

ample of humility had faith, there is strict proof, for he says, "whoever shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me." Now if it be said that the little one whom he took in his arms is not included in this phraseology, let the assessor prove this. Christ is speaking of this little one with whom he associates certain other little ones, and speaks of them as believers. It is all sheer assumption to assert they are only believers, *the* little ones, who are here spoken of. They are little ones themselves.

The Visitor's authorities we put no faith in. We would just as soon pin our faith to the sleeve of the Visitor as to that of Dr. Macknight or Neander. We already replied to Neander's opinion as quoted by the Visitor at the beginning of this controversy. To that reply we refer as quite sufficient for all the quotations now adduced relative to the household baptism.

The Visitor, because the history of the Baptist mission to Burmah contains the record of eight household baptisms, affirms that the proportion is in their favour. This statement is thoroughly dishonest. "It palter with us in a double sense." It is true that eight is more than four, but it is true that the proportion of the household baptisms in Burmah bears the same relation to the individual baptisms that the household baptisms in scripture bears to the individual baptisms. In answering this question let it be remembered that the addition to the church on the day of Pentecost does not count as it cannot be proved that no infants were included in that number. The same may be said of other cases, the proportion properly is four or five individual cases, against four cases of household baptism. Can the Visitor or the Burmah mission show this proportion? When the Visitor looks our argument firmly in the face, he will see that we do not make the glaring mistakes which he supposes. We did not deny that household baptisms have occurred; we denied that they occurred in the relative proportions of the cases on scriptural record. This we re-affirm.

In conclusion to-day we have to regret that the change in our day of publication necessitates this lengthy reply, giving us two articles of the Visitor of more than the due length to comment upon. We have also to remind the Visitor that there is a great arraignment of proof which has accumulated against him. We have proved that children are disciples and are included in the commission—this has not touched this; that if infants are not in the commission, the requirements of faith and repentance cannot be brought forward to neutralize any other argument in favour of their baptism—yet the Visitor's reply to every argument adduced by us proceeds on the principle that these requirements do apply to infants. He has nothing but the cry can infants believe, can infants repent? To which it is the all sufficient reply, could the Jewish infants take an oath or enter into a covenant? When hard pushed he has also the reply, "I cannot see the little babies mentioned," as if the negation was any proof against any positive argument drawn by fair and just inference, and finally, he has not touched the thesis in our last publication, by which the children are included in the church by divine appointment. To all which we beg to call the Visitor's attention.

THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., MARCH 18, 1857.

The Law of Baptism as taught in the New Testament.

The Presbyterian in replying to our two last articles on the subject in debate has published them both; but instead of this, he has given but one of them. Was this fair? Did he wish his readers to pre-judge the case before seeing both sides of the argument? Be this as it may, we take it for granted that he will furnish the omitted article in his next issue. When he shall have done this, his readers will please compare notes and judge between us.

He "re-affirms" his story about the number of household Baptisms recorded in Acts as being greater proportionally than those recorded in Baptist History of modern date. To this we have only to say, that he "re-affirms" what he cannot prove; and if he could, it would in no way help his cause.

He repudiates the expositions of such men as McKnight, Campbell, Barnes, Neander and Calvin, &c., &c., but his readers we hope, will have more of the modesty, humility, and teachableness of the "little child," to which he refers, than to pay no deference to the opinions of the brightest luminaries which have ever shone in the Pedobaptist world.

The Presbyterian writes a long paragraph to prove that the "little child" mentioned in the 18th of Matthew, was a "believer." We are far from endorsing all that he says in this connexion, but does he fail to perceive that his point bearing upon the case in hand is decidedly against himself, and in favor of the Baptist view? The "little child was a believer," and what of that? Why it simply proves that small as it may have been, it was, nevertheless old enough to hear the truth, to believe the truth, and consequently to obey it. "Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God." Now, does this prove that an infant too young to hear, believe or obey God's Gospel should be baptized? There is just this broad difference, between the two cases, the former fulfils the conditions of the Baptismal Law, the latter does not; believing children we have had the pleasure of baptizing, but unbelieving babes no one should baptize. The question relating to the subjects of the Baptismal Law is not one of age, but of the fulfilment of defined conditions. We say to all who can hear the Gospel, and who wish to obey its requirements, "if thou believest with all thy heart thou mayest." Our friend in this story has stepped over on to Baptist ground, and become by implication, at least, an advocate for believer's Baptism. If he will only stay where he has put himself, he will soon see daylight; but of this there is some reason to doubt. He has been converted before, but the work was not thorough, and he fell back; so it may be in the present instance. He has been desperately pushed for argument, and in his bewilderment he has probably made a mistake, and "got into the wrong pew."

So much for the Presbyterian's New Testament argument for baby baptism in his last issue. He must feel himself that it is precious little worth, but it is quite as valuable as any argument he has employed since this discussion commenced. He has taken it upon himself to prove the obligation to baptize unconscious babies (do not say friend, that we "sneer at the little babies" when we call them by their proper names) from the inspired book when he ought to know that this sacred volume makes not the most distant reference to such an obligation. Hence all this waste of paper and ink upon "starving infants," "infant salvation," "infant damnation," "female communion," the "Christian Sabbath," the "doctrine of

the Trinity," "dormant faith," "infantile discipleship," "Christ's blessing little children," "Baptists blessing their little ones," and as a climax to the whole, the little child believing. We appeal in all affection and fidelity to our Pedobaptist readers, and we ask them to calmly look at the line of argument pursued by this champion of their faith, and see if it does not proclaim in language plain and emphatic, the truthfulness of what we have told him from the beginning, that his theory has no existence in the New Testament. This inspired guide says nothing about it, consequently his quotations from it say nothing about it, and whether you subtract or add it is all the same, *nothing* remains. We shall, therefore, leave our friend for the present to balance his pet ordinance upon its empty nothingness as best he can, and proceed to remark upon the law of baptism as given in the New Testament, beginning with the baptism of John, the opening of the Gospel dispensation, that our readers may compare Scripture with Scripture and judge for themselves.

The third chapter of Matthew informs us, "In those days came John the Baptist preaching in the wilderness of Judea, saying, repent ye, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all Judea and all the region round about, and were baptized of him in Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth, therefore FRUITS MEET FOR REPENTANCE, and think not to say we have ABRAHAM to our father." Here is the baptismal law then as ushered in by John. Does it recognise the baptism of infants? NO. That "bring forth FRUITS MEET FOR REPENTANCE" forbids their reception.

Next turn to the law as given by Christ, and as expounded and fulfilled by his Apostles, "Go ye, therefore, and TEACH all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." Matt 28th, 28th and 29th. "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature. He that BELIEVETH and is baptized shall be saved, and he that believeth not shall be damned." Mark 16th and 16th. Not a word about unconscious babes here.

On the day of Pentecost the Apostles first came to act under their commission. In so doing they preached the Gospel, it came with saving efficacy to the hearts of thousands, and they who GLADLY RECEIVED the word were baptized." Acts 2nd, 3rd. No mention of infants here.

The Apostles went to be witnesses for Christ, not only in Judea but in Samaria. Hence "Philip went down to the City of Samaria and preached Christ unto them." When they BELIEVED Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were BAPTIZED, both MEN and WOMEN." Acts 8th, 5th and 12th. Not a syllable about the babies.

Says the Ethiopian Eunuch, after hearing about Jesus, "there is water what doth hinder me to be baptized?" Philip said, if thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest, and he answered and said, I BELIEVE that Jesus Christ is the Son of God; Then Philip baptized him. Acts 18th and 36th. True to his commission, the baptist preacher, Philip, requires faith. Hence the baptism of faithless infants meets with no countenance here.

But these Apostles must witness for Christ to the "uttermost ends of the earth." Hence we find them fulfilling their commission by preaching the gospel to the "Gentiles in the house of Cornelius, and when these Gentiles believe the gospel which Peter preaches, he enquires, "Who can forbid water that these should not be baptized, who have RECEIVED the HOLY GHOST as well as we?" Acts 10, 47. Not an utterance about infants in this connexion.

In Acts 16 and 14 we have an account of the Baptism of Lydia and her household; and at the 31st verse, of the jailer and his household; and in Acts 18 and 8th, it is said, that "Crispus BELIEVED in the Lord with ALL his house, and many of the Corinthians HEARING, BELIEVED and were baptized." As stated in our last issue, these households are represented as BELIEVING, REJOICING, and as BRETHREN, or in other words doing just what households do now in England, the States, Burmah, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, or anywhere else, when baptized as they often are, by Baptist Ministers. No mention here then of the baptism of the unconscious ones.

Thus we have the law condensed. John the Baptist admitted only such to his baptism as brought forth "FRUITS for repentance." Christ commanded that only the TAUGHT, and they who BELIEVED should be baptized. The Apostles acting under the law, and faithful to their solemn trust, baptized such ONLY as received their message. Sustained by this emphatic scriptural testimony, in support of our position, we repeat what Neander affirms, that Infant Baptism did not originate with Christ, or his Apostles.

The appeal of the Presbyterian, from Christ to Moses, to establish a new Testament ordinance is worthy of his cause, and will claim our notice next week. Placing himself under the veil of Moses, is probably the best thing he can do under these circumstances. This veil may cover his defeat until we have space to remove it. In the meantime, we beg to remind him that Moses was a Jew and not a Christian Legislator.

King's College.

We have before us a draft of a Bill now before the Legislature at Fredericton contemplating important changes in this institution. The design of the Bill is to transform the present College into a "Provincial University," free from all sectional and party influences, and adapted to the educational necessities of this growing Colony. We shall if possible next week give the Bill entire.

In the mean time we have to remark that this must be regarded as a most important measure, and as one in which the educational progress of this country is largely implicated. That such a University as the Bill contemplates is required in New Brunswick, every person acquainted with its educational necessities will at once acknowledge. No system of education can possibly be complete that does not make provision for imparting a thorough knowledge of classical

literature, and of the sciences generally. In all countries Colleges are found to be indispensable in carrying forward and perfecting the education of the people. The man therefore who denounces Colleges as useless things, simply shows that he knows not what he is saying.

In regard to the Bill in question we have to say that it is quite as free from all religious tests and sectarian bias as the greatest latitudinarian can possibly desire. The motive which exclusion of ministers of the gospel from the councils of the proposed University we can readily understand, but the propriety of such a course will no doubt be gravely questioned. One thing is certain, if King's College, is to expand into such a University as shall harmonize all parties, and command their co-operation in its support, it must be removed as far as possible from all former associations, and influences. The original sectarian character of the institution, the immense sums of money drawn from the public chest for its support, and the small benefits which it has conferred upon the Province have combined to excite and foster deep rooted prejudices in large sections of the people against the whole thing.

To get rid of these it may be necessary not only to change the whole character of the College, but to locate it in some other section of the Province. Before the present Bill shall pass into law would it not be advisable to discuss the whole question thoroughly through the public press, and at public meetings called for the purpose in St. John and at other central points, and in this way endeavor to ascertain what the true wishes of the people are? Several leading minds have expressed a wish to us that some movement of this sort should take place. Who will lead the way?

Board of Works.

The second Annual Report of the Chief Commissioner of the Board of Works, is before us. It is an able document, and furnishes a detailed account of monies expended and of results attained by this department of the Government during the year 1856.

The note from Rev. David Crandall, referring to a Quarterly meeting, has got mislaid in the office. He will oblige us by re-mailing it to our address in time for next week.

We are pleased to learn that Rev. D. Crandall is encouraged in his labors at Norton. Two have recently been added to the church by Baptism, and one by letter. Present prospects indicate an increase to Zion in that region.

For the Christian Visitor.

Protracted Meetings—Organization of System of Quarterly Meetings—Gracious revival.

DEAR BROTHER,—According to announcement a Protracted Meeting commenced at New Castle, Q. C., on Friday evening the 27th ult. The first meeting was spent in prayer and social worship and the Divine presence was largely enjoyed. On Saturday morning Bro. Harvey of Woodstock preached an effective discourse, and in the evening we listened with pleasure to Bro. Howe of Chipman. At 3 o'clock on Saturday a Ministerial Conference was held. The following brethren were present. Revs. S. Bancroft, W. D. Fitch, E. Keirstead, W. S. Howe, T. Todd, I. Wallace; brethren D. Bleakney, G. W. Harvey and Richard Burton, Licentiate; Deacons, Butler Bailey and Reice. Bro. Bancroft was chosen Chairman and Bro. Howe Secretary pro tem.

After much prayerful consideration and profitable conversation in which the utmost unanimity and christian courtesy prevailed it was resolved,

1. That a system of Quarterly Meetings be now organized to comprise all the Churches and Pastors in the Counties of Queens and Sunbury the object of which shall be to promote Revivals, Home Missions and Ministerial sympathy and co-operation.

2. That one or more delegates be sent to the several Quarterly Meetings from each of the Churches in these Counties who shall be requested to give an account of the state of the cause of Christ and their respective localities.

3. That the next Quarterly Meeting be held with the Baptist Church in Canning, to commence on the 3d Friday in June next at 4 o'clock P. M.

4. That Bro. Wallace be the standing Secretary of these Quarterly Meetings, and that Deacon Bailey be Treasurer to receive collection for H. Missions during the present services of Meetings.

On the Sabbath Brethren Todd, Fitch and Keirstead preached to overflowing congregations and were all remarkably aided in presenting with power and effect God's Truth. Monday morning Elder Bancroft preached a discourse which was so instructive and fervent that it could not fail to excite not only reverence and esteem for the venerable speaker, but also much love for the truth presented by him. Bro. Alex. McDonald preached at 3 o'clock, the Truth in the love of it. Social Meeting in the evening. Tuesday morning Bro. Read addressed the congregation, and at the close we had occasion to repair to the baptismal waters. Bro. Bleakney preached to us on Wednesday.

Throughout these meetings there were evident signs of abundance of heavenly rain. They were certainly blessed of God. Christians wept, confessed and rejoiced, and sinners trembled and cried for mercy. This gracious work has been gradually progressing. I had the pleasure of baptizing eight happy converts this morning, four were baptised during the previous week.

These meetings will not soon be forgotten. I never saw ministers stand more in the power of the gospel. They came with a message to the people from the eternal throne and they delivered fearlessly and effectively. There was no jarring note. They worked together so unitedly and affectionately that it was frequently said, "Behold how these brethren love each other." It is hoped we may enjoy many such blissful and gracious seasons. Yours very truly,

ISAIAH WALLACE.

Canning, March 8th, 1857.

DOMESTIC.

Legislative.

It will be seen that our columns are unusually full of Legislative proceedings. We were obliged to omit some part of our Fredericton correspondence last week, for the want of room. This, added to the correspondence of this week, gives an unusual supply, but knowing the desire of very many of our readers to have full information on this subject, we feel ourselves called upon to gratify them as far as possible.

The correspondence from Halifax is to the point, and like that from Fredericton, is free from the tinge of mere party strife.

Comparatively little will be done in the Legislature of Nova Scotia until the elections, now in progress, are decided. The Halifax papers say that the Government members are meeting with very decided opposition in their respective counties, some predicting their overthrow, and others their triumphant return. The question will soon be settled.

The Railway.

The Railway is a fixed fact. Yesterday morning about 4 o'clock, the engine ran over the line, and in the afternoon, crowds assembled at different points along the line to witness the running of the train for the first time. Every thing being ready at four minutes past 3 o'clock the Engine, with four cars attached, started from the end of the line at the Portland Bridge. The cars were filled with gentlemen of respectability, and all seemed to participate in the pleasure of the hour. As the train passed along, cheers arose from the cars which were responded to by the crowds on the banks, accompanied with a plentiful discharge of snowballs. The run out to the rock at the end of the marsh, (four miles and a quarter, we believe) was made in just twelve minutes; five minutes were spent in congratulations, and then the signal was given for return. The train arrived at the Bridge at twenty two minutes to four, and shortly started again, but as we could not say to make a second trip, we do not know how it came off. The line generally speaking, is smooth, and the road at the present time, appears as substantial as though the work had been done in the summer. What effect the opening of Spring may have upon it, it is, of course, impossible to say.

We regret that a boy of about 10 years old, who was clinging to the engine fell off and was caught by the wheel. The calf of his leg was badly hurt.

We are happy to learn by a published report, sent to our address, of the proceedings at the commencement of the 6th inst. of the "Pennsylvania Medical College," that Messrs. William T. Black, and Francis P. Taylor of New Brunswick, in connection with other students, received from the president of the Institution the degree of Doctor of Medicine. We hope that these young gentlemen, having completed their medical course with credit to themselves, will soon return to fill useful stations in their native province.

The people in the vicinity of Neil-town Hillsboro, feeling the necessity for a House in which to conduct their public affairs, called a meeting and concluded to use all possible despatch to procure one. All the Carpenters of the Town were called into requisition who put things right straight through in six days, and now they have House suitable for all kinds of business or for worship if needed.

MELANCHOLY DEATH.—Mrs. Allan, the wife of Benjamin Allan, of Cape Tormentine, who has for a short time been labouring under insanity, was on the 10th inst., missed from the house, and before she was found, had perished from cold, leaving a large family to lament her untimely death.—Com.

PARISH OF PORTLAND.—At the meeting of rate-bayers, held on Tuesday last, according to law, Messrs. James Flewelling, Joseph Ruddock, and J. L. Woodworth, were elected Assessors of rates for the ensuing year, and Messrs. Robert Stevens, William Seely and Edwin Fisher, were elected Revisors of Electors for Members of Assembly.—Com.

PARISH OF SIMONS.—At the meeting of rate payers in this Parish on Tuesday last, Messrs. James Dunn, Robert Bowes, Jun., and Robert Power were elected Assessors of Rates, and Robert Bowes, John Mcaverty, and R. Sands Armstrong, Esquires, Revisors of Electors for Members of Assembly.

M. H. Perley, Esq., of this city, had an interview with the Colonial Secretary on the 15th February.

The Mayor's Court and the Court of General Sessions of the Peace opened at the Court House yesterday.

NOVA SCOTIA.

AWFUL CATASTROPHE BY FIRE.

On the morning of Thursday, the 6th inst., the Mill of Mr. Allan C. Barnaby, near the Steam Mill in Cornwallis, was totally consumed by fire and dreadful to relate four of his children perished in the flames. His family consisted of six children, one of whom was providently absent.—The eldest girl in her fourteenth year was sleeping with her mother, who was confined to her bed by illness, in a bedroom on the first floor. Mr. Barnaby slept on the flight above, and the first intimation of danger he had was the screams of his wife, calling on a servant man who slept in an adjoining room to open the bed room door and call the children; but he in the confusion of ideas naturally attendant upon such an awful moment, threw open a shutter in the gable and leaped a distance of twenty feet to the ground, wounding himself severely. Mrs. Barnaby rushed to the staircase and succeeded in grasping two of her children, but alas! the raging element overpowered her,—she was forced to relinquish her grasp and fell senseless to the foot of the stairs, from whence she was rescued from the flames at the imminent peril of his life by her agonized husband, who had in the meantime by smothering in the bed room windows succeeded in rescuing his eldest daughter. The children lost are a daughter aged eight years, and three sons of the respective ages of ten years, two years, and three months. The whole family had a narrow escape from destruction, for the lateness of the hour—being between two and four o'clock in the morning—prevented the possibility of aid being at hand. The survivors are dreadfully scorched. Mrs. Barnaby's life being almost despaired of. It is not known how the fire originated.—Chronicle.

[From our own Correspondent.]

HALIFAX, 12th March, 1857.

This is mail-day with our city merchants, the steamer from Boston calls here with great punctuality, on Thursday evenings, fortnightly, and takes the colonial mails hence to England. The steamer from England has just arrived, her news, however, has not yet transpired.

One of the most prominent events of the week, is the arrival of two delegates from Newfoundland, by the Merlin, the Hon. Mr. Kent, and Mr. Cartier, charged with a mission on the subject of their Fisheries.

The object is to enlist the sympathy of the sister colonies with a view of counteracting a movement between the British and French Government, having for its object, access on to the latter nation of a large portion of the fisheries of the Island, and of its fishing privileges.

It really does seem to be a question of such magnitude and importance, that all the Colonies may and will feel a keen interest in the issue.—Yesterday the House of Assembly adjourned to enable the delegates to state their case.

They intend proceeding to Fredericton, I learn, and from thence to Canada, thence to Washington, and so to England. If the British Government can constitutionally transfer miles and miles of sea coast, with its harbours and the fisheries adjoining, to a foreign power, why some fine morning we may all wake up and find our allegiance, our persons, and our estates under the sovereignty of another potentate, and all without as much as saying "by your leave."

The political excitement which so largely disturbed equanimity in the capital, has been transferred to the distant Counties, where the four Elections are being run. The Counties it is said, are likely to be sure. Every available effort is evidently being made on both sides, to sustain their respective candidates. The great principles discussed on the floors of the Assembly, are now to some extent, to be decided upon a wider platform with what results time will soon disclose.

The season continues mild. Trade flourishing, money is moderately plenty, and prospects of prosperity during the coming season, are promising.

In the religious world the only subject attracting special remark here is a revival in progress at the North End of the City as remarked in a former letter in the Church under the Pastoral care of the Rev. W. Bentley. On Sunday afternoon nine candidates received Baptism at the Narrows on the sea shore in the open Basin.—Many hundreds of persons an unusually great assemblage witnessed the rite, and great decorum and propriety prevailed. It is reported that several others have been received, and will be immersed on the ensuing Sunday. C. O. M.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

[From our own Correspondent.]

March 6.

After the ordinary preliminaries this morning, several local Bills were committed and passed without discussion, including a Bill to incorporate the St. Stephen's Academy, and a Bill to incorporate the Lacooche Lake Lumber Driving Company.

A Bill, to amend the Act relating to the sick and disabled Seamen's Fund, introduced by Mr. McAdam, was next under consideration. The object of this Bill is to have Commissioners appointed in certain localities, and reduce the tonnage dues on vessels in certain ports, so as to make the whole equal Messrs. Street, Mitchell, and others supported the reduction of dues, and an amendment was moved, to make it apply also to the Northern Ports, where the dues were formerly increased, in order to provide for local improvements in erecting hospitals, &c. &c.

Mr. Read desired an amendment inserted, allowing a collection of one penny per ton on Schooners, under sixty Tons, to be made at the Port of Bathurst.

Messrs. Kerr, Mitchell, Botsford and others supported Mr. Read's amendment. Mr. Gillmor spoke in opposition thereto. Messrs. Lewis, Harding, McLellan and others objected, on the ground that it would give the seamen of Bathurst a privilege of drawing on these funds, which, other ports would not have, inasmuch as it has been the custom in some counties to consider, the crews of small coasting vessels, as entitled to a participation in this fund, wherever they are subjected to a tax of this kind. A misapprehension of the law in Albert and other ports, has prevented similar claims being allowed out of the general funds.

Mr. Read finally withdrew his amendment and the first section of the Bill passed, to equalize the tonnage dues in every port.

The second section of the Bill, provides for the appointment of Commissioners at St. George and St. Stephen's, as well as St. Andrews.

Mr. Street objected to this section, as he thinks it is important that the Board of Commissioners should be where the Hospital is, did not know that he would object to have the Commissioners authorized, to appoint a person at St. George, and one at St. Stephen, to look after sick seamen, but did not think the law should be altered.

Mr. Gillmor said his Hon. colleague Mr. Boyd was continually grumbling, and very much inclined to represent people as saying what they did not say; he evidently wished to convey to the people of Charlotte, that some fault had been found with the Hospital or the Commissioners; now such was not the case for neither he nor his colleague. Mr. McAdam had found the least fault, and all they wanted was to have Commissioners appointed at St. George and St. Stephen where the greatest amount of shipping was loaded, he thought the request most reasonable.

Mr. McAdam said he pretended to know as much about shipping matters in St. Stephen, and thought his colleague (Mr. Gillmor) knew as much about these matters in St. George, as Mr. Street, and further he professed to state the truth in reference to these matters, and he felt assured that the Hon. Members composing the committee would see the justice of the request to have Commissioners appointed in each of those places where nineteen twentieths of the ships were loaded, he said it appeared very selfish in his colleagues Messrs. Boyd and Street to contend that all the Commissioners should be at St. Andrews.

Mr. Boyd said that he never before heard any complaint about the management of the Hospital at St. Andrews. Mr. Gillmor denied that any complaint was made by any one. He (Mr. B.) said there was a surplus of funds now, and he thought they wanted to

get hold of it in order to establish branch Hospitals at these places, he should oppose any change as it was not necessary.

Mr. Mitchell argued against the conclusions of those who opposed this section. He said it was entirely a local Bill and contended that the section should pass.

Mr. Kerr said he did not think the section necessary because the Executive Government could make the necessary appointment when necessary.

Pursuant to the order of the day, the House proceeded to the discussion of the returns of expenditure &c. in connection, with the Sullivan Creek Bridge. Mr. McAdam in the Chair.

Hon. Chief Commissioner of Works said, this was a very important matter and he hoped a fair and full discussion would be had upon it. He denied the statements and insinuations made against him and others with regard to this business. He hoped to have another opportunity to speak after others had addressed the committee, and he wished to hear from the Hon. Provincial Secretary.

Hon. Mr. Fisher said that he had heard the late government blamed at the election for corruption, and doing wrongly in regard to this matter, and as he had not heard the report read in detail he had nothing to say about it at present.

Hon. Speaker did not think there was anything before the Committee, requiring investigation, as the Hon. Chief Commissioner had in a very manly way completely exonerated his predecessors from all blame, and no blame seems to rest upon the present Executive.

Hon. Provincial Secretary said that much had been said in the country, about the manner of building the Sullivan Creek Bridge.

He said the late Chief Commissioner had not exacted Bonds from the Contractors, though he retained the power of taking it out of the hands of the builder at any time during the progress of the work.

The Secretary described the whole business in detail; vindicated the conduct of the government, and said he was quite willing for a full investigation.

Hon. Mr. Smith said the importance of this matter had been unduly magnified by all parties. He could not see that any very great blame should be attached to any party as far as he understood it. If the Secretary or any other hon. member accused the late government of any error, he was perfectly prepared to reply to it. So far as the net taking of Bonds applies, he would notice the fact, that railway operations, and other works of great magnitude were sometimes undertaken without bonds. He said he had heard a story about the Chief Commissioners supplying provisions &c. to the Contractors, which as a general custom, would be irregular and impolitic, but he would be sorry to say—without knowing all the facts—that anything had been done wrongly in this instance.

Hon. Chief Commissioner explained the grounds for such a charge, and showed that no wrong existed. He had loaned some supplies under peculiar circumstances, but had received no pay in any way.

Hon. Attorney General gave some further explanations about the erection of the Bridge.

Mr. Mitchell denied that this was a matter between the Government and Opposition but was of a local character entirely.

After some further explanation, about legal points, he, (the Speaker) resumed the Chair.

Mr. Mitchell, moved a Resolution of address to His Excellency, soliciting, that their be laid before this House all documents of Correspondence had between His Excellency and the Colonial Secretary, respecting the resignation of the late Governor or on any other subject, since 24th July last.

In reply to a question of hon. Mr. Smith, the Attorney General stated that all the railway papers, should be forthcoming at an early day.

Mr. McLellan wished to enquire of the Government, what action had been taken or what their intentions were with regard to the erection of a Light-House on Grandstone Island in the Bay of Fundy, as recommended by a Committee of this House and the Commissioners of Light Houses, and sanctioned by the late Chief Commissioner of Works.

Hon. Attorney General said the information should be furnished at an early day.

SATURDAY.

After the reading of the Journals of yesterday, the House went into a committee of the whole, and passed a Bill relating to the taxing of certain vessels in the County of Gloucester for the Buys and Beacon Fund. Also a Bill in further amendment of an act entitled an act to incorporate the Northumberland Strait Fishing Company. Also a Bill relating to the payment of rates and taxes in the Parishes of Wickham and Hampstead in Queen's County. Also, a Bill to alter the division line between the Parishes of Springfield and Studholm, in King's County, there was no discussion on any of the Bills named above, being of a local character.

Mr. McLellan, from the committee appointed to wait upon His Excellency with the address of the House praying for copies of all correspondence with the Colonial Secretary, since July last, relating in any way to the dissolution of the Assembly and resignation of late Government, reported that he had attended to that duty, and that his Excellency was pleased that the wishes of the House should be complied with immediately.

It is an understanding that where the members of any county are agreed upon any local Bill that no objections are urged against it, unless it interferes with general principles, but it would be well for persons having any reasonable objections to such local Bill, to address their objections to any member of the Assembly who would lay the same before the House.

Mr. Harding introduced a Bill, relating to the granting of Licenses to Hawkers and Pedlars coming into this Province. There was quite a discussion upon this Bill. The principles of Free trade and Reciprocity, was fully discussed, the benefits resulting to the people of the Province from having afforded to them a ready sale of old rags, sheep skins, &c. &c. to the Yankee pedlars who travel in this Province, the benefits in this way were pretty generally acknowledged, but as an offset to those advantages, it was argued that the introduction and sale of quack medicines were most injurious to the health and interests of the people. Dr. Earle told a circumstance of two children in King's County, having in his opinion been poisoned