence.

WOLFVILLE.—In the absence of any account received for publication of the Work of Grace at Wolfville, we extract two or three items which will be read with interest by many, from a letter received from Rev. Dr. Cramp. He will pardon the liberty we thus take.

"At our Conference meeting on Saturday last, the Vestry was crammed to excess. Twenty-two candidates presented themselves; among them, seven students. All were accepted. Then another student, who had belonged to the Free Christian Baptists, was received. An excluded member was restored, and then another by letter."

"Nineteen were baptized, on Lord's Day, in the Gaspareaux river, fifteen males and four females. It was a fine sight, when they afterwards all stood in the aisle, with the three mentioned before, and were publicly received into the Church."

In the afternoon we had a meeting in the Academy Hall. It was my day for a lecture, but I thought it more prudent to conduct a prayer meeting.

It was a good time. The students of College and Academy, and the ladies of the Seminary, were present. Five of the newly-baptized spoke, and excellently well."

ANNAPOLIS COUNTY.—Bro. Wallace writes: "The last meeting of our Ministerial Conference took place at Bridgetown on the 7th inst. More time than usual was spent in devotional exercises. We regarded the precious prayer-meeting held at Deacon W. Chipman's on Wednesday morning, as a token that spiritual blessings of no ordinary kind were about to be bestowed upon the churches of Annapolis County. Many fervent and importunate prayers were presented, I trust in faith, and the blessings will come. Probably the gratifying intelligence given us by the brethren from Pine Grove rendered our meeting more impressive."

It being the Annual Meeting of the Conference, the following brethren were appointed officers for the ensuing year, viz.:
 Rev. Isaiah Wallace, *Chairman*.
 Rev. William H. Porter, *Secretary*."

Provincial Parliament.

TUESDAY, FEB. 14th.

Mr. Caldwell inquired what progress had been made during the recess in the publication of the Revised Statutes.

Mr. Blanchard replied that the publication had been delayed by the preparation of the Index; but this was now completed, and the Statutes would be ready to be handed to the Government in all probability by Saturday next.

Hon. Prov. Secy. moved the adoption of the following list of STANDING COMMITTEES.

Committee of Privileges.—Hon. Attorney General, Messrs. Archibald, S. McDonald, S. Campbell, Locke, Pryor, and Hon. Mr. McFarlane.

Public Accounts.—Messrs. Jost, G. S. Brown, Whitman, McLellan, Smyth.

Education.—Hon. Prov. Secy, Mr. Archibald, Hon. Mr. Shannon, S. Campbell, Dr. Brown, Mr. Bourinot, Tobin.

Agriculture.—Hon. Mr. McFarlane, Mr. Blackwood, Hon. Mr. McKinnon, Mr. Parker, Dr. Hamilton, Mr. Smyth, Mr. Allison.

Fisheries.—Messrs. Levesconte, Ross, Killam, Robertson, Jost, Balcom, Robicheau.

Post Office.—Hon. Atty. Gen. Messrs. Coffin, Hatfield, Heffernan, Bourinot, Blanchard, Annand, Colin Campbell, and Dr. Hamilton.

Mines and Minerals.—Hon. Mr. McFarlane, Messrs. S. Campbell, Caldwell, Ross, Miller, D. Fraser, and Dr. Stocumb.

Navigation Securities.—Messrs. Robicheau, Locke, C. J. Campbell, McLellan, Kaulback, Heffernan, Moore.

Railways.—Messrs. Tobin, Locke, Donkin, Blanchard, D. Fraser, Ray, Bill.

Crown Lands.—Messrs. S. McDonald, Whitman, Blanchard, G. Brown, Moore, Miller, J. Campbell.

Law Amendments.—Mr. Archibald, Hon. S. L. Shannon, Messrs. S. McDonald, S. Campbell, Kaulback, Miller, Hon. Jas. MacDonald.

Trade and Manufactures.—Messrs. Levesconte, Annand, Killam, Coffin, Cowie, Ray, Bill.

Militia.—Messrs. Pryor, Parker, Jost, Heffernan, Hon. Atty. General, C. Campbell, Blackwood, Bourinot, Levesconte, Blanchard, King.

Indian Affairs.—Hon. Mr. McKinnon, Messrs. Ross, Lawrence, Heffernan, Smyth, C. J. Campbell, Jas. Fraser.

Human Institutions.—Messrs. Blanchard, Dr. Stocumb, Coffin, Allison, Ray, Caldwell, King, Dr. Brown, Jas. Fraser.

Penitentiary.—Messrs. Hill, Balcom, Cowie, Parker, Churchill, Robertson, McKay, Allison.

Reporting and Printing.—Hon. Atty. General, Messrs. Blanchard, Longley, Levesconte, Robertson, Tobin, Caldwell.

Private Bills.—Hon. Mr. Shannon, Messrs. McLellan, J. Campbell, Blackwood, Lawrence, Donkin, Kaulback.

City of Halifax Bills.—Messrs. Pryor, Blanchard, Donkin, Balcom, Hill, Tobin, and Miller.

Land Damages.—Messrs. G. Brown, Moore, Balcom, Caldwell, and King.

Contingencies.—Hon. Fin. Secretary, Messrs. Locke and Hatfield.

Dr. Brown presented a petition from North Kings, for the repeal of the present School Bill.

Mr. Bill presented five petitions, numerous signed, on the same subject.

Mr. Locke presented a petition from Shelburne, for a road connection with the County of Annapolis. He believed, if the Union of the Colonies was consummated, that Shelburne might become one of the great outlets of trade. (Laughter.) All the people asked was an expenditure of \$20,000 or \$30,000.

Mr. Bourinot would suggest that the petition lay on the table until such time as the Annapolis Railway was completed.

Hon. Prov. Secy. said that the petition was deserving of consideration; but it should be sent, in accordance with the rules of the House, to the Financial Secretary.

Hon. Prov. Secretary laid on the table despatches relative to the appointment of Hon. Mr. Johnston as Equity Judge, Hon. W. A. Henry as Attorney General, and Hon. J. W. Ritchie as Solicitor General, and member of the Executive Council.

Post Office Report.—Hon. Prov. Secy. laid on the table the Annual Report of the Postmaster General. This report, the hon. gentleman stated, was most satisfactory. Notwithstanding there had been an increase of expenditure entailed by the recommendations of the Post Office Report, the deficiency in the Department was less than during the previous year. 7 new Post Offices, and 51 Way Offices have been provided for. Only 8 Way Offices had been closed. The number of letters carried through the Post Office was 1,535,864, being an increase of 66,408 over the previous year. The number of newspapers was 3,941,115, or an increase of 276,793 over 1863. 20 new mail routes had been established, and 8 closed, making a balance of 12 established. The number of mail routes was 4,473. The amount derived from postage stamps was \$48,576, being an increase of over \$5,000 over 1863. 5 unregistered money letters lost, and 3 registered, said to be tampered with. The net revenue for 1864 was \$56,207.61, being an increase of \$8,032.90 over the previous year. The expenditure was \$73,163.61, an increase of only \$2,774.53, whilst the increase of revenue was \$8,032.90. Hence the deficit was \$5,258.37 less than the previous year. The amount of money-orders on Great Britain was \$20,000; the amount passing through the Province, \$120,000. The commissions on money orders amounted to \$1,126.44; the business in money orders has nearly doubled since 1863, and a large additional amount of labor is therefore entailed upon the person in charge. Under these circumstances, the Postmaster General asks for an increase of salary for Mr. Thompson—from \$800 to \$1,000 a year.

Mr. Tobin asked the Government to lay on the table at an early day, returns exhibiting the extent and nature of the trade of the Provinces of Canada, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland, including a statement showing the value of public buildings, &c., including all property that would be transferred to the General Government in case of the proposed Union of the Colonies being consummated.

Hon. Prov. Secretary said his hon. friend had imposed a task which to some extent it would be difficult to perform. It would be difficult in the case of this province and New Brunswick—to give an accurate estimate of some of the public property, the Government House for instance.

Mr. Annand thought there would be some difficulty in procuring a reliable statement, such as that asked for, from some of the provinces, more especially that of Newfoundland.

Mr. John Campbell presented a petition from Port Medway, and another from Lower Port Medway, against the School Bill.

Mr. Longley presented a petition from the Baptist Convention, on the subject of Dalhousie College.

Mr. Parker objected to the reception of the petition on the ground that it dealt with a matter already disposed of by the House. (Oh.)

The petition was read, and allowed to lie on the table.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 15.

The House met at 3 o'clock.

Hon. Atty. Gen. laid on the table copies of correspondence relative to the appointment of officers of the Court of Vice Admiralty.

Mr. Levesconte asked the Government to lay on the table the report of the engineer on the St. Peter's Canal, and if they intended to make provision for the completion of that work.

Hon. Prov. Secy. replied that the report was now under the consideration of the government, who would be prepared to give the hon. gentleman the information he required in a few days.

Mr. Stewart Campbell put enquires to the Government as to the appointment, position and functions of the Militia Convention or Court now in session in this city, the probable expense of the same, and from what funds payable. If it be competent upon matters relative to the defence of the country, to hold a Convention like this, why, we can say that the people representing the agricultural and fishing interests have a right also to their Convention, and that it should also be maintained at the public expense.

Hon. Prov. Secy. explained that the appoint-

ments in the militia, from the highest to the lowest, have taken place up to the present upon the authority of the Commander-in-Chief, and have been made upon a basis totally different from the other appointments connected with the Civil Service of the country, but as respects the information asked for, he had no doubt it would be granted.

Hon. Prov. Secy. laid on the table copies of correspondence between Downing Street and the War Office relative to the matter of supplying clothing. Also copies of a circular relative to the supply of stores from the War Department.

Mr. Miller presented a petition from Mr. J. Fuller of Arichat, Clerk of Schools, in relation to certain money alleged to be due him in connection with Education.

Mr. Cowie presented a petition from the South District of Queens praying the repeal of the School Law.

Mr. John Campbell presented a petition from Brooklyn, Queens, asking for aid towards the construction of a breakwater.

Hon. Prov. Secy. laid on the table certain correspondence relative to the Reciprocity Treaty.

Mr. Tobin spoke in reference to the Reciprocity Treaty of 1854. He was glad when it passed, because it conferred mutual advantages upon both countries; although he thought the advantages preponderated in favour of the United States, for although we exported our produce freely to the United States markets, yet we did not do so to a sufficient extent to pay for the merchandise we imported from that country—our merchants had to send a large amount of exchange to pay the difference. If this treaty was abrogated, we would have to take immediate measures to protect the rights of our fishermen, and he was afraid that it would lead to difficulty and trouble, as in former times. The Provinces would not be the only losers. The inhabitants of the Western States, although they did not use the St. Lawrence to a very large extent, yet found it to their advantage to possess that outlet in as much as it operated as a wholesome check against large charges that might be made in their produce upon the canals and railroads of the United States in its transit to the New York market. Another question had been alluded to in connection with this matter, which he thought came with bad grace from the people of the United States, and that was the sympathy which the people of these provinces were supposed to feel for those in rebellion in that country. Whatever sympathy was felt came from their own people and is as prevalent in their own cities as in this. When in New York, last autumn, he was surprised to find how intense and warm the feeling was in favour of the South. It did not, therefore, lie in their mouths to reproach us with sympathy for the South. Mr. Tobin concluded by expressing his regret that notice had been given of the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty, and he hoped that the House would give that consideration to the subject that its importance demanded.

Hon. Provincial Secretary suggested that the correspondence just read be printed.

Hon. Prov. Secy. also laid on the table despatches relating to the coasting trade, which were also ordered to be printed.

THURSDAY, Feb. 16th, 1865.

Mr. Bourinot presented petitions asking for a daily mail to Sydney C. I.

Record Commission.—Mr. Bourinot called attention to a report of a committee appointed last winter in connection with the record commission. It recommended that the more important archives now lying useless should be collected and arranged in a form accessible to all, in an octavo volume of a moderate size. He wished to know whether any progress had been made with the work.

Hon. Prov. Secy. replied that the attention of the Government had been called to the subject, and on enquiry they found that the expense of the work would amount to something like \$450. As they were under the impression that the House, when they adopted that report, did not contemplate so large an expenditure, they thought it best to allow the matter to lie over until the Legislature could this session take it into consideration. The subject was referred to a special committee, consisting of Hon. Mr. Shannon, Mr. Archibald, and Mr. Bourinot. He had hoped when the work of the Record Commission was finished that some person would be ambitious to become the historian of Nova Scotia.

Hon. Mr. Shannon stated that Mr. Beamish Murdoch, a gentleman well qualified in every way to perform the task, had been engaged for some time in preparing a history of the Province.

Hon. Prov. Secy. stated that Mr. Murdoch's proposal was under the consideration of the government.

Mr. Colin Campbell presented a petition from a number of the inhabitants of Digby, in reference to the school bill.

Halifax City Bills.—Mr. Tobin called attention to the hurried manner in which the Halifax bills were passed through both branches of the Legislature. He trusted that the same difficulties would not occur again, but that the house would be placed in a position to deal with every bill as it ought to be dealt with.

Mr. Archibald, Hon. Mr. Shannon, Mr. Miller, and Mr. Pryor expressed a astonishment at many of the clauses that appeared in the bills when they were published, which were added by the Legislative Council.

Hon. Prov. Secy. believed that the power entrusted to the Police Court of sending persons on conviction to the Penitentiary, referred to by the hon. member for Richmond, was not the work of the Legislative Council but was actually discussed in this House.

Mr. Miller said the Provincial Secretary evidently labored under a misapprehension when he stated that the power entrusted to the Police Court was discussed in the House.

Hon. Provincial Secretary did not think it fair to throw all the responsibility upon the Legislative Council, and stated that he held under his hand conclusive evidence of the soundness of his position in reference to this question. Gentlemen would find entered upon the journals every amendment that was made in the bills.

Mr. Archibald stated that he would probably move a resolution the next day in reference to the matter.

Hon. Prov. Secy. laid on the table the report of the Medical Superintendent relative to the extension of the Asylum for the Insane.

The Labrador Fisheries.—Mr. Kaulback called attention to the unlawful tax demanded by the Government of Newfoundland from the fishermen on the coast of Labrador between Anse Sablon and the Hudson Straits and asked the Government to lay on the table of the House, all communications with the Government of Newfoundland, and the Colonial Office, on the question of the rights and privileges of our fishermen on the Labrador shore.

Hon. Attorney General stated that the correspondence would be laid on the table. The Government of Newfoundland insist on the right of levying these duties, and allege that the fishermen of that colony who resorted to the waters of the Labrador were taxed for the same articles. They also stated that the matter had been referred to the Colonial Secretary who had decided as to the abstract right of the government and Legislature to impose such duties.

Mr. Locke thought that the government of Newfoundland have a right to tax our trade, but not our fishermen; and that the question should be fully explained to the British government.

Mr. Miller had learned that the ground taken by merchants of England was that as Labrador was not represented in the legislature of Newfoundland, and as the administration of justice was not provided for, the government of that country had no right to levy these taxes. He believed that a large majority even of the people of Newfoundland are opposed to this exaction.

Mr. Hatfield presented a petition from inhabitants of Argyle against the School Act.

The Militia Convention.—Hon. Prov. Secy. laid on the table the reply of the Adjutant Genl. to Mr. S. Campbell's question as to functions of the Militia Court, and the mode of payment of the members comprising that Court. The Adj. Genl. states that His Excellency being impressed with the necessity of advancing the Militia organization a step beyond that of the previous year, and being desirous of availing himself of the local experience of leading officers of the force, had deemed it advisable to form these officers into a Board of Advice "in the hope of receiving valuable suggestions with reference to the Militia estimates, and some apparently necessary alterations in the existing Militia Act."

He also states that the Court is composed of a President and 21 officers, 4 of whom receive no additional pay for attendance. Of the remaining 18, 11 are residing in this city, and 7 are in the country. The Adj. Genl. also directs attention to sec. 85 Militia Act of last year as the authority to form the Court.

Mr. S. Campbell said that he did not consider the paper just read an answer to the requisition he had made on the previous day. He asked a question as to the functions and composition of that Court, but this had not been answered. His objection to the Court was that this House was in session and clothed with the authority to discuss every question in which the people of this country were interested. He did not consider the act of last session gave authority for any Court as that now in session.

Mr. Pryor said that in the time of Sir Colin Campbell, the Lieutenant Colonels of the several counties and the Advocate General were summoned for some such purpose at the present Court.

Hon. Prov. Secy. regretted that the hon. member for Guysborough had thought it proper to characterize the proceedings that had taken place in such strong terms. The Commander-in-Chief desired to get information, and he had adopted a certain mode to obtain it. Whether he had taken the correct course it was not for him (Dr. T.) to say; at all events, in the discharge of what he conceived to be his public duty, he had thought it proper to proceed in a certain way, and in doing so, he was guided strictly by the law, as would be seen by reference to the 85th section of the Militia law of last session. He trusted that whatever political differences might exist in this country, the Militia organization would be kept free from all party taint. He was satisfied that the Commander-in-Chief in the selection of this Court—a selection with which the Executive Council had nothing whatever to do—had not given the slightest thought to party.

Mr. Archibald did not agree with his hon. friend, the member for Guysborough in his opinion, that it was unconstitutional for His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, to summon a Council of advice upon matters which would come up for the consideration of the House. He rather thought that the Legislature should be glad to receive any suggestions or information that might be offered by those who had had an opportunity of testing the efficiency of the Militia law, and he therefore was inclined to the opinion that His Excellency was not discharging a duty that he owed, as well to his own position as Commander-in-Chief, as to the Legislature who had to provide for the service. In this endeavouring to obtain such information as would tend to place the militia system upon a more efficient footing.

After some further discussion the matter dropped.