

FLIMSY GROUNDS FOR DIVORCE.

There is evidently great matrimonial demoralization in Chicago at this time. Applications for divorce are of daily, almost hourly, occurrence. Some of the grounds for divorce are novel, if not amusing.

One of our leading clergymen, in his pulpit this morning, is commenting upon this alarming matrimonial demoralization, related a case that came under his own observation.

During the past week a lady, hitherto regarded as highly respectable, came to him and wished to consult him, as her pastor, in relation to getting a divorce from her husband. The clergyman, greatly astonished, asked for what cause she sought a divorce.

She replied that her husband when she married him, was quite wealthy, but had lately become so reduced in circumstances as to be unable to supply her with the luxuries to which she had been accustomed, and this was the whole ground for seeking a divorce.

FRANCE AND PRUSSIA.

The relations of France and Prussia are rapidly approaching a critical juncture. The immediate cause is the possession of the Dutch province of Luxemburg, but the prevalent feeling of hostility between the two countries may be traced to the jealousy and distrust engendered by the result of the war with Austria last year.

THE RELATIONS BETWEEN GREAT BRITAIN AND THE UNITED STATES.

Lord Stanley's assurance that no unfriendly answer has been received from Washington on the subject of the Alabama claims justifies us, in the opinion of the Times, in still looking forward to an honorable settlement of the whole dispute.

House of Representatives, on the contrary, it probably means little or nothing beyond a bid for the "Irish vote," the competition for which is, perhaps, the most degrading influence in American politics.

A POOR BOY INHERITS FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS.

About eight years ago, says the Memphis Bulletin, of March 13th, a youth named Timothy Griffin left his mother's house in Toronto, in company with two other lads, for a tour in the United States.

The Paris Exhibition will have a host of royal visitors. The King and Queen of Portugal, the Prince of Wales, the Crown Prince of Prussia, Prince Humbert, of Italy, Prince Oscar, of Sweden, the Prince of Orange, the brother of the Tycoon of Japan, the Viceroy of Egypt, and the King of Sweden, are all expected to be present.

The Herald.

Wednesday, April 24, 1867.

The Partial Elections, where contests took place, resulted as follows:—

Table with 3 columns: District, Candidates, and Results. Includes entries for the Third District of Queen's County and the Second District of King's County.

The result of the election in the Second District of King's County has taken a good many people by surprise, and none more so than ourselves.

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previous to the last election, to lead us from the path of honor, we might have enjoyed a fat office to-day at the expense of the good opinion of our friends and supporters; but as we resisted that, so we trust that in the future we shall pursue an equally straightforward course, nor ever descend to anything which should make us ashamed to meet either friend or foe in the face.

The Legislature has been now sitting for nearly a week. Most of that time has been taken up in certain routine duties, such as the appointment of Committees, the reception of Tenders, &c. The real business of the session has yet to be grappled with, but we suppose that several days will be wanted in discussing the Governor's Speech.

SHERIFFS.—The names of the Sheriffs for the coming year will be found in to-day's paper. We have nothing to say to the gentlemen who have been appointed for Queen's and Prince Counties; but we happen to know that a more unpopular selection than that of John A. McLean, Esq., could not be made in King's County.

FAT BEEF.—Mr. Patrick Blake had for sale in the Market House, on Saturday last, four carcasses of beef, the total weight of which amounted to 4950 lbs. or an average of 1237 1/2 lbs.

The new Road Commissioners have been all appointed. The last batch were appointed at the meeting of the Executive Council, on the 16th inst., before the partial elections.

The Steamship Athabra, arrived at this Port, from Boston on Monday evening last—being her first trip for the season.

P. E. ISLAND STEAM NAVIGATION CO.—The Steamers "Princess of Wales" and "Heather Belle," belonging to the above Company, are now fully equipped in every department, and ready to resume their usual trips to and from this port and the neighboring Provinces, as soon as the Gulf is clear of ice.

SERIOUS ACCIDENT.—On Tuesday, the 9th inst., as Mr. Henry Maxwell, of Centreville, Beauce, was engaged in goose-shooting, his gun unfortunately burst, the breach striking him on the forehead.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—A distressing and fatal accident occurred at Indian River on Wednesday last. A young man named William Wallace, son of Mr. George Wallace, of Indian River, being about to go to the woods to make shingles, with some neighboring young men, thought he would take a gun with him, in case an opportunity might offer to shoot something.

The steam tannery of W. B. Dawson, Ch. Town, P. E. Island, does a yearly business of over £40,000. The most of his hides are imported from South America. Manufactures have been "looking up" in the "tight little Island" the last few years, and from all we can learn it is not one whit behind its sister cities in the other Provinces in this branch of enterprise and industry.

We understand that a meeting will be held in the Armory (Pepe's building), this evening, for the purpose of organizing a Highland Volunteer Company. We cordially approve of this movement.

OPENING OF THE LEGISLATURE.

THURSDAY, April 18, 1867.

This day, at three o'clock, His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor—in the midst of a drifting snow-storm from the North-east—came down from Government House and opened both branches of the Legislature.

SPEECH.

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

The time at which it was deemed advisable to dissolve the last Assembly, and the ministerial arrangements which were the result of the General Election, have prevented me from summoning you at an earlier period for the discharge of your legislative duties.

Although the lateness of your meeting must be attended with inconvenience to you, I rely with confidence upon your devoting sufficient time to mature such measures as the exigencies of the Colony and its public service may require.

I do not fail to observe the general desire evinced by the tenantry to obtain the Fee Simple of their land by the purchase of their farms. My efforts are, therefore, directed towards extending the action of the Land Purchase Bill to such parts of this Island as have not yet participated in its benefits, and I shall endeavor, under its provisions, to buy out the interest of the remaining proprietors in the comparatively small portion of the land which is now held under leasehold tenure.

The important question of Education will again be submitted for your consideration, with the view of improving the position of the school-teachers, and otherwise rendering the law now in force on this subject more efficient and more extensively useful.

The public accounts for the past year will be laid before you. The revenue has increased, but the expenditure has been largely in excess of ordinary years, on account of the purchase of the estates to which I have alluded, and the amount required for military purposes.

The estimates for the present year will be laid before you. They have been framed with due regard to economy.

The advantages to be derived from the development of local industry and from improvements in agriculture, are well worthy of your attention, and I shall be glad to cooperate with you in such measures as you may devise for the advancement of these interests.

The serious loss incurred by the total unfitness of the highways to support the yearly-increasing traffic, renders it absolutely necessary that the whole question should undergo a thorough investigation, with a view to the adoption of a better system.

In full reliance on your zeal for the welfare of the Colony, I now leave you to the discharge of your legislative duties.

Hon. Members of the Assembly having returned to their seats, His Excellency's Speech was again read from the Chair, after which the House proceeded to business.

The Hon. Attorney General proposed that John McNeill, Esq., be re-appointed Clerk. The Hon. Mr. Haviland stated that he had great pleasure in supporting the nomination of Mr. McNeill, who, he said, had discharged the important duties of that office with remarkable efficiency in previous Parliaments; and he stated that that gentleman's ability and experience were now again fortunately available for the service of the present Assembly, which had a larger than ordinary proportion of new Members.

Moved by Hon. B. Davies, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Howland, that Mr. Kenneth Morrison be appointed Assistant Clerk.

Hon. Mr. Dixon moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. Brecken, that Mr. Joseph M. Dixon be Assistant Clerk, which amendment was negatived on the following division:—

Yeas—Hons. Duncan, McAulay, Henderson, Haviland, Messrs. Ramsay, Green, McLennan, Owen, Prowse, Yeo, Brecken, Ramsay, Green, McLennan, 11.

Nays—Hons. Davies, Laird, Howland, Hunsley, Kelly, Calbeck, Henderson, Duncan; Messrs. Bell, Kichham, P. Sinclair, Cameron, Dr. Jenkins, McNeill, Arsenaux, 14.

The Hon. Mr. Haviland then moved that Mr. F. W. Hughes be appointed Assistant Clerk.

For the amendment—Hons. Haviland, McAulay, Messrs. Green, Brecken, Yeo, Owen, McLennan, Ramsay, 8.

Against it—Hons. Davies, Laird, Howland, Hunsley, Kelly, Calbeck, Henderson, Duncan; Messrs. Bell, Kichham, P. Sinclair, Cameron, Dr. Jenkins, McNeill, Arsenaux, Prowse, 17.

Hon. Mr. Henderson moved that Mr. John McLeod, of Orwell, be Assistant Clerk, which motion, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Duncan, was also negatived, on the same division as the first amendment, namely, Yeas 11, Nays 14.

The question was then put on the original motion, that Mr. Kenneth Morrison be appointed Assistant Clerk, and agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Bell, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Howland, that Nicholas Conroy, Esq., be appointed Sergeant-at-Arms.—Mr. Green moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. Yeo, that A. H. Yates, Esq., be Sergeant-at-Arms. The question being put, the amendment was negatived on the following division:—

Yeas—Hons. Haviland, Henderson, Duncan, McAulay; Messrs. Ramsay, Green, McLennan, Owen, Prowse, Yeo, Brecken, 11.

Nays—Hons. Hunsley, Calbeck, Laird, Davies, Kelly, Howland; Messrs. Bell, Kichham, P. Sinclair, Cameron, Dr. Jenkins, McNeill, Arsenaux, 11.

On motion of Dr. Jenkins, seconded by Hon. Mr. Calbeck, Mr. Richard Pickard was appointed Messenger to the House.

Mr. Patrick Furlong was appointed Door-keeper, and Mr. P. Moan, Assistant do.

Hon. Attorney General moved that Mr. David Laird be Chief Reporter of the House during the present Session, with leave to employ Mr. Robert Gordon and Mr. P. S. McGowan as his Assistants.

Hon. Mr. Haviland objected to the House naming any Assistants for the Reporter, and contended that he should be allowed to employ whom he pleased to assist him, as the Chief Reporter alone was responsible for the due performance of the work. He (Hon. Mr. H.) therefore moved, in amendment, that all after the word "employ" be struck out of the Hon. Attorney General's motion, and the word "Assistants" be inserted in lieu thereof.

For the amendment—Hons. Haviland, Henderson, McAulay; Messrs. Ramsay, Green, McLennan, Owen, Prowse, Yeo, Brecken, 10.

Against it—Hons. Hunsley, Calbeck, Laird, Davies, Kelly, Howland; Messrs. Bell, Kichham, P. Sinclair, G. Sinclair, Dr. Jenkins, Cameron, McNeill, Arsenaux, 14.

On motion of the Hon. Attorney General, Mr. Archibald McNeill was appointed Summary Reporter to the House, his duty being to furnish each Member of the House with a printed Summary of the proceedings of the day's proceedings.

Hon. Attorney General moved, seconded by Hon. Mr. Howland, that Dr. O. M. Reddin, Esq., be Law Clerk to which Mr. Green submitted an amendment, seconded by Mr. Brecken, that W. M. J. Howe, Esq., be Law Clerk. The question being put, the amendment was negatived as follows:—

Yeas—Hons. Haviland, Henderson, Duncan, McAulay; Messrs. Ramsay, Green, McLennan, Owen, Prowse, Yeo, Brecken, 11.

Nays—Hons. Attorney General, Calbeck, Davies, Laird, Kelly, Howland; Messrs. Bell, Kichham, P. Sinclair, G. Sinclair, Cameron, Dr. Jenkins, McNeill, Arsenaux, 14.

Committee to prepare the Address in answer to His Excellency's Speech—Hons. Mr. Kelly; Messrs. P. Sinclair, G. Sinclair, Bell, Dr. Jenkins, Arsenaux, Kichham.

Committee on Public Accounts—Messrs. G. Sinclair, Bell, P. Sinclair; Hon. Mr. Kelly, and Messrs. Owen, Prowse and Yeo.

The usual standing Committees of the House were then named, after which, on motion of the Hon. Mr. Howland, the Rev. Thomas Duncan was unanimously appointed Chaplain.

Hon. Attorney General presented a message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor desiring the House to adjourn over Good Friday.

The House accordingly adjourned until Saturday at 10 o'clock.

SATURDAY, April 20.

HON. ATTORNEY GENERAL, Chairman of the Committee on Standing Rules and Orders for the government of the House, presented the Report of said Committee, which report, having been read at the Clerk's table, was committed to a Committee of the whole House,—

MR. GEORGE SINCLAIR in the Chair.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND suggested the propriety of incorporating, among the Standing Rules of the House, that important rule relative to the Initiation of Money Votes, which, at the suggestion of the Imperial Government, had been adopted by the late Government. He would, therefore, move that the Rule referred to be placed among the Standing Rules of the House.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL concurred in the remarks made by the Hon. Mr. Haviland, touching the advantages of that rule, and supported the motion to add the same to the Standing Rules of the House;

Which rule reads as follows:— "That this House will receive no petition for any sum of money, relative to the public service, nor proceed upon any motion for granting any money, but what is recommended by the Lieutenant Governor in Council." Motion agreed to.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Hon. Mr. KELLY, Chairman of the Committee to prepare an Address in answer to His Excellency's Speech, presented and read said Address, which, having been received, was ordered to be made the order of the day on Monday next and is as follows:—

To His Excellency George Dundas, Esquire, Lieut. Governor, &c., &c., &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

1. We, Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the House of Assembly of P. E. Island, beg respectfully to tender our thanks for the Speech with which your Excellency opened the present Session.

2. Although the late time at which it was deemed advisable to dissolve the last Assembly, and the ministerial arrangements resulting from the General Election, prevented your Excellency from summoning us at an earlier period than the present, your Excellency may rely upon our willingness to devote a sufficient time to mature such measures as the exigencies of the Colony and the public service may require.

3. We shall be glad to receive from your Excellency the particulars of the purchase of Estates which have been effected during its recess.

4. We have observed in common with your Excellency the general desire evinced by the tenantry to obtain the Fee Simple of their lands, by the purchase of their farms, and we therefore rejoice to learn that your Excellency's efforts will continue to be directed towards extending the operations of the Land Purchase Bill to such parts of the Island as have not yet participated in its benefits. We trust that the remaining Proprietors of Township Lands, who have not as yet evinced a disposition to part with their lands under the provisions of the Land Purchase Bill on fair and liberal terms, will see the advisability now of forwarding your Excellency's views in that respect; and we can assure your Excellency that we are fully impressed with the importance of making every exertion to extinguish the leasehold tenure, and secure to the occupant of the soil a free and independent interest in his labour and improvements. The means of providing funds for the foregoing object shall receive our careful and serious consideration.

5. The important question of Education shall receive our deliberate attention whenever it shall be brought before us, whether it be with the view of improving the position of the School Teachers, or otherwise rendering the law now in force relating to Education more efficient and more extensively useful to the inhabitants of the Colony.

6. We are gratified to learn from your Excellency that the Revenue has increased, and we thank your Excellency for the assurance that the public accounts for the past year will be laid before us, which will inform us as to the sums paid for the purchase of the Estates already alluded to, and the amounts expended for military purposes, which your Excellency informs us have exceeded the expenditure to be largely in excess of ordinary years.

7. We shall be prepared to grant the necessary supplies for the public service so soon as the accounts for the past and the estimates for the current year shall have been laid before us.

8. We acknowledge fully the great advantages to be derived from the development of local industry and from improvements in agriculture. The subject is well worthy of, and shall receive, our constant attention as the Representatives of the people; and we thank your Excellency for informing us that you will gladly cooperate with us in such measures as we may devise for the advancement of those interests.

9. We agree with your Excellency that the "whole question of the construction and management of the highways, and the expenditure of public moneys thereon, requires a thorough investigation, and we shall endeavor to obtain reliable information on this most important subject as a preliminary step to future legislation.

10. We assure your Excellency that you may rely with confidence upon our zeal for the welfare of the Colony.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAND, Chairman of the Committee to receive tenders for printing the Parliamentary Register, submitted the report of said Committee, stating that they had received tenders from Messrs. John Ing, W. Malone, and David Laird, and recommending that the tender of Mr. D. Laird, being the lowest, be accepted.

Hon. Mr. DAVIES, Chairman of the Committee to receive tenders for printing the Journals of the Session, submitted a Report, stating that tenders had been received from Messrs. W. Malone, H. Cooper, J. Ing, and George T. Haszard, and recommending that the tender of Mr. Haszard to print the Journals on superior English paper, same as specimen submitted, at 1s. 6d. per page, be accepted.

House adjourned till Monday next at 10 o'clock.

MONDAY, April 22.

Hon. Attorney General moved that the House do adopt the usual Resolution touching the distribution of a certain number of copies of the Journals.

In submitting which, he observed that it would be necessary to forward copies to the Governmental departments of the Provinces recently Confederated.

Hon. Mr. Haviland asked the hon. Attorney General if he admitted that Confederation was a fixed fact.