

schools, as that question has been so ably discussed already by the Hon. Colonel Swabey. I will, however, freely and fearlessly express my conviction that the Old Testament is totally unfit for a school book—I care not whether "crowds applaud or hiss."

My scholars read weekly lessons out of the New Testament; and although I endeavour to fix the facts and precepts contained therein upon their memories, I never venture to give any exposition of my own on the chapter read. How can I, indeed, when I see a hundred different sects, with men of ability at the head of each, all claiming the Bible as the foundation of their respective doctrines, which are in the meantime directly antagonistic to each other?

From my acquaintance with the Protestant clergy of the Island, I feel certain that some of them are reasonable men, who will discuss the question in agitation in a fair, dispassionate manner; and I feel just as certain that some of them will not condescend to reason at all, but will have recourse to abuse instead.

From my acquaintance with the Protestant clergy of the Island, I feel certain that some of them are reasonable men, who will discuss the question in agitation in a fair, dispassionate manner; and I feel just as certain that some of them will not condescend to reason at all, but will have recourse to abuse instead.

Colonial Legislature.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

THURSDAY, February 26, 1857.

Nearly all the members of the House having met in the Assembly Hall, they were summoned to attend His Excellency in the Council Chamber; and having accordingly attended, His Excellency opened the Session with the following Speech:—

Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council: Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

I have much pleasure in again meeting you for the discharge of the important duties that devolve upon us.

It affords me much satisfaction to be enabled to inform you of the favourable determination of Her Majesty's Government with reference to the suggestion contained in your joint Address of last Session to the Queen, on the subject of a guarantee by Her Majesty's Government for such a Loan as might be sufficient for the purchase of Township Lands in this Island, with a view to the more speedy and general conversion of Leaseholds into Freehold tenures.

The Despatches from the Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies on this subject, shall be communicated to you, and a measure will be submitted for your consideration, in order to secure to the industrious inhabitants of this Island the benefits which have been thus placed within your reach by the paternal solicitude of Her Majesty's Government.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly: The condition of the Revenue is satisfactory, and indicates general prosperity among the consuming population of the Island.

The Accounts for the past year, and the Estimates for the current year, shall be laid before you; and I rely on your readiness to grant such Supplies as may be necessary for the efficient support of the public service.

Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council: Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

The establishment of Municipalities throughout the Island appears to be highly desirable, in order that the principles of local self-government should receive a more extended application, by affording to the people the exercise of a greater degree of power over their own local affairs.

A measure upon this subject will be submitted to you; and I solicit your earnest attention to the establishment of such a form of local Government as may ensure satisfaction to the people; whilst it preserves inviolate the prerogative of the Crown, and maintains the due administration of the Law.

In connection with this subject, it is very desirable that the system under which the public monies have hitherto been applied to the construction and repair of roads, bridges, and all other public works, should undergo a careful revision; and I would suggest for your consideration the expediency of establishing a Board of Works, which should comprise, besides certain members of the Government, a competent Civil Engineer.

A Board, so constituted, would afford the requisite responsibility, efficiency and economy in the execution of all public works, and greatly tend to promote the interests of the community in this important branch of the public service. As those laws which shortly expire which have given to this Colony a well merited pre-eminence in securing to the rising generation the blessings of a Free Education, it will be for you to consider the expediency of continuing or re-enacting them.

I am fully sensible of the fact, that the educational establishment of this Island involves a very heavy charge upon

its revenue, which is small in comparison to those of the sister Provinces; a charge which is larger than is incurred for a similar purpose in other, wealthier and more populous communities; and amounting in all to one-third of the public income. But keeping in view the great advantages that accrue from such an expenditure—advantages which are felt by the present generation, but which will be still more sensibly apparent to future ones,—I strongly incline to the opinion, that the public money could not be better applied than in fostering that free system of public instruction which has hitherto given such general satisfaction to the people of this Colony, and which has been referred to in terms of commendation by our fellow subjects in other portions of Her Majesty's dominions.

The interests of agriculture are entitled to the special care and attention of the Legislature, in a country where so large a portion of the community is employed in agricultural pursuits; and I am not aware of any mode by which those interests can be so effectually promoted, as by affording liberal encouragement to such institutions as the Royal Agricultural Society, whose exertions have hitherto been attended with very beneficial results.

I am again under the necessity of calling your attention to the subject of Steam Communication with the neighbouring Provinces. Arrangements of a more permanent character than have yet been effected are indispensable for placing that important communication on a satisfactory footing, and I earnestly recommend the subject to your consideration.

In all the measures which you may adopt for the promotion of the interests of the Island, and the happiness and contentment of the people, you may rely on my zealous co-operation; and I humbly hope that the Almighty may render our endeavours efficacious for the public good.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES.

After the members of the House had returned to their own apartment, the following Committees were appointed:— To provide Stationery—Hon. Col. Treasurer, Messrs. Clark and Munro.

To receive Tenders for Printing the Journals—Messrs. Clark, Muirhead and H. Haviland. On Expiring Laws—Hon. Col. Treasurer, Muirhead, and H. Haviland.

To prepare an Answer to His Excellency's Speech—Mr. Macdonald, Hon. Mr. Whelan, Messrs. Muirhead, Cooper, Munro, Perry and Dingwell.

Good Correspondence with the Legislative Council—Hons. Col. Secretary and Wightman, Messrs. Dingwell, Macdonald, Hons. Longworth and Haviland.

To examine Bills to be Engrossed—Messrs. Clark, Macdonald, Munro, Perry and H. Haviland.

To revise Journals—Messrs. Muirhead and Perry, and Hons. Messrs. Montgomery, Longworth and Palmer.

(To be continued.)

The Examiner.

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I., MARCH 2, 1857.

THE BIBLE MEETING.

No. 2.

AGREEABLY to our promise last week, we now proceed to continue our review of the speeches delivered on the occasion of the above meeting; and on looking over the report of the proceedings, we find that the first speaker to be noticed is Mr. Cephas Barker. The general nature of this gentleman's views on this subject, can be very easily ascertained from the report, which appears in our columns to-day, of the admirable lecture which he delivered at the Temperance Hall, on the subject of Education. His remarks, at the meeting, were in the hands of our readers last week; and now that the lecture is before them, we shall not refer to the speech, further than to notice the treatment his moderate and conciliatory sentiments entailed on him. Because he did not denounce in terms of sectarian rancour his Catholic fellow-citizens, he was pronounced unfit to associate with the Reverend brotherhood; and, when it was discovered that he had the sacrilegious audacity to officiate as the clergyman of a very large and influential body of Christians, without the clerical prefix to his name—contenting himself with the designation of Mr. Barker—his more aristocratic brethren pulled faces of pious horror at the intruder into the sanctuary, and on the principle that, "a saint in craps is twice a saint in lawn," disavowed all recognition of his clerical status, and refused to salute the Church in Cephas' house." Mr. Barker has been made the object of much personal abuse and misrepresentation, by men who should have been the first to welcome and support him; but we are happy in the knowledge that the usual result of such conduct has already taken place, and that the disreputable system adopted towards him has already had the effect of attaching to him a large number of influential friends.

The Reverend Isaac Murray followed Mr. Barker, and no change "from grave to gay, from lively to severe," was ever more sudden and complete. This mild apostle of toleration is ready to gird up his loins, and go up to Ramoth Gilead to battle for the attainment of his views. Hear this follower of the meek and lowly One: "And if we are denied the privilege of having the Word of God in our schools, and if it is to be purchased by blood, let it come." Whether this mild specimen of the

"Orthodox, Orthodox, Wha believe in John Knox,"

means the Bible or blood, is not very clear from the report of his speech; but it is probable that, as a member of the Church Militant, he is prepared for either—that in the pulpit he is a shining light, while on the field of worldly warfare the skirts of his Reverence's coat would rival in potency the snow-white plume of Henry of Navarre, and that he might exhort his followers to "press where ye see my coat-tail swing amid the ranks of war." The strange state of this man's mind may be inferred from the following shocking assertion, which was suffered to pass without rebuke or remark:—"We are deliberating to-night on what Christ was deliberating when he came to see us." In transcribing such a sentiment, we feel that nothing but the necessity of exposing the true character and spirit of the Meeting, can justify us in reproducing so revolting a statement. The political element which lies at the bottom of the whole agitation is frankly acknowledged by this clerical Boanerges, who, with Christian charity, proceeded to inform his applauding Bible-loving brethren, that "the Government are traitors to their principles,"—and that the political parsons are to say to the Government—"We want you to carry out our principles, and we dare you to deny us." Now, we are quite prepared to enter into a political discussion with this or any other opponent, be he priest or layman; and we challenge this Mr. Murray to prove his charge of treachery to their principles by the Government. If he decline to make the attempt,

and seek to shelter himself by the resumption of the clerical character, he convicts himself before the world of having travelled out of the line of his profession, to vilify those who never injured him—of having deserted his high calling and vocation, and of the moral cowardice of shrinking from the proofs of his assertion. We sincerely regret that we are under the necessity of speaking in this manner of a person of Mr. Murray's profession—a person, no doubt, hitherto enjoying all the respect and consideration which are so freely conceded to all who minister at the altar, by those at least who frequent those ministrations: but we ask of all impartial men, without reference to creed, political or religious, if it is for erring man to arrogate to himself a knowledge of the thoughts of the new-born Saviour? Yet this has Mr. Murray done: if it becomes a Christian Minister to descend from the pulpit to the political arena, and throwing off his sacerdotal character with its vestments, to denounce the Government's traitors—to declare his willingness that blood should flow? Yet this has Mr. Murray done.

This man made a great hit by his assertion that "even to this day the King of Naples kisses the Pope's toe." That certainly, if true, would form a great argument to prove the Government of Prince Edward Island traitors to their principles, and that our school system must be changed, and that it is desirable that blood should flow in our streets. Though no admirers of King Bomba, we think the Reverend politician might learn a lesson from His Majesty of Naples, who, we doubt not, would show his greater liberality of sentiment by according to Mr. Murray the basal privilege to an unlimited extent.

When clergymen unnecessarily interfere in political affairs, good seldom results from their action, and their conduct is generally characterized by a far more acrimonious spirit than that which is manifested by laymen. This truth was strongly pressed by Lord Brougham in the trial of an action for libel on the clergy of Durham, who had manifested strong political feelings against the unfortunate Queen Caroline. His Lordship alluded to them in the following strain:—

"Those reverend slanderers, those pious backbiters—void of strength to wield the sword, snatch the dagger, and destitute of wit to point and barb it, and make it rankle in the wound, steep it in venom, to make it fester in the scratch."

The quotation is of more general application than the advocate intended it should have. In fact, like the American almanack's, its applicability is not confined to any one particular meridian, but will serve for any part of the continent.

The observations of the Reverend George Sutherland were but a rebash of the statements of the preceding speakers, with the trifling addition of some historical events being presented in a new light,—the strange assertion that Laud flourished under Charles the Second, and the denial that Servetus received his doom at the hands of Calvin. The letter in another column, from the Rev. James Macdonald, contains our opinions on these assertions, which we consequently need not notice more particularly. Mr. Sutherland winds up his, not particularly clever, observations, with a small specimen of the Spooner-Neudegate stereotyped abuse of Maynooth and the Catholic clergy, which we are so accustomed to read in some of the English papers, and to see laughed at in others, that our readers will excuse our taking any notice of it, further than pointing to the fact of Mr. Sutherland retailing the twaddle.

The finale of the whole affair was a resolution to establish the forthcoming "Sanctified Press." A wag, at our elbow, suggests that the prospectus should contain the positive declaration that no *devis* should be allowed in the pious printing office whence the holy sheet is to issue. We trust that the compositors may justify their work, and of course no monks or friars will appear in connection with the office.

Our readers will have gleaned from the speeches, and our rapid survey of them, a fair sample of the spirit which actuated the orators of the meeting, and we think they will have no difficulty in detecting the motives in which this holy crusade originated. They are two-fold, one is a desire, avowed by one of the speakers, to break up our system of free education for the whole community, irrespectively of class or creed,—the other, and principal motive, to which the first is merely subsidiary—merely a means to an end—being a desire to overturn the present Government, by raising the banner of religious discord, under which the Tories might have a chance of returning to power. Both these amiable desires will, we feel assured, never be realized; and the parties who have, by misrepresentation, tried to set man against man, fit all the evil strength of the worst passions of our common humanity, will have the mortification of seeing that their unhallowed machinations have been unavailing. We make these observations in sincere belief of their truth; and while doing so, we wish to be distinctly understood as referring not to the whole body of the Protestant Clergymen, whose observations we have given to the public, many of whom, we doubt not, are sincere in their opinions; but to those whose desperate political chances have induced them to originate this agitation, in the vain hope that they might break up the Liberal Party, by setting Protestant against Catholic, and Catholic against Protestant. There is too much good sense and intelligence in the Liberal ranks, to permit this "weak invention of the enemy" to be successful; and we leave the actors behind the scenes in full possession of the unenviable consciousness, that their attempts have but had the result of placing them before the people in a position, worse, if possible, than that in which they previously were.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Up to Saturday evening, the time of going to press with our country edition, no business of any importance had been done in either branch of the Legislature. The usual Committees were appointed on the first day of the Session, and some little skirmishing took place between the majority and minority—the latter objecting to the nomination of a member of the Government on the Committee of Public Accounts. The objection was, however, over-ruled.—Some reports of Committees have been submitted. The Address in answer to the Speech will be taken into consideration to-day (Monday). We have no doubt it will be agreed to without any amendment from the Opposition. There is every reason to believe, indeed, that the Government will be fully sustained throughout the Session, notwithstanding the croaking of some of its enemies out of doors.

THE HUDSON BAY TERRITORY.—Toronto, Feb. 6. The Canadian government has appointed Mr. Justice Draper to proceed to England, to plead the claim of Canada to the Hudson Bay Territory, before a committee of the House of Commons, which the Imperial Government have agreed to grant.

Prices Current.

CHARLOTTETOWN MARKETS, FEBRUARY 25

Table with columns for Provisions, Poultry, Fish, Lumber, and Sundries. Items include Beef, Mutton, Veal, Pork, Butter, Cheese, Flour, Oatmeal, Eggs, Rabbits, Potatoes, Carrots, Peas, Turnips, Wheat, Barley, Oats, Partridges, Turkeys, Ducks, Geese, Fowls, Salmon, Herring, Mackerel, Boards, Do. (spruce), Do. (pine), Shingles, Lath, Timothy seed, Cloverseed, Wool, Hay, Straw, Homespun, Tallow, Cordwood, Apples, P.E.I. Bus.

New Advertisements.

In the House of Assembly.

RESOLVED, That no Petition praying aid for Roads, Bridges and Wharfs, or for any object of a Local or Private nature, be received after Monday, the 16th day of March next. On Motion, That the said Resolution be inserted in all the Newspapers published in Charlottetown. JOHN MENBELL, C. H. A.

Legislative Council Chamber.

RESOLVED, That the following Standing Order of this House be inserted Three times in each of the Newspapers published in Charlottetown, for the information of the Public. "That no Bill, Resolution, or other proceeding founded upon any application, addressed to the House of Assembly, be sustained by the Council, unless an application to the same effect, with such documents as may accompany the same, be also presented to the Council in General Assembly." CHARLES DESBRISAY, C. L. C.

Mare for Sale.

THE subscriber is instructed to sell by Public Auction, at the Market House, on SATURDAY, the 14th instant, a superior MARE, and can be warranted as such by the present owner. Terms—approved joint Note of Hand, payable in six months. H. W. LOBBAN, Auctioneer. March 2, 1857. H's Gaz.

Tea, Tobacco, Brandy,

CONFECTIONARY, DRESSING CASES, WRITING DESKS, CHINAWARE, GLASSWARE, JEWELLERY, PLATEDWARE, PAPER MACHE TRAYS, FANCY GOODS, &c. TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION, on TUESDAY, the 17th of March, at 12 o'clock, at the Subscriber's Sale Room, Queen-street, a large lot of GOODS, comprising:

- 20 Chests superior Congo TEA, 7 Casks Cognac BRANDY, 20 Boxes Tobacco, 20 boxes 10 x Glass, 2 Casks Boiled OIL, boxes Confectionary, 20 Handsome Dressing Cases, Work Boxes and W. Desks, 1 Silver Tea Service, 1 handsome Dinner Set (144 pieces), Tea Sets, Dessert Sets, Britannia Metal Coffee & Tea Pots, Papier Mache Trays, Pocket Books, Port Monies, China and Glass Ornaments, Yases and Teller Bottles, Cash Boxes, Tobacco Jars & Cisterns, Measuring Tapes, Boxes Ink, Hair and Clothes Brushes, Billiard Pipes, Dutch Alarm Clocks, handsome Purses, cut Decanters, Tumblers, Wine Glasses, Celery Bowls, Fruit dishes, Water Bottles, Salt Cellars, &c. &c.

A lot of Jewellery, consisting of WATCHES, GOLD GUARDS, Brooches, Rings, &c., with an assortment of DRY GOODS, &c. &c. Terms liberal. JAMES MORRIS, Auctioneer. Ch. Town, March 2, 1857.

Notice of Removal.

J. & S. PROWSE HAVE REMOVED to the STORE formerly occupied by Mr. J. R. WATY next door to THOMAS & DAWSON'S, Great George-street, where they will continue to sell, at their usual low prices, the whole of their

STOCK IN TRADE.

Consisting of a large variety of DRY GOODS, with an excellent assortment of Mourning Dress Stuffs and a large supply of white Cottons, wholesale and retail. Also—a general assortment of GROCERIES and Hardware. P. S.—An excellent article in Butter Salt cheap. March 2, 1857.

To THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

ON Thursday week last four persons, resident in my own neighbourhood, were fined for selling Spirituous Liquors without license, and it is currently reported and believed that I instigated one of the Grand Jury to lay information against them. I never was a common informer, but hold such a person in utter contempt, and I should have passed over the rumor with that silence it deserves, but the report is likely to injure me in the minds of my own neighbours and my other customers, and, from a threat held out by one of the parties, to be attended with personal violence: I now solemnly deny that either myself or my son ever gave such information. I will, therefore, thank you to give one insertion in your paper of the enclosed documents, which, I think, are sufficiently clear to exonerate both of us from having had any participation in the proceedings. The originals you can return me after the insertion. NICHOLAS BROWN. Sun Inn, Tryon Road, (late Widgery's), Feb. 28, 1857.

I hereby declare that Mr. Nicholas Brown never gave me any information, either directly or indirectly, whether John McArthur, Owen McQuillan, Jeremiah Mahony, James Conway, or Martin Bagley, ever sold spirituous liquors without license. Nor did he ever hold out any threats to me, as a Grand Jurymen, that he would hold me responsible if I did not proceed against them for that offence. Dated this 25th day of February, 1857. WILLIAM H. HYDE.

I hereby declare that Lavever told John McArthur that Mr. Nicholas Brown had threatened Mr. Wm. H. Hyde; that unless he, in his capacity as a Grand Jurymen, did not lay information against said John McArthur, Jeremiah Mahony, Martin Bagley, James Conway and Owen McQuillan, that he (Mr. Brown) would inform the Grand Jury of default in said Hyde. I hereby declare that John McArthur is a liar if he says so; and whoever may at any time say so, I unhesitatingly pronounce him, her or them, most unprincipled and audacious liars. JEREMIAH SEASON DEBRENNE CARVELL. West River, 25th February, 1857. Ill.

To Builders.

SEALED TENDERS for the erection of a NEW CHAPEL and SCHOOL ROOM will be received at Mr. JOHN THREMAN'S up to 5 o'clock, p. m., of MONDAY, the 9th March, 1857. Plans and Specifications may be seen at the same place on and after Tuesday next. Charlottetown, March 2, 1857. W

Seed Wheat, Barley and Potatoes.

FOR SALE, at the WARREN FARM—100 bushels TEA WHEAT, 100 bushels GOLDEN-STRAW WHEAT, 50 do PERUVIAN BARLEY, 50 do CALICO POTATOES, grown from seed imported last Spring from Cornwallis, N. S. ALSO— 600 bushels OATS, 500 bushels TURNIPS, and 10 tons good fresh STRAW. Apply to J. LYALL. March 2, 1857. 6W

LOST on the 28th ult., somewhere between the foot of Richmond-street and Kent-street, a dark Fitch VICTORINE. The finder will be rewarded by leaving it at this office. March 2.

Benevolent Irish Society.

THE thirty-second Annual Meeting of the above Society will be held at the Society's rooms—Mr. A. O'Neill's—on the evening of the 10th instant, at 8 o'clock. A full attendance is requested. R. B. REID, Secretary. March 2, 1857. R.G. & Isl. H.