ESTIMATES.

Hon. COLONIAL SECRETARY, by command of His Excellency, laid before the House the Estimates of the expenditure of the Government, for the current year, and moved that they be referred to the House when in Committee of Supply.

Ordered accordingly.

DETAILED PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.

Hon. COLONIAL SECRETARY, by like command, presented the Detailed Public Accounts, for the past year, and moved that they be referred to the Committee on Public Accounts.

Ordered accordingly.

PAPERS CONSISTING OF PETITIONS AND REPORTS.

The Hon. COLONIAL SECRETARY presented certain Papers, consisting of Petitions and Reports, sent in to the late Executive Council, and by them directed to be laid before the House of Assembly.

On motion of the Hon. COLONIAL SECRETARY, they were severally read, and ordered to be entered in the Journal accordingly, and laid upon the Table.

PETITIONS.

The House, during the greater part of the time they sat to-day, were engaged in receiving Petitions, all of which, with one exception, related to the opening of short lines of new roads, or the repairs of bridges and wharfs.—The exception, was a petition presented by the Hon Mr. Montgomery from divers inhabitants of Princetown and Royalty, praying for a suppression of the nuisance occasioned by the running at large of Swine in the said Town and Royalty.

SATURDAY, March 18.

Petition from the Trustees of St. Dunstan's School, Charlottetown.

(Condensed Debate.)

The Hon. the ATTORNEY GENERAL presented a Petition from the Trustees of St. Dunstan's School, Charlottetown, setting forth that, although the School Rooms are spacious and well ventilated, yet, owing to the defects of the School Act, or the difficulty of bringing it into useful and satisfactory operation in Charlottetown, Memorialists regret to have to state that those Schools have, as yet, derived no benefit whatever from the Taxes paid by them and the parents of the Children attending the School: That, though Memorialists seek no exclusive privilege whatever for the Schools under their care, they nevertheless think it a very hard case, that, while they are taxed equally with their fellow colonists, in support of the General Fund for the purposes of Education, they should not equally participate in the benefits thereof in proportion to their numbers; and appealing to the wisdom and discretion of the House, earnestly hoping, that the circumstances of their case will receive that full and impartial consideration, to which, in strict justice they are entitled, either by an alteration in the Law, or otherwise, as to the House may seem meet.

The Petition having been received and read, It was ordered, on motion by the Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL,—That the Petition be laid before the Committee appointed to report on the Free Education Act, with a view to its amendment.

Mr Davies was surprised that the Hon. the Attorney General should recommend to the House the laying of a Petition, of the nature of the one he had just presented, before the Committee on Educational Reform; because he believed the Petitioners had no just cause of complaint. The Free Schools under the present Act, said the hon. member, are, it is well known, open to all denominations: none are excluded; and neither are youth, therein, taught any sectarian dogmas. But, if independent Schools are wished for, by the members of any church, or sect, they have, in this free country, full power to establish them: but they have no right to expect the public to contribute to the support of such Schools. And neither have they any just reason to complain, on account of their being called upon and compelled to pay the educational tax, unless they can prove that, in the Schools which are supported by that tax, religious sentiments or opinions, adverse or antagonistic to those of their own church or sect, are inculcated upon the minds of the Scholars. This, I believe, they cannot do; and, under these circumstances, I say the leader of the majority, in recommending that the Petition shall be referred to the Committee appointed to revise the Educational Act and report thereon, is giving encouragement to sectarian principles and prejudices; and is, in fact, cultivating sectarian feelings. If the Petition be referred to the Educational Committee, and they comply with the wish of the majority, as evidenced by that reference, they must report favourably upon it; and, if they do, it will then, I say, become the boundden duty of the Government to carry out the recommendation which they originated.

Mr. BEER thought the Government were not committed to any particular course of action, with respect to the Petition; for it would, surely, be absurd to suppose that, because the Hon. the Attorney General had, in the discharge of his duty, as a representative of the people, presented, to the House, a respectful Petition of a portion of his constituents, and moved that it be referred to the Committee, to which it had been previously agreed that all such Petitions should be referred, he, by so doing, bound the Government, of which he was a member, to take up the prayer of that Petition as a Government measure.

Hon. Mr. MACAULAY.—It appeared to him that, under the cloak of liberality, the hon. member for Belfast (Mr. Davies) was seeking to provoke sectarian strife. To object to the due consideration of a Petition, relative to Education, merely because it proceeded from the members of a particular church, was surely no evidence of a truly liberal spirit. To him, it appeared rather to savour strongly of a disposition to prescribe certain religious denominations; but how far the hon. member who had objected to the motion, made by the Hon. the Attorney General, with reference to the Petition which he had just presented, meant to carry proscription of churches and sects, he could not tell. He should, however, like to know what sect or sects he wished to proscribe. Was it the Presbyterians of Belfast? Was it the Methodists? was it the Baptists? was it the Catholics? With such a spirit of intolerance he (the Hon. Mr. Macaulay) could have no fellowship; and he hoped that such exclusiveness, such intolerance, such tyrannism would never again be displayed upon the floor of the House.

Hon. the ATTORNEY GENERAL.—The hon. member for Belfast (Mr. Davies) was evidently most anxious that the Government party should commit themselves, before the public, by some act at variance with established principles of legislation and the liberality of the age. He wished them, as was said in law, to raise the question, to which he had causelessly and needlessly adverted. He would, no doubt, said the hon. and learned gentleman, have been very glad, had we, on side of the House, taken up the prayer of the Petition which I have just presented, and proposed to deal with it in such a way as he has vainly strived to shew we are disposed to do. He is, I dare say, grievously disappointed in our having given no cause of offence, to any denomination, by the course we have pursued: but he must console himself in the best way he can. It will, I think, require more ability than he is possessed of, to enable any one to shew that, because a member, in the discharge of his duty, presents a Petition, having reference to education, from, or on behalf of, a body of his constituents, being all members of one church, even although in that Petition they might indicate their attachment to the tenets of their church, he, therefore, seeking to introduce the spirit of sectarianism into legislation.

Mr. DAVIES was about to reply; but, being interrupted by the Hon. Mr. MACAULAY and the Hon. Mr. MONTGOMERY, in succession, who both maintained that he was out of order in speaking to a question already disposed of by the House, he refrained from further remarks, maintaining, however, that, in noticing the motion made by the Hon. the Attorney General, with respect to the Petition, he was perfectly in order.

R. B. IRVING, Reporter.

EUROPEAN NEWS.

THE WAR WITH RUSSIA.

(The European Times.)

Some French and English officers have at last been appointed to commands in the Turkish army, and we hope this campaign fairly opens, it seems quite inconceivable to us that the Russians can achieve any thing against the allied army. If they should peradventure force the position at Kalafat, and cross the Danube, they stand the change of being utterly cut off by an Anglo-French army taking them in the rear. Prince Paskewitch, who has been appointed Generalissimo of the Russian forces, but below will be found a list of a dozen French generals with whom he will have to cope, the least of whom will prove more than a match for an old Prince of 70 years of age. Lord Ragian and Sir Baldwin Walker have been in conference at Varna with the Emperor the plan of both the military and naval operations, and a circular of M. Drouny de Lhuys to all the foreign French agents abroad, commanding them to act in concert with the English authorities against the common enemy, gives fresh strength to our alliance. It appears, that, when the Greek insurrection, or rather the rebellion of the Suliotes in the distant province of Albania, is most inconvenient at this juncture. Whatever momentary success may attend these insurgents, and the sympathies of Russia, by, of the bye, has always abandoned them in the hour of peril, it is quite certain that the movement will be speedily suppressed. Prompt measures have been taken from Constantinople to put down this hopeless scheme, and, if needful, the French and English naval and military forces will step in and prevent the useless effusion of blood. The Russian frigates in Trieste have taken refuge in the inner harbour, where our English frigates watching them cannot reach them. The speech of the Emperor of the French at the opening of the Chambers will be found in extenso in another column. Paris, which was disturbed with disturbances a few days ago, continues tranquil, and the funeral of the eccentric Abbe Lammenais, who has paid the debt or nature, took place without any disturbance. The following twelve generals, beside General St. Arnaud and Marshal Vaillant, have received commands in the French expeditionary army:—Prince Napoleon, Canrobert, Bosquet, Forey, d'Allonville, Bouat, d'Aurelle de Paladine, Dantemarre d'Erville, De Lourmel Espinasse, De Martinfrey, Cassignolles, Vinoy, &c, Several divisions of infantry and cavalry are ready for embarkation. We shall not be surprised to learn that a military force of some thousand men will accompany the fleet to the Baltic.

SPAIN.

One of those frightful tragedies which occur in Spain alone has been enacted at Saragossa. Gen Hore having raised the true revolutionary flag, marched at the head of his regiment, and of some civilians to whom he had distributed arms, to the great square. Here he was encountered by the officers and troops who remained faithful to the Queen; and, after a bloody encounter, the general and the whole regiment were cut to pieces. Upon the news arriving at Madrid, all Spain was placed under martial law. Gonzales Bravo, Castro, and Bermudez, have received their passports for foreign parts. Espartero escaped to Bordeaux. It is not known yet whether the affair at Saragossa is only an isolated case. Barcelona, as usual, was said to be in arms, but at any rate Saragossa was perfectly tranquil at the last dates The Queen, when the news of the above troubles reached Madrid, rode ostentatiously through the streets, as if to defy public opinion. We are afraid that intestine troubles in the Peninsula are about to recommence.

INDIA.

The news from India, with dates from Bombay to the 28th January, and Hong Kong to the 11th January, is interesting. The Governor General, after fixing the boundary line beyond Meaday, had returned to Rangoon. The north west frontier was tranquil, but we have vague reports of fresh troubles in Persia. The insurgents in China appear to be once more gaining ground, and it was reported they had captured a city north of Pekin, so as to cut off the Emperor's escape The French seemed to have been treated with some degree of *hauteur* by the leaders of the rebels. The Russian Admiral left Shanghae for Japan on the 24th December, whither it was expected the United States squadron would shortly follow. All the wild stories about Khiva are repeated by this mail, but the real facts are precisely as we indicated some months ago. Sir Charles Wood, in the House of Commons, says that some subjects of Kokan had erected a fort within the Russian territory, on the right bank of the Sir Deria; a body of Russians were despatched thither, and after destroying the fort, returned to their quarters at Kaimak. Writers constantly confounded the Sir Deria (Jaxartes) with the Amou Deria (Oxus), which runs through Khiva, and this perpetually misleads people. The tales about treaties between the Khans of Khiva and Bokhara, and, still more absurdly, with Dost Mohammed, all implacable foes of each other, and separted by frightful inaccesible deserts and mountains, are of course destitute of foundation. The destruction of the mud fort constructed to resist the attacks of the wild Kokanians, seems to have has given rise to the stupid reports repeated during many months. The story of the Russians constructing "cantonments" within *two days' march* of Khiva exhibits deplorable ignorance of the nature of the country. It is all a fiction.

HASZARD'S GAZETTE.

Wednesday, March 29, 1854.

SOME of the leading members of the opposition have commenced, and are carrying on, a series of unwarrantable attacks on the Honorable Emanuel McEachen. There is no species of abuse of which he has not, at times, been made the object of,—but without injuring the honorable gentleman in the slightest degree. As a *dernier resort*, they have attacked his qualification as a member of the Assembly. How the party who sustained the right of Le Lacheur and Whelan to retain their seats, under the times preceding the last general election, can question the rights of others, might be matter of astonishment, and would naturally call forth exclamations of surprise, were we not fully aware that nothing can equal the intensity of the blindness, forgetfulness, and folly of partizanship, save the hatred and malice engendered by political animosity. Under the influence of these feelings, and supposing all others to be as unprincipled as themselves, they have taken it for granted that Mr. McEachen was as lax in his principles and as careless of the obligations of an oath as either of the two worthies above mentioned. They have, by this time, however, we take it, found out their mistake,—the hon. member having jubled his title to a qualification for a seat in that House—not, truly, a deed executed subsequent to the election, and depending for its validity upon an agreement that would not bear the light, but a clear and undisputed freehold title of inheritance, in fee simple, to his share of the estate left by his father, who died intestate; and of the property to which he claimed to be in possible doubt.—Rather a different qualification, and somewhat better, than that derived from 75 acres of wilderness land, part swamp, which had never been paid for, and of which neither buyer nor seller had ever been in legal possession. There is something highly amusing in Edward Whelan taking the lead in such an investigation;—it is on the principle, we suppose, of setting a thief to catch a thief; or, making a successful smuggler an excise officer. They have also asserted, that Mr. McEachen is insane; and truly they have a better right, in our opinion, to make such an assertion, than to question his qualification. Compare the conduct of McEachen and Whelan, and it will be found that the one is as opposed to the other as light is to darkness; if, therefore, Whelan's conduct is that of a sane man, McEachen's must be that of a mad man. And nathless it may be matter of question whether a man who acts as honestly, upright, and independently in political matters as he does in private ones, may not be considered somewhat weak of intellect, seeing that those who consider themselves great politicians pursue the right contrary course, and esteem lying, duplicity, treachery, and meanness of every description, the true arts and legitimate weapons of an accomplished statesman; and hold in contempt those who pursue a different course. It doth not become us to say, we can confide in such high authority; but we trust we may be pardoned if we suggest that there are those who are of opinion that truth, candor, and simplicity are equally available, or rather, more potent, in the long run, in political as well as other matters, than their opposites. We would, therefore, counsel the hon. member to persevere in the course he has hitherto adopted for it is better, we think, that he should fall under the reproach of folly and madness from the lips of rogues and knaves, than be even suspected of roguery by honest men.

Six Disquisitions on Doctrinal and Practical Theology, by the late William Thomas Wishart, of St. John, N. B.; printed by A & J. McMillan, 1853, pp. 246. Sold by Geo. T. Haszard, at his Bookstore, Charlottetown.

THE author of this book was evidently a man of no common mind, as even a very superficial examination of his work will convince those who may be disposed to try. Not thinking ourselves competent to give any opinion on the doctrines endeavored to be inculcated,—which are somewhat novel, we think,—we will content ourselves with a quotation from one of a neighboring Province, to give a synopsis of one of the lectures, which is best calculated to show the tendency of the work:—

"The fourth lecture is on the oneness or unity of the christian system. Passages of Scripture are adduced, and reasoned upon, to show what unity should and does prevail in the very extent that the spirit of christianity obtains in the world. The heresies, divisions, contentions, and animosity that have disgraced the church, are traced to the fact that men have looked upon but one half or side of a doctrine, and that each party contended for the view of it that he had taken, without believing it possible that there could be another aspect which did not destroy or degrade his favorite one, but that would on the contrary make it, in fact, the more complete and perfect one. So that while men thought they were contending for the truth, they were in reality fighting a battle for their own limited view against the whole revelation of God. Another, and far more fertile cause of division and contention, is asserted to be the literal, ceremonial, or carnal element which has been mixed up with religion, though not entitled to be so, and which brought in by taking that as a reality—as the end aimed at—which the spirit used but as a symbol of his deeper purposes, which, consequently, should be in first and not in its second intention, was laid hold of as it stood; and that room was thereby left for disputes, which would not have occurred had men sought for the spirit instead of the letter. Illustrations by which the evil has been promoted is this: the apostles and other holy men have consented to old ceremonies that men loved, that they might more easily introduce the doctrine they were anxious to teach—when they found that it required them to renounce what they before held sacred, they, in their zealous teaching, when that doctrine had taken root, to eradicate the old idea; but the old was more consonant with human nature; and instead of the combination preparing them for the spiritual, the spiritual was thus paralysed and crushed by the opposite principle; that religion, being thus vitiated by carnality, cannot overcome the carnal propensities of our nature, but rather increase and divisions amongst us. These carnal elements removed, no hindrance to unity would remain; such word would be found as harmonious as him from whom it proceeded; it would be found that doctrine is and all being influenced by one spirit, there would be one Lord, one faith, one baptism; men would see with a single eye—sing with one voice—animated by one will the same hope, and love, and zeal,—pursue the same object, and so become the one body, one bread, one spirit, one temple, or church, which Christ has called his people.

THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC.

To the People of Prince Edward Island.

Fellow Countrymen,—It is objected that a prohibitory Liquor Law would be evaded. We admit, that, in some instances, it would be evaded: and, are not other Laws also, sometimes evaded? There are in society, individuals so reckless of consequents, as to be emboldened by no consideration, to risk some times succeed in escaping with impunity. But we know many now engaged in the Liquor Traffic, who, if a Prohibitory Law passed, would not, for a moment, think of continuing to sell the Intoxicating Fluid. A few instances of detection of offenders, and of rigorous infliction of the penalty of the Law, would, in a great measure, extinguish the iniquitous traffic. We are not to harbor the presumption, that a Law, constitutionally enacted, may not be enforced.

People of Prince Edward Island. Do you love your country? Does the glow of patriotism warm your breasts? Do you feel the impulse of this noble principle, manifest it by seeking the enactment of a law so well adapted to the circumstances of a thinly peopled fertile and fast rising in importance. It is the admiration of the stranger that visits it. How delightful to the traveller is autumn, when the golden grain, in low fruit waving in the gentle breeze, the promise of a rich reward of the labors of the husbandman, and of substantial prosperity in general. But, alas! in the bright picture there are dark spots. Behold, here and there, the distiller preparing to convert that grain which is the fruit of your toil, into an instrument of your destruction. Behold the importer and vender of intoxicating liquor aiding him in his homicidal purpose. What painful feelings thrill the breast of the humane philanthropist, when sign boards which indicate the diffusion of the fatal poison, every where, meet his eye? Will you allow the characters of your country, any longer, to be tarnished and her beauty defaced by these blots? Will you not without delay demand of the legislature the passage of a law, by which the evil may be removed which has so long prevailed? The State of Maine has set you a noble example worthy of imitation. The day she passed the liquor law, forms an epoch in her history never to be forgotten. She may well be elated by her proud position. Let me urge upon you to follow her example.

Some of you whom I address are parents. Your little ones may be growing up around you. Perhaps they give promise of future eminence. Already the openings of their genius delight your fond hearts. You are confident that they will yet occupy some proud position in society; that their eloquence will, in the senate, one day sway the destinies of their country; or that, from the bench, they will propound the principles of legal justice; or their pathos from the sacred desk thrill the hearts of their hearers. You imagine that they will be the solace of your declining years; that they will watch around your bed at life's closing scene with filial tenderness. But should the present drinking customs continue, you may meet with an awful disappointment. Who knows but that your children may become the victims of a besotting vice. Although you have spared no pains and no sacrifices, although you have made no ordinary sacrifices to facilitate their progress, although, for a season, they were all that a parents heart could desire, yet in the end, through the influence of the intoxicating draught, they may become the causes of mortification and shame. You may be called to perform the melancholy office of following them to their graves, or, if you live, they may be the instruments of bringing down your gray hairs with sorrow to the tomb. Parents, will you not use your endeavors to prevent an enactment by which such an heart-rending catastrophe may be averted?

Some of those whom I address are sons. Perhaps you already tremble for some beloved parent. Even your youngest sister in her symptoms of approaching intemperance. Once indeed he spent his evenings at home. Then plenty and happiness reigned in the domestic circle. The commencement set like a bright jewel upon every brow. But now he has exchanged the domestic hearth for the company of boon companions. Often he returns, at a late hour, to his home, not in the best of temper. His words no longer breathe their wonted tenderness. It is well if oaths and curses issue not from his lips. Every day witnesses his progress in the drunkard's path. You entreat him with all the earnestness of filial tenderness to retrace his steps; but you entreat in vain. Will not you then lend your influence to procure the passage of a law, by which the enchanting cup may be at once dashed from his lips.

Some who read this may have gone far in ruinous path. Already the fatal consequents may have grown strong. You may expostulate with them on the folly of their conduct. You may tell them of the evils that beset their path, you may picture to them the awful termination of their course. With the big tear rolling down their cheeks they will acknowledge their fault; but they have not sufficient resolution to withstand temptation. Although they possess entire sobriety, the sight of the intoxicating fluid would be sufficient to annihilate their resolutions. Glad indeed would such persons be that their wives should never behold the Circean cup. Joyfully would they unite in petitioning the legislature for a prohibitory law. Then might the peace of their earlier days, be made again to revisit their bosoms. Will the sober part of the community do nothing to rescue these persons from impending ruin? Will the moderate drinker say, "I will not lend my influence to place a glass which has contracted no feverish appetite, there is no danger that I should become intemperate and let others take care of themselves, I am not obligated to become their guardian?" This language breathes very much of the spirit murderous brain, and very little of the temper of him, who though he was rich for our sakes became poor, that though he was poverty might become rich, very little of the spirit of the great Apostle of the Gentiles, who declared, that if meat made his brother to offend he would eat no meat while the world standeth.

A prohibitory law is not a measure of doubtful experiment. Its salutary effects have been made apparent in many places. In the address of "Five of our sister States," says the select Committee of the New York Senate, "groaning under the same burdens with ourselves, have wisely abandoned the system of regulation by licence, and adopted one of entire prohibition of the traffic, within their bounds with suitable sanctions. The first State which made the change was the State of Maine, which adopted a law of entire prohibition in June, 1851. To her have succeeded the States of Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Vermont, Michigan, and the territory of Minnesota. In some of these the execution of the law has been partially retarded; by none however has it been found, that the mode in which it has had an operation which has awakened the public mind throughout the world to the belief that the great remedy for intemperance has, at length been found. Drinking shops are closed, and drunkards are scarce. Temptation is removed from the young and the weak. Drunkenness begins to be unknown. Crime has diminished two-thirds, and pauperism in a corresponding ratio. Taxation has fallen off. The public peace and order are preserved, and large amounts of money, wasted chiefly by the poor upon the bewitching drink of the drunkards are saved to be expended for the necessaries and comforts of life. Testimonies have come from men of all classes and conditions, from members of State, mayors of cities, manufacturers, ship-owners, mechanics, clergymen, farmers, jail-keepers and poor-masters, to the excellent effects of the prohibitory law."

People of Prince Edward Island, let me urge you to solicit from the legislature the passage of a prohibitory liquor law without delay. Those persons with whom we conversed, all admit, that such a law will be ultimately enacted; but they think that some time must previously elapse. It pains me to hear persons speak of delay. Will the money now spend his ravages while we linger? Is property wasted, time squandered, health destroyed, reason prostrated, multitudes hurried to an untimely grave, untold wretchedness entailed through families and community, and shall we delay? What would you think of those persons, who saw a number of their fellow creatures sinking into a watery grave and would say, "something must be done to prevent such a catastrophe for the future; but, in the mean time, we must let the people take their chance of individuals?" Similar to this is the conduct of those who would delay the passage of a prohibitory liquor law, while, through the effects of the liquid poison, many are sinking into the grave around us. Let me urge you then to solicit from the legislature without delay, the enactment of a law so salutary. And surely our legislators will not be so unmindful of duty as to lend an ear until they are absolutely compelled to it by the public voice. Let them exercise their sincere desire to promote their country's good, by removing an evil so enormous as the liquor traffic.

PHILOPATRIÆ.

TO THE EDITOR OF HASZARD'S GAZETTE.

SIR:

I notice in the last *Examiner* that Mr. Whelan intimates that the House of Assembly are doing scarcely any business, while, in the same No., he is unable to finish the proceedings that took place more than a month since, and which you published on the 7th March. I am glad to see that the majority of the House of Assembly are disposed to do business, and not to spend their time in useless debate; and that a few in the opposition are willing to second them,—but are somewhat thwarted by the attempts of *Political Professors* to introduce matters which only