Old Testament. But, alas, I found that the spirit is willing, but the flesh weak. I know that there is no other name given under heaven whereby we can be saved, than the name of Jesus; I know that I must perish everlastingly without Jesus; and yet, I can only cry with David, 'Create in me a new heart, O God,' for I cannot overcome the difficulties by my own strength."

In the journal of a Missionary Agent employed in London, we find the following notice, showing the effect of the Society's labours in the heart of many a Jew who does not make a public profession of Christianity by baptism, but still appears to be one of those who "in an honest and good heart, having heard the Word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience."

"In passing London Wall, I perceived an old Jew in the middle of the road, dressed in Polish costume, and surrounded by a number of boys. He was enquiring the way to some distant place; but the boys, who could not understand him, on account of his broken English, were mocking and laughing at him. I at once asked him to follow me, and the face of the poor man was beaming with joy at hearing me speak in his own tongue. I directed him to the place he wished to go, but not without pointing out to him also, that narrow road which leads to eternal happiness and bliss, through Jesus Christ our Lord. But I was not a little surprised to hear the old man talk of our Lord Jesus with great reverence and affection, and I also learnt that he had already been made acquainted with the truth at Warsaw, when the Jewish mission in Poland was first established. He told me that until that time, he had hated all Christians, looking upon them as idolaters; but after having come into contact with the English missionaries and been made acquainted with the doctrines of Christianity, and read the New Testament and tracts, he not only admired that religion, but even believed that Christ is the Lamb of God that taketh away the sins of the world.

In concluding their Report, the committee feel that it is not easy to overrate the impotance of the work now going on among the Jews. The simple fact that *forty* years ago, there was not a single clergyman of the Church of En land, of the House of Israel, but that since that time *fifty* have been ordained in that church, shews that a very great change has taken place. There is also good reason to believe, that at the present moment there are living in London at least *two thousand* Israelites, who are united to us in the profession of faith in our blessed Saviour. *Five hundred and ninety two* have been baptized in our Society's chapel, and these with their families, make a large number. But there have been many more baptized by other clergymen and ministers in various parts of the metropolis, and in the country, and no one can tell, how far the example which we have been permitted to set, and the books which we have circulated, have led to this happy result. We need not enquire, and we cannot know, how many of these individuals would probably have learned to love the name of Christ, if our Society had never existed, but we may be thankful for the share which we, as a Society, have had in this great work. We might extend this remark to other places, thus in Berlin 2.500 Jews have professed Christ, and in Duchy of Posen 576 children have been under Christian instruction, and in Jerusalem 30 children and 17 adults have been under instruction But besides these instances of individual conversion it is especially necessary to notice the general change of feeling amongst the Jews towards this Society. This has been manifested in the removal of prejudice and in increased attention to the scripture. We notice in particular, a society formed amongst the Jews on the continent of Europe for reading the scriptures, they meet twice a week and consult, without scruple, works by christian *divines*. The highly respectable and learned Jew who conducts this meeting confesses, that he is yet in some doubt about the divinity of Jesus Christ and humbly speaks of himself in the following words. "I feel myself called upon to prepare the way for your Society. True I am weakness itself, I can do nothing, but I know God will give me grace to do and to finish my work." Can we avoid seeing the good hand of our God in this, and shall we not thank him and take courage.—Yes indeed; for if we could not speak of thousands of Jews who have joined the Church of Christ, of thousands of Jewish children who have been taught in our schools, if we found everywhere opposition, and every Jew determined and obstinate in unbelief if they had with undiminished hate, rejected our message and scorned our love, it would still be our duty to go forward and to say to each "I come to thee in the name of the Lord of Hosts." But when God has thus put the honor of success upon us, shall we not advance with a holier boldness, and a more abiding faith.

A great change has taken place in the hearts of many, and of many more it may be truly said, there is a shaking of the dry bones.—Let us pray earnestly that the whole house of Israel may be prepared to say, Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord, and while we pray for the salvation of the whole nation, let us give thanks for the mercy and grace of that Saviour, who permits us this day to say, "So then at this present time also, there is a remnant according to the election of grace."

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Friday, Feb. 18.

Despatches and papers alluded to in our last.

No. 1.—Despatch from Sir A. Bannerman to Earl Grey, dated Oct. 13, 18,1, transmitting copy of the Proclamation of the Government of this Island, relative to wrecked American Fishermen.

No. 2.—Despatch from Sir A. Bannerman to Earl Grey, dated Nov. 15, 1851, calling His Lordship's attention to the Address of the Legislature of this Island, adopted and forwarded to Her Majesty's Government in the year 1849, praying for a relaxation or suspension of the Treaty of 1818, between Great Britain and the United States, &c.; and enclosing a Letter from the United States' Consul at Pictou on the same subject.

No. 3.—Despatch from Sir A Bannerman to Earl Grey, dated Nov. 22, 1851, respecting the supply of H. M. Steamships with fuel at the Ports of Charlottetown and Georgetown.

No. 4.—Despatch from Sir A. Bannerman to Earl Grey, dated Feb. 12, 1852, transmitting the Joint Address of the Council and Assembly of this Island to Her Majesty the Queen, on the subject of the Treaty for regulating the Fisheries.

No. 5.—Despatch from Sir A. Bannerman to Earl Grey, dated Feb. 12, 1852, calling His Lordship's attention to the Colonial Act. 6 Vic. cap. 14, regulating the Fisheries.

No. 6.—Extract of a Despatch from Sir A. Bannerman to Earl Grey, dated Feb. 1852, with respect to Bounties for the encouragement of the Fisheries.

No. 7.—Despatch from Sir J. S. Pakington, to Sir A. Bannerman, dated May 27, 1852, relative to the solicited protection of the Fisheries on the coasts of British North America by a Naval Force, and the promotion of the Fisheries of the British Colonies by means of Bounties.

No. 8.—Despatch from Sir J. S. Pakington, to Sir A. Bannerman, dated June 10, 1852, acknowledging receipt of Despatch enclosing Address to the Queen from the Legislative Council and Assembly of this Island, praying for some relaxation of the Treaty of 1818, for the regulation of the Fisheries

No. 9.—Despatch from Sir J. S. Pakington, to Sir A. Bannerman, dated Dec. 7, 1852, transmitting an extract of a Despatch from Sir George Seymour, addressed to the Lord Commissioners of the Admiralty, stating his intention of suggesting to the Governors of Her Majesty's North American Colonies the expediency of taking certain steps, with a view to the better protection of the British Fisheries, during the next Fishing season.

No. 10,—Acknowledging receipt of Despatch, of the 7th Dec. 1852.

No. 11.—Letter from Capt. H. W. Bayfield, R. N., to Sir A. Bannerman, dated July 7, 1852, on the subject of the most eligible site for a Lighthouse at the entrance of the harbour of Three Rivers.

No. 12.—Extract of a Report from Capt. Campbell, R. N., of H. M. Steamship Devastation, dated Nov. 10, 1852, addressed to Vice Admiral Sir G. Seymour, K. C. B., Commander-in-Chief, on the subject of his proceedings for the protection of the Fisheries in the Gulf of St. Lawrence during the past season.

After the reading of the foregoing Documents by the Clerk, some conversation took place as to the most eligible site for the proposed Lighthouse at the entrance of the harbour of Three Rivers. The House, last Session, had fixed upon Boughton Island, on the Eastern side of that harbour as affording the most eligible site Doubts having arisen as to the propriety of this selection, application was made to Capt. Bayfield, R N., for his opinion on the subject; and that gentleman having given it as his opinion, that a Light on Boughton Island would not answer the purpose of a leading light into the important harbour of Georgetown—neither would it be the best position for a Coast Light, and also expressed himself strongly in favour of a Light properly placed on the North East ex remity of Panmure Island; and it appearing, also, that the Commissioners appointed by the Government to select a proper site for the proposed Lighthouse had become fully impressed with the vast superiority of the site recommended by Capt. Bayfield over that selected by the Houss last year, Tenders for the erection of the said Lighthouse were called for and taken, with the understanding that the matter would again be brought under the notice of the Assembly, and that the building should be erected upon such spot as the House on such reconsideration, might finally determine upon. On motion of the hon. Mr. Coles, it was, therefore, resolved, that the Letter of Capt. Bayfield, on this important subject, should be taken into consideration, in Committee of the whole House, at the afternoon sitting.

On motion of the Hon. the Treasurer a Committee of four Members was appointed, to join a Committee of the Legislative Council, for the purpose of preparing a Joint address, to the Lieut. Governor, praying that His Excellency would be pleased to cause the necessary Warrants upon the Treasury to be drawn forthwith, amounting to the sum of £1000, to enable the Royal Agricultural Society to import, next spring, six stud draught Horses and one full-bred horse, in accordance with the Resolution adopted by the House of Assembly on the 14th inst.

AFTERNOON SITTING.

The Criminal Justice (amendment) Bill was read a third time and passed.

The House then went into Committee of the whole, on the Communication of Cap. Bayfield, to His Excellency the Lt. Governor, on the subject of the Georgetown Light House—Mr. Fraser in the Chair.

The report of the Commissioners appointed by the Government last year, to determine upon the most eligible site for the said Light House, was called for; and thereupon—

The Hon. Colonial Secretary stated, that the Report in question had been handed to the hon. the Attorney General, as Chairman of the Light House Committee of the Executive Council, and could not then be found. It was, however, a matter of no consequence—the document was, in fact, worth nothing, as far as the present discussion was concerned—the powers of the Commissioners having been limited by the Government to the determination of the most eligible spot on Boughton Island upon which to erect the said Light House.

Mr. Wightman said he was one of the Commissioners alluded to. He was of opinion, last year that Boughton Island was the most suitable place for the Light House; but when he proceeded with the other Commissioners, to make the necessary examination and inquiries, for the purpose of determining upon the proper site, he was convinced that if there was to be but one Light House, Panmure Island was, by far, the most suitable place for such an establishment.

Mr. M'Aulay thought it rather paradoxical that the hon. member for King's County (Mr. Wightman) who had the objects and places to which he had alluded almost constantly before him for the last Twenty years, should have so suddenly changed his opinion as to the most elig ble site for the said Light House. He (Mr. M'Aulay) thought no man would have the audacity to assert that the House was not fully competent to decide on the proposed site; and he laid it down as a fixed principle, which should govern all such matters, that a Light House should be as near the scene of danger as possible, and this the hon. gentleman illustrated in a somewhat familiar and homely manner, by remarking, that on the discovery of a hole in the ice, a man would instinctively avoid it—if a beacon were erected anywhere, the traveller would, naturally avoid it—if pa ties were employed in repairing the streets, they would, as a matter of course, place a light there, that people might avoid the dangerous places. If, then, it could be shewn, that Boughton Island reef had been removed, there might be some propriety in removing the Light House, from Boughton to Panmure Island, but not otherwise.

The Hon Mr. Thornton said he was not ashamed to avow that he had changed his mind on this subject since last Session. The only Port of any great importance between Charlottetown and the East Point, was Three Rivers, and as a Light House on Panmure Island would answer the double purpose of a Coast and harbour Light, whilst one on Boughton Island would only answer as a Coast Light, he must certainly give the former the preference. Besides, he (Mr. Thornton) thought it very probable, that the House would ere long, be called upon to erect Light Houses on various other parts of the Island, where it was universally admitted, that such establishments were much wanted; and, under these circumsta ces he did not think the House would be justified in taxing the Country for t o Light Houses, where one would answer all the purposes contemplated by such erections. During the past summer, he (Mr. T.) had watched the movements of a number of vessels whilst approaching and entering the harbour of Georgetown; he had consulted many nautical men—among them the oldest pilot of Three Rivers, a man whose experience extended over thirty or forty years—who all scouted the idea of placing the Light House on Boughton Island; and he was fully persuaded, not only from his own observations, but also from the opinions expressed by others, that by placing the Light on Panmure Island, no difficulty would be experienced in making of Georgetown harbour, at any season of the year, or at any time of day; but that the reverse would be the case, if the Light were placed on Boughton Island, unless an additional harbour Light were also provided at the public expense.

Mr. M'Aulay remarked, that he also had consulted several nautical men of respectability—among them, Capt. Richards, who was well known to many hon. members—whose views were diametrically opposed to those of the gentleman mentioned by the hon. member for Murray Harbour (Mr. Thornton) The only argument that had been advanced against Boughton Island appeared to him (Mr. M'Aulay) to be, that there was no guiding point for vessels after they had made the entrance of Three Rivers; but he thought hon. gentlemen had forgotten, that there was a certain machine on board of most vessels, which would exactly meet the case, viz; the mariner's compass.

The Hon. Col. Secretary concurred in much that had fallen from the hon. member (Mr. Thornton;) and as the matter had been pretty thoroughly discussed he would move the adoption of the following Resolution:

"*Resolved*, That, from all the information which the House had been able to obtain on the subject, it would be advisable to have the Light House placed on Panmure Island, as it will answer on that site better both as a coast and harbour light, and that the contractors be directed to place the Light House on that Island."

The Hon. Mr. Whelan opposed the Resolution with considerable warmth, and at some length. He thought it preposterous, after three years' consideration of the subject, to attempt now to alter the site of the proposed Lighthouse, merely, as it appeared to him, in deference to a favorite crotchet of Capt. Bayfield's. He was not, personally, wedded to any particular site; but he felt it to be his duty to protect and advocate the interests of his constituents, which would be materially affected by the proposed alteration. If the contemplated Light was to be nothing more than a harbour Light, he could see no reason why such an one as that at the entrance of Charlottetow harbour should not answer all the purposes intended; and if the Resolution moved by the Hon. the Colonial Secretary were adopted, he should go for the substitution of such a Light for the more expensive one contemplated by the Resolution before the Committee.

Mr. Haviland opposed any alteration of the site of the proposed Lighthouse, and after a good deal of further discussion, in which nearly all the members present took part,

The Hon. Mr Whelan moved, that all after the word "Resolved," in Mr. Warburton's Resolution, be struck out, and the following be substituted:—

"That this House see no reason to depart from the conclusion adopted by the House of Assembly, during the past Session, with respect to the site of a Lighthouse near the entrance of Three Rivers—the Assembly having then given the preference to Boughton Island, as the most eligible site for said Lighthouse."

And the question being put on Mr. Whelan's amendment, it passed in the negative. The original Resolution was then put and carried.

On the House resuming, the Chairman, (Mr. Fraser,) reported the Resolution agreed to in Committee.

Mr. Fraser, on rising to move the adoption of the report, remarked, that he had, last year, voted in favour of the Lighthouse being placed on Boughton Island; but he now thought the House were labouring under a mistake with reference to the eligibility of that site. The petitioners for the Lighthouse had, he believed, not specified any particular site, but had left that point to be determined upon by the House; and he took it for granted, that Capt. Bayfield was the best judge of that matter. He would therefore go for having the Lighthouse on Panmure Island.

Mr. Whelan's amendment was then negatived, on the following division:—

Yeas—Messrs. Whelan, MacNeill, Campion, Jardine, McAulay, Haviland, Mooney—7.

Nays—Messrs. Yeo, Palmer, Thornton, Clark, Wightman, Warburton, Coles, Fraser, Lord, Pope, Davies, Laird, Montgomery—13.

The question was then put on the Resolution reported from the Committee, when the House again divided as follows:—

Yeas—Messrs. Yeo, McAulay, Thornton, Palmer, Montgomery, Clark, Wightman, Warburton, Coles, Fraser, Lord, Pope, Haviland, Jardine, Whelan—15.

Nays—Messrs. Mooney, Campion, McNeill, Davies, Laird—5.

On motion of the Hon. Colonial Treasurer, it was—

Resolved, That a supply be granted to Her Majesty.

Then the House adjourned.

Tuesday, Feb. 22.

Hon. Mr Lord from the Committee appointed to examine and report on the Petition of Philip McFadyen, Trader, praying for a return of Duties paid on the importation of a quantity of Herrings last Fall, presented the report of the Committee to the House, recommending that the prayer of the Petition be acceded to; and a motion being made, that the Report of the Committee be agreed to, the House divided—

For agreeing to the Report 6; against it 9. So it passed in the negative.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Whelan, the following Address was agreed to by the House:—

To His Excellency Sir Alexander Bannerman, Knight, Lieut. Governor, &c., &c., &c.

May it please your Excellency;

The House of Assembly request that your Excellency will be pleased to lay before them, at your convenience, a copy of the statement, or such parts of it as your Excellency may be enabled to give, which you were instructed to forward to Her Majesty's Government of the grounds upon which the interests of this Island would be affected in negociating with the American Government on Reciprocal Trade.

The Bill to regulate the working of Mills was read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole House. This is precisely the same Bill that was passed by the House and rejected by the Council last year. After some time spent in Committee the Bill was reported agreed to without amendment. In the afternoon the Bill was read a third time and passed.

The Bill to amend the Law of Evidence was read a second time, committed, and reported with an amendment—to be engrossed.

Wednesday, 23d, Feb. 1853.

A Petition of divers Inhabitants of Rustico Capes, Cavendish, and the East side of New London Bay, was presented to the House, by the Hon. Mr. Coles; and the same was received and read—praying the House not to accede to the prayer of a Petition of diverse Inhabitants of Cavendish, Cavendish Road, and back Settlement, presented to the House yesterday, praying for the opening of so much of the old Rustico Capes Road as remains closed to the shore of New London Harbour.

The House then resolved itself into a Committee thereon, the Hon. John Jardine in the chair; and, after having sat some time therein, the House was resumed, and two Resolutions reported as agreed to in Committee. The question being separately put thereon they were agreed to by the House, and are as follow:

Resolved—That the Gate now kept on the Road, leading from Cavendish Church to the shore, is not of sufficient inconvenience to the public to cause the removal of the said Gate, as the Road does not lead to any settlement, but only to the shore and Harbour, and, if removed, would injure many farmers by throwing the said farms open to the Cattle straying along the shore; but the keeping up of such Gate is not to prevent the Public free access to the shore, by the said Road.

2. *Resolved*—That it be recommended to the House to request His Excellency the Lieut. Governor, to appoint a Commission to open a Road, in the most convenient place for a landing between the Farms of John Lockerby and Maclure, from the Cavendish Church Road to the shore, and to agree with Mr. James McNeill for the opening of the Road across the front of his farm to the North Shore.

Ordered That the Hon. Mr. Coles, Mr. Laird, and Mr. Fraser, be a Committee to prepare an Address to His Excellency pursuant to the second of the reported Resolutions.

Some small sensation has been created among the native community in Calcutta, by the baptism of a young widow lady of the Tagore family, who was converted by the mere reading of a Bible given to her by a female relative now dead.

GLEANINGS FROM LATE PAPERS.

It is not generally known, that the bride of the Emperor Napoleon III. received her education in England. When a girl, M'dlle Montijo, with her sister, the present Duchess Alba, were pupils in a highly-respectable establishment at Bristol.

The *Dumfries Standard* says:—Having observed that one of the titles of the new Empress of France was "Kirkpatrick de Closeburn," our curiosity was excited to know, whether she was in any way related to the ancient family the Kirkpatricks of Closeburn, in this neighbourhood. Well, we have had the honour of conversing with a venerable and worthy maiden lady, residing at Nithbank here—a member of the family of the Kirkpatricks of Conheath, Caerlave rock, a branch of the Kirkpatricks of Closeburn. She informs us, that her brother, William Kirkpatrick, became American consul at Malaga, Spain, and married into an ancient family of the name of Graves or Gravi, our informant is not certain which. The fruit of this marriage was the mother of the new empress, who married the Count de Montijo. Our venerable friend is therefore aunt of the empress's mother, and grand-aunt of the empress herself. "Mark Siccar" is the motto of the Kirkpatricks. The empress seems detemined to exemplify it. We trust she will "mark siccar," for she has a cunning fox to deal with. However, we think better of the emperor than ever, in having the sagacity to marry a lady of a good old Nithsdale stock.

The *North British Mail* has the following:—A gentleman in this city (Glasgow,) who was for many years very intimate with Mr. Kirkpatrick, of Malaga, the grandfafather of Napoleon's bride, informs us, that the current reports respecting the family are, in some particulars, incorrect. Mr. Thomas Kirkpatrick was the Swedish consul at Malaga, and not the British. Mrs. Kirkpatrick was a Swedish lady by birth, but her parents were British, and she was universally allowed to have been the handsomest lady in Malaga. A sister of Mrs. Kirkpatrick's married Lieutenant-Colonel G. Thomson, of the Royal Engineers. Mr. Kirkpatrick had several children, one of whom married the second son of a Spanish duke, who, on the death of his elder brother, succeeded to the family honours, and is the father of the French Empress. It thus appears, that, except through her father, there is no Spanish blood in her veins; and this will account for her fair complexion and blue eyes

Interesting to Merchants.—By a royal order issued at Madrid on the 3d ult.; in consideration of the late earthquake at St. Jago, (Cuba,) it was ordained that flour, Indian corn, beans, potatoes, rice, salt, fish and all articles of food, be admitted into that port free of duty for six months; also that lumber, tiles, window frames, and all articles used in building, be admitted free of duty for one year.

LONDON LODGING HOUSES.

It is a common saying that one half the world does not know how the other half lives; and nowhere is that so true, as in this metropolis. Nowhere are there such impenetrable veils, such thick party walls between wealth and poverty, between comfort and wretchedness. Few are aware what is going on, perhaps, within a stone's throw of their own drawingrooms. It is one world under another. Were we to be assured, indeed, on some indisputable testimony, that a few miles under this fair surface, and cheerful light of day, there lay a region such as Virgil describes, overhung with Cimmerian gloom, beset with filth and long ages of neglect, where innumerable poor creatures, born like us, lay reeking, festering, rotting, fermenting in the most hideous squalor, destitution, mutual hate, and despair, it certainly would do much to embitter our own existence, and there is hardly any thing we should not do on the mere speculation of affording some relief to those unfortunate beings. These doleful reflections are forced upon us by a report, just made to the Secretary of State for the Home Department by Captain Hay, one of the Commissioners of Metropolitan Police, on the operation of the Common Lodging Houses' Act, pursuant to an address of the House of Lords, dated the 10th ult. By the daylight which the Common Lodging-house Act has at length thrown into these regions, we learn that about half the dwellings liable to the operation of the Act have been examined and registered, and they amount already to three thousand three hundred, inhabited by about fifty thousand persons, or about fifteen to a house. That moderate proportion, however, is very much exceeded in a great number of these houses, invariably indeed in the worst localities. The majority of the houses, it should be explained, are small—eight-roomed it may be—with hardly any space behind, and as destitute of accommodation as the combined poverty and covetousness of builder, owner, and tenant, can make them. We must assume, then, simply eight rooms, and nothing more; the floors rotted, the windows, happily, we should think, often broken, the doors gone altogether, the stairs decayed with wear and filth, the ceilings fallen, the drains long choked, if ever-permeable, and everything that could render a house as little of a house except in its closeness, as could be imagined. In these abodes, the inspectors employed under the Act have frequently found 70 or 80 in one small eight-roomed house, 30 in a room 14 by 14, and so on, families, or rather human clusters, being content with a corner of a room, or less. Such houses are rented by tenants, then let to subtenants, by them to weekly or nightly occupants, in many gradations, each step deriving a profit from that below, till the total rent paid by the actual occupants of a filthy hovel in Church lane will equal the rent of a spacious and handsome mansion in a respectable square. All sorts of dreadful scenes are brought to light by the visits of the police-sergeants employed in the work of inspection; people dying or dead of smallpox, or fever, or starvation, in small rooms and in close contact with crowds of poor wretches seemingly waiting their turn to be stretched on the bed or bier by their side. At night, these poor creatures simply denude themselves of the rags they wore in the day, and instead of walking in them lie under them as decently as may be. The stench that rises from these foul human lairs is so intolerable, as seriously to affect the health of the strong police seageants engaged to inspect. Hitherto, for these evils there has been no remedy, but the new Act imposes some little check on the rapacity of the wretches who thus trade on human lives with even less humanity than they would show in the nightly housing of cattle or pigs. The work, however, is in no respect easy. The inspecting sergeants have to walk more than eight hundred miles every week in discharge of their duty, and since the passing of the Act have paid near fifty thousand visits. They have to encounter deadly effluvia, contagious diseases, violent tempers, the shifty tricks of mercenary lodginghouse keepers, and the shiftless habits of the poor. But they are often the means of doing the greatest good. Sometimes they report to the Board of Health, or to the local authorities, whole blocks or buildings destitute of proper drainage and the continual nurseries of disease. Sometimes they separate fever cases, just in time to save crowded neighbourhoods. Various instances are given in the Report, showing the great labour imposed by the Act, the many visits often required for the removal of one nuisance or the correction of one offence, and the very great benefits that have frequently resulted. So valuable has the Act proved to be, so singularly efficient for its purpose, that it really is a matter of surprise it ever passed the Commons. Lodginghouse-keepers get themselves made guardians; in that capacity they resist the operation of the Act, and vote parish money to the out-door paupers lodging in their own houses. Besides that a large part of the rent of such houses is virtually paid out of outdoor relief, it is computed that many are a constant burden of £50 a-year each to the parish for the sick, the dying, the widows, and orphans they send to it for support.

Pictou harbour is now so clear of ice, that boats are crossing from the Mining Company's wharf at the east end of the town to the Ferry wharf at Fisher's Grant.—Among other indications of Spring, we may notice that frogs have made their appearance, and on Thursday a snake was killed at Toney River.—*Pictou Chronicle Feb. 15th.*

HASZARD'S GAZETTE.

Saturday, February 26, 1853.

"Be just, and fear not:
Let all the ends thou aim'st at, be thy country's,
Thy God's, and Truth's."—*Shakspeare.*

EXTENSION OF THE ELECTIVE FRANCHISE BILL.

On the memorable occasion, last Session, on which *an Extension of the Elective Franchise* was first mooted in the Assembly, it was distinctly stated by the Hon. Mr. Coles, when proposing and advocating the measure, that it was his opinion the extension ought to be coupled with *an educational qualification*, but of the lowest standard—*the being able merely to read and write*; and, when afterwards adverting to it, he remarked that, in order to test any individual claiming to vote, in virtue of it, at an election, all that would be necessary would be that the returning officer should hand him a copy of the Act, and require him to read a portion of it, and sign his name; for his ability or inability to do so would, at once, settle the question concerning his right to vote. This educational qualification which, we believe, formed a part of last year's Bill, is now, however, we understand, to be abandoned, and the elective franchise is to be extended to all men of 21 years of age and upwards, who have been 12 months in the Colony, and are liable to pay Road Tax.

We are not, on any account, disposed to obstruct the course of needful or reasonable legislation; but, on the contrary, we would gladly lend a helping hand, if we could, to further and secure the enactment of all measures proceeding from a truly liberal and enlightened policy, whoever may constitute the party who seek to give them effect.

We are, therefore, sorry to find ourselves obliged to raise our voice against the Bill for the Extension of the Elective Franchise, as we have been informed it is likely to pass the Assembly; that is *without any educational qualification*.

As we said on a former occasion, when adverting to this question, "*we cannot agree with those who base their arguments upon abstract right and naked arithmetic; to whom the will of the majority is sacred; and in whose estimation one man is as good and as competent as another; and who hold that every man's claim, to an equal share in the Government, is inherent and indefeasible.*"

And, as we then further said, we now say again,—we cannot think that it will be safe or wise to introduce *Universal Suffrage* until *Universal Education* shall have been first attained. We readily admit that there are "*book-learned blockheads,*" in the world; a few of whom are, perhaps, to be found in Prince Edward Island; but we cannot readily believe that any men sit as legislators, either in this Island, or elsewhere, who are so partial to ignorance, or the want of education, as to argue or feel persuaded that, generally speaking, an unlearned or uneducated man, will be capable of forming as correct and comprehensive a judgment, with respect to the Government of a country, as one whose original powers of mind have been improved by cultivation.

It is, indeed, very true, that uneducated men of great natural capacities are frequently to be met with, whose habits of observation and reflection have qualified them to judge, in many matters, with a much greater degree of truth, precision, and justice, than many others, *naturally their inferiors*, whose minds are abundantly stored with such mental wealth as is to be derived from the study of books. But, surely no man of sound judgment will, on this account, maintain that a man who cannot read a newspaper, who is ignorant of nearly all that is going on in the great world at a distance from him, and who obtains but a very limited knowledge even of what is taking place in the small community of which he is an actual and a living member—who can have no accurate or sufficient knowledge of what is advanced, either for or against any public measure—who can have no opportunity of instituting enquiries for himself, and of sitting in judgment, for himself, on the characters and policy of public men—is as fit and safe a depositary of the elective franchise, as the man whose sphere of observation and reflection extends, by means of reading, "from China to Peru;" and who, in the same way, can make himself intimately acquainted with the views and policy of contending parties, and finds himself as it were privileged to enter into all their councils and listen to all their debates.

If they who are opposed to the educational qualification, say that it would be unjust, because its operation would exclude *a very large number* from the exercise of the franchise; we reply, *In the numerical strength of a multitude of such freeman lies the danger.* But, we add, all of this class who are yet young—and the majority of them must be so, we think—may now, under the operation of the free education system, soon remove their political disability; and all, so circumstanced, who are, in any way, deserving of the privilege, would, we feel persuaded, very soon fairly entitle themselves to the possession of it. Of the pressure of those evils, be they political or otherwise, of which the removal may be easily effected by our own meritorious exertions, we can have no just right to complain.