

tion arose which prevented the Lower House from entertaining the bill as amended. Mr. Brown, therefore applied for and obtained leave to bring in a new bill, under a different title, which was committed this forenoon, and having been read over, Mr. Fisher opposed it at great length, taking up almost every ground occupied by the opponents of the bill during the previous debate; but it is right to mention that all the objections which Mr. Fisher now urged were brought forward at a time when he was not in his place in the House.

Mr. Brown met the arguments of Mr. Fisher by a simple statement that they had all been met and disposed of to the satisfaction of a large majority of the Committee on a former day.

Mr. Hazen objected to any further discussion of a subject which had been argued over and over again, and which was completely exhausted.

Mr. Street took the same view of the matter as his hon. and learned friend, Mr. Hazen, and supported the bill as he had done the previous measure.

After a few words from some other hon. members, the bill was read section by section and agreed to.

The next subject which came up for consideration was the amendment to the bill relating to a portion of the road through the county of Carleton, which I noticed in my last. Mr. Connell again opposed the adoption of the amendment made by the Council at great length, and was followed by Mr. Brown, who relaxed somewhat in his determination to push the adoption of the new line as one of the great roads, for this session, principally on the ground of the objections raised by the hon. member from the county. Mr. Fisher followed at great length against abandoning the highway to Canada by the present route until the proposed alteration from Woodstock to the mouth of the River de Chute, by the back route, explored by Messrs. Brown and Hayward, should have been so far opened as would admit of Her Majesty's Mail being carried by the new route.

Hon. Mr. Baillie adhered to his former determination of supporting a route so much preferable, both as respects distance and avoiding hills. The question being taken, the bill was postponed until the next meeting of the Legislature.

The hon. Mr. Hazen then rose and moved the adoption of the New Rules for the guidance of the House, which he had laid on the table of the House about a month previous, for the information of members. The object of the first was to require all petitions praying for money or relief, to be in within fourteen days after the opening of the session, the day of opening and the day on which the fourteen days expired, both included. The second was to compel parties applying for private and local bills to pay the sum of £10 when such bill was applied for. This Rule was meant especially to apply to bills for the Incorporation of Companies.

On the first Rule a good deal of discussion was had, it being opposed principally by members from the out counties; but it was finally carried by a majority—yeas 17, nays 12. The second Rule was lost by a large majority.

A long discussion then arose on suspending the Rule by which the House is bound to confine the appropriations of the current year within the estimate made by the Finance Committee. After various opinions and plans had been suggested, it was ultimately resolved to suspend the operation of this Rule for the present year. During this discussion Mr. R. D. Wilmot advocated the issue of Provincial Notes with great ability, and was supported by the hon. Mr. Baillie, but nothing definite was proposed on this important suggestion.

The next subject which occupied the attention of the House was, the bill to incorporate the City of Fredericton. This important bill was committed on motion of Mr. Fisher, for the purpose of being read over, as the hon. mover (Mr. L. A. Wilmot) was absent.

Mr. Taylor immediately brought forward petitions against the measure, which were respectfully signed, and a good deal of warmth was exhibited by Mr. Taylor, at the little respect which his two hon. colleagues seemed to pay to his petitions. The Committee generally seemed willing to allow the good people of Fredericton to escape from their leading strings, and try to do something for themselves. Hon. Mr. Hazen supported the bill in an excellent speech, and opposed its being allowed to lie over waiting for the hon. mover, as he was prepared to pass the bill at once. The bill was accordingly read section by section, until nearly the last section, and passed *sub silentio*. Mr. Fisher then moved that progress be reported out of courtesy to the hon. mover, which was assented to, and the chairman reported accordingly.

There seems now no doubt that this very necessary measure will pass the Lower House without further opposition, and I understand that a petition is being signed to be laid before the Upper Branch of the Legislature, to show the feeling of those who are not Magistrates in its favor.

Yours, &c. STIGIA.

FREDERICTON, March 9, 1848.

Dear Sirs—This morning, the House was in committee of the whole on a Bill to amend the registry law in certain particulars, but I am not lawyer enough to give you a correct sketch of its provisions. The Bill occasioned a good deal of discussion among the professional gentlemen; and there was an additional section which Mr. Fisher proposed should be added, to cut down the Registrar's fees in certain cases, which was resisted by a large majority. The hon. mover was so well satisfied that the time was fast approaching when this section would be carried, that he demanded the names to be taken down as a record of the opinions which he and the few members who voted with him, held, and which Mr. Fisher predicted would very soon be the opinion of a majority. This section being lost, the original Bill was passed and reported as agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Partelow, the House resolved itself into a committee of the whole in further con-

sideration of supplies to be granted for the public service. Mr. Botsford in the chair of the committee. The first item on which a debate occurred was on a resolution for a grant to remunerate a Roman Catholic clergyman for services performed by him in attending to the spiritual wants of the Indians. A long discussion took place of the propriety of these grants. The hon. Mr. Hazen contending that if these grants were to be continued, a sum should be placed in the hands of the head of the Roman Catholic Church in this Province, to accomplish this object. The debate ended in the resolution being for the present withdrawn.

The second item which produced a debate, was the resolution moved by Mr. Connell. That there should be granted to the Justices of the Peace for the County of Carleton, the sum of £17 odd, to remunerate them for conveying two prisoners convicted of burglary from that County to the Provincial Penitentiary.

This grant was strongly opposed by Mr. Hannington and the hon. Mr. Hazen, and was lost on a division.

The motion was subsequently reconsidered on motion of Mr. Fisher, and after a further discussion, which lasted for nearly an hour, the charge of £5 for the services of the Deputy Sheriff, was deducted, and the sum of £12 odd, granted by a majority of one.

The hon. Mr. Hazen introduced a resolution to grant to an old widow of a soldier of the Revolutionary war, the usual sum of ten pounds.

This was a new application, and the applicant was stated to be upwards of one hundred and three years of age. A very warm debate took place on this resolution. Mr. Barbare and Mr. Hannington being the principal opposers of the measure, while all the St. John representation supported it. On the division being taken, the grant was lost by a majority of one.

The hon. Mr. Hazen then moved the reconsideration of a previous grant which had passed on a new application from the County of Northumberland, and contended very warmly for consistency and fair play.

Mr. Fisher deprecated the course, and moved as an amendment that the grant just thrown out, be reconsidered. An exceedingly warm debate then took place, which looked at one time as likely to end in serious misunderstanding between more than two or three of the hon. members engaged on either side; but fortunately moderation prevailed, and the question was again put, and carried by a majority.

Hon. Mr. Hazen then applied for leave to withdraw his resolution, stating that he would pay the pension himself, for this year, and next year he would come to the House furnished with all those proofs which in this case the committee had demanded. This application was resisted, and the motion to fill the blank with £10 was immediately made, and passed, and this irritating subject dropped.

The House soon after resumed, and Mr. End gave notice that he would move for leave to place on the Supply Book, with the intention of moving in Supply, that there be granted to the Right Rev. Dr. Dolard, Roman Catholic Bishop of New Brunswick, the sum of £200, to enable him to remunerate the different Clergymen belonging to that Church, who administer to the spiritual wants of the Indians, within the Province.

Mr. Fisher stated at length the reasons which would induce him to go against that, or any other grant, which was intended to propagate exclusively the doctrines of any particular faith.

Mr. Brown deprecated any discussion on the point, unless it was intended to settle it at that stage of the application.

The House seemed to concur in this view of the matter, and Mr. Partelow moved the adjournment, which was carried without opposition.

Yours, &c. STIGIA.

FREDERICTON, 11th March, 1848.

DEAR SIRS—The first subject of importance which occupied the attention of the House of Assembly this morning, was a Bill, brought in by the hon. Mr. Hazen, to amend an act relating to the appointment of special Constables in the City and County of Saint John. During the debate a strong disposition was manifested to extend the provisions of this bill to all the Counties in the Province, the representations from the County of Charlotte being the only objections. Among other things this bill provides that the expenses incurred in putting down riot or tumult of any kind, shall be defrayed by assessment, one fourth part of which shall be levied by a Poll tax. It likewise authorizes the Justices in sessions, at their discretion, to levy such expenses upon the particular parish in which such tumult shall occur, provided they think such a course equitable and just. A section was introduced, making the provisions of this bill applicable to the Province generally, which was carried by a large majority; and the House having resumed, the bill was reported as agreed to.

Mr. Street, from the select committee, appointed to take into consideration His Excellency's message, which related to the preservation of the copyright of British authors, reported, a Bill which was read a first time.

The House then went into a Committee of the whole, in further consideration of the Bill further to amend the act relating to highways, after another protracted debate this bill finally passed the Committee, and the House having resumed, the bill was reported as agreed to with amendments.

Mr. Partelow, from the Railway Committee, reported a bill further to extend the provisions of an act to facilitate the erection of the St. Andrews and Quebec Railway, which was read a first time.

Mr. Boyd, from the Committee on fisheries,

brought in a report which he read in his place. The report recommends the granting of bounties and other regulations for the protection and encouragement of this important branch of industry.

Mr. Street moved for leave to place on the supply book, for the purpose of moving in supply, that there be granted to His Excellency the Lieut. Governor the sum of £15, to enable His Excellency to provide for an Usher in the High Court of Chancery. After a short debate, this motion was negative.

On motion of Mr. Partelow the House, pursuant to the order of the day, went into a Committee of the whole in further consideration of supplies to be granted for the public service, when a number of grants were passed without much discussion, until

The Hon. Mr. Rankin moved the grant recommended by the select committee, of which he was chairman. That there be granted to the Justices of the Peace for the County of Carleton the sum of £750, to enable them to defray the expenses incurred in consequence of the Woodstock riots on the 12th of July last. The sum claimed by the Justices was £1091, but the sum moved for was all the select committee could recommend to be paid.

Mr. Cranney from Northumberland was the first speaker on this most important matter. He objected at some length to the payment of any sum to the Justices of Carleton on this account, accused them of not having done their duty. Commented on the petitions which had come in from other Counties, praying that these expenses might be paid by the Province, and called on the hon. member from Carleton to explain if he could, how it came that one of the parties engaged in these riots was armed with the Queen's arms.

This opened one of the most important debates which has ever taken place in the Assembly of this Province. The granting of a few hundred pounds more or less, dwindles down to utter insignificance when compared with the great social question involved in the discussion and which was treated with a degree of firmness and moderation which cannot fail to have a good effect on the community.

Mr. Connell went into a full detail of all the circumstances connected with the riot, both before and after it occurred, and narrated what had fallen under his own observation during the affray.

Mr. Hannington followed in an able speech, disapproving of the turn the debate had taken; blaming the hon. member from Carleton for going into the particulars connected with the transaction, and confined his remarks entirely to the matter of account which had been referred to the committee, of which he had been one, and supported the resolution.

Mr. Taylor commented on the petitions which he had had the honour to present, in favour of the grant, asserted that the hon. member from Carleton had but done his duty in bringing the subject fairly before the committee, as he had been challenged to do so by the hon. member from Northumberland, and urged if any fire-brand had been thrown into the committee, the blame rested with the hon. member from Northumberland (Mr. Cranney).

Mr. Fisher denied that there was any fire-brand thrown in among them by any body, and claimed for himself the entire absence of excitement. The hon. member supported the grant at length, and gave his grounds for doing so, giving the Carleton magistracy credit for the course which they had adopted.

Mr. Boyd followed in a speech of some length, in which he repudiated the idea of pandering either to Orangemen or Roman Catholics, and concluded a forcible speech, by declaring himself in favour of the grant; and was followed by

Dr. Thompson, who was in favour of letting the inhabitants of each County or Parish where riots occurred, pay their own expenses. In this case he would not object giving a small sum to help the County to pay the expenses they had incurred, but would not go to any thing like the amount asked for by the committee.

Mr. Brown then rose and delivered a most excellent speech, in which he declared, at the opening, that the ostensible question before the Committee was a grant of money, but the real question which they were called upon to consider, was the state of the Province with respect to the existence of hostile religious parties, which had most unhappily sprung up among them. Mr. Brown gave a most interesting narrative of the rise and progress of Orange Societies, drawn from evidence adduced before a Committee of the House of Commons, and illustrated his able sketch of these Societies by quotations from speeches delivered by Lord John Russell and others, in the British Parliament, and from public documents laid on the table of the House of Commons. This was one of Mr. Brown's best efforts, and I shall be happy to send you a report of his speech at an early day.

Mr. Ritchie followed in a speech of some length, in which he took the hon. member from Carleton (Mr. Connell) severely to task for having given a narrative of the riot, which, he contended, was colored, and which might be prejudicial to those whose trial was about to take place for being concerned in the affair.

Mr. Street spoke long and well against Orange Societies, but pointed out the danger of leading the opposite party to suppose they had a right to attempt to put them down by brute force; such an idea would only lead these people into a trap, and bring down on them the punishment which the law prescribed for such offences.

Mr. Partelow dealt with the question without reference to the cause of the riot, and found much fault with the accounts themselves. He likewise censured the Justices of Carleton for having left the

county without a Gaol, which had occasioned the greater part of the expense now sought to be refunded by the Province, and declared himself against granting the whole of the sum recommended by the Select Committee.

Mr. End followed in a brilliant speech against the grant, taking the ground that he would never consent to pay money from the public chest into the pockets of those by whose conduct the riots had been created.

Mr. L. A. Wilmot then delivered one of those continuous strains of eloquence, which mark his speeches when the subject is worthy of his talent, and never had the lovers of peace and good will among all classes in this community a more eloquent advocate of their cause. He censured Orangism without abusing the members of such Societies, and pleaded for a return to peace and good will with an earnestness which sometimes almost checked his utterance. I will send you a sketch of this speech in time for your next number if possible.

Mr. Wark gave a short sketch of Orangism in the County from which he came, in Ireland, disapproving of these Societies, and pointing out their bad effects on society generally.

After a few words from Mr. Fisher and Mr. Connell the question was put on sustaining the resolution, which was carried—yeas 22; nays 12.

On the question of filling the blank with £750 being taken, there appeared yeas 16; nays 18; it was consequently declared in the negative.

Mr. Partelow then moved the blank be filled with £500, when there appeared yeas 17; nays 17. The Chairman then decided the question by his casting vote in favor of the grant—consequently the Justices of Carleton get about one half of what they asked for.

It being nearly dark the house adjourned immediately on the Chairman making his report.

During the debate Mr. J. Earle avowed himself as belonging to an Orange Society, and read the oath in his place, which the members of these Societies take when they join. He also read the qualifications required of members, and was the only member on the floor of the house who uttered a syllable in their favor.

Yours, &c. STIGIA.

THE AMERICAN CONSUL.—We are happy to state, that I. D. Andrews, Esq., United States Consul, has received an intimation from Washington, that there is no intention of removing him from the Consulate at this Port. We trust that Mr. Andrews may long continue to hold the office, the duties of which he performs so well, and with such perfect satisfaction to everybody.—*Courier*.

We understand that the Commission of His Excellency Sir William Colebrooke, as Governor of British Guiana, has received the Royal signature, and His Excellency will proceed to his new Government with as little delay as possible after visiting England.—*Id.*

We regret to learn that Mr. Russel, whose accident by the drifting of the Upper Canada Stage we noticed some time ago, has been compelled to submit to the amputation of both hands. The two operations were performed simultaneously a little above each wrist, Dr. Nelson operating on one limb, and Dr. Cambell on the other. The case afforded an instance of the efficacy of chloroform. About a tea-spoonful was inhaled from a pocket handkerchief, and the patient fell immediately into a state of insensibility. This continued about four minutes, and then consciousness, but not sensibility to pain returned. The operations occupied about seven minutes, and at the close of the seventh, some slight pain was felt. We are glad to learn that Mr. Russel is likely to recover, and that his legs and feet will be, in all probability saved.—*Gazette*.

FIRE.—We regret to learn that the dwelling house of Mr. Robert Atkinson, South Richmond, was destroyed by fire, on the night of the 2nd inst, with all its contents, containing besides his household furniture, his provisions for the summer and his seed grain. The family were from home. There is reason to believe, so we are informed, that it was the work of an incendiary.—*Woodstock Telegraph*.

OBEDIENCE TO THE TRUTH.—An English minister recently baptised six persons. The season was an interesting one. It proved that error is losing its hold, and that men are coming to the truth. One of these has been an Episcopalian, another a Wesleyan, a third an Independent, a fourth a Primitive Methodist. We would wage no war with others but we rejoice when they see and obey the truth in regard to this ordinance of Christ.—*Christian Chron.*

DISPOSITIONS UNFAVORABLE TO THE REVIVAL OF RELIGION.—A censorious disposition, which blames others rather than humbles one's self. A self righteous disposition which, fixing its eye on this or that sin, says, I am not guilty of it; and therein takes complacency, instead of searching for whatever of evil there may be at home and repenting of that. A self-confident disposition, which thinks it can so manage as to bring about a revival of religion by means of its own good efforts. The spirit of a revival is a humble, self-abasing spirit, when one feels his own nothingness and sinfulness, and is conscious that if any good thing is to appear, it must be all of the mercy of God.

PROFESSOR MORSE.—Prof. Morse, the inventor of the magnetic telegraph, has given to the American Tract Society, \$500 towards sending colporteurs to Mexico, with tracts, cheap books, and other pious publications.