but the report under consideration recommended that this power be given to two-thirds of the householders in a district. In his opinion such a provision would sufficiently guard the interests of the tavern keeper, for if a majority consented that he should receive a license, at the end of the year two-thirds would scarcely be found to come forward and petition that it should not be renewed, unless they had a good and sufficient reason for so doing. That part of the report he therefore considered to be based upon a sound principle. He thought there were several reasons why it would be unadvisable to compel house-holders to attend a public meeting to give their opinion for or against granting license; cases might arise in which it would be difficult to take the sense of the meeting. With respect to the quantity to be sold under store licenses, he thought the recommendation of the report to rise it from a pint to a quart a move in the right direction. Parties no doubt might club together to drink a quart as well as a pint: but it would take a larger number, and their conduct consequently would be more likely to come under the notice of the neighborhood. Upon the whole, therefore, he thought the report commended itself to the favourable notice of the House.

Hon. Mr. Warburton believed that all the legislation of this House on the subject had made the matter worse rather than better. He agreed with the hon. member for Georgetown, that if the recommendations of the report were carried into effect, we would scarcely have a respectable public house on the Island. So far as settlements were concerned, there was no need of taverns; they were merely for the benefit of the travelling public. He believed that in his neighborhood there were some half dozen shanties were liquor was sold without license This he *believed* to be the case, though he had not sufficiently positive information to act in the matter. It would be better even for the community to have licensed taverns than this illicit traffic. As to store licenses being restricted to a quart, it would not mend the evil much, for very few bottles would hold that quantity, and the purchaser might be induced to drink what remained after the bottle was filled, and, before he reached home, might, perhaps, drink the whole. (Laughter.) On this ground, he believed the Temperance people some years ago petitioned to have the quantity reduced from a quart to a pint, and here they were asking to have it raised again. He understood that a party who received a tavern license at Alberton obtained it contrary to law; and if this could be done in one case, it might be done in another. He did not, therefore, see the use of amending the law to make it more stringent, if the provisions of the Act as it stood were set aside.

Mr. Howlan said he could scarcely agree with the recommendations of the report, for he thought it advisable that the matter of acceding to a license should be brought before a public meeting in the district. There the tavern keeper might have the opportunity of explaining how he intended to conduct his house, and the householders, after having heard all the arguments on both sides, would be able to form a pretty correct opinion as to the propriety of granting his request. As the law stood, parties could go round from house to house, and coax one, and offer another a pound of tea, and so on, and thus secure a majority; whereas at a public meeting such artifices could not be attempted. The case of a license being granted for a tavern at Alberton, contrary to law, was correctly stated by the hon. member from Lot 11. A person at that place who wished to open a house of this description went round and procured several names; and finding that he had not enough, added a few more, and sent the papers into the Government. The license was granted, and it was found to be a difficult matter to break it. He (Mr. H.) would have been better satisfied with the report had it provided for the calling of public meetings in districts to consider applications for license.

Mr. Conroy thought public meetings would be no advantage, for he knew it was a difficult matter to get people to attend meetings in the country. When a meeting was called for considering even such an important subject as the education of children, frequently not more than two or three persons in his neighborhood could be got to attend. He knew that there were several small shanties in his district where liquor was openly sold, and magistrates as well as others drove to them and had their glass. He had never visited one of them himself; but he had been informed that this was the case. The law should be made as stringent as possible, but he could not agree with some hon. members that a public meeting would be an advantage.

Hon. Mr. Coles did not think the suggestions of the report would have any beneficial effect. If magistrates and others interested to see respectable houses kept up, did not inform on those shanties where liquor was illegally sold, then they ought to be left to put up with the nuisance. He was rather in favor of the proposition to call public meetings; if the people did not choose to attend, it would just be like their neglect in cases of elections, they would have no person to blame but themselves. That two-thirds of a district should have the power—after a person had gone to the expense of providing a house, feather beds, stables and other things required—to discontinue his license, would be a great hardship. He contended that all that was necessary was to have stringent laws in regard to how these houses should be conducted, and then to allow free scope as to their situation. It did seem to him very absurd that Temperance people should ask that licenses might be granted to sell a quart instead of a pint. He could not see that it was encouraging temperance to compel a man to take more than he wanted. If we were going to impose as many restrictions as were sought for, we might as well have the prohibitory law at once. He believed travellers had been put to great inconvenience because certain districts would not allow taverns to be licensed within their bounds. This House had no control over those who kept mere boarding houses, to see that they were provided with beds and other necessary accommodations.

Hon. Mr. Longworth said that the hon. leader of the Opposition seemed to have mistaken the prayer of the petitioners. They did not ask that stores should be licensed to sell a quart instead of a pint; they requested that store licenses should be placed under the same restrictions as tavern licenses.

Hon. Solicitor General contended, with all due deference to the hon. member for Queen's County (Mr. Longworth), that there was no necessity for the powers which he wished to place in the hands of a two thirds' majority. If a tavern was kept in a disorderly manner, the Grand Jury could break the license. He (Mr. L.) said there was no danger that two-thirds would improperly refuse an application to renew a license where a majority had formerly acceded to it; but we did not know what change might come over the spirit of their dream. A temperance lecturer might visit the district and prevail upon the people; and when the tavern-keeper came to renew his license he might find a veto in the Secretary's office. Nor could he (Mr. H.) agree with the latter part of the report, that the quantity under store licenses should be extended to a quart. This would have the tendency of increasing the evil, and the temperance people, in making such a request, had certainly committed a great mistake, for he supposed there were not a dozen bottles in the Island which would hold a quart. Should the purchaser drink what was over, it was likely that before he reached home he might drink the whole. Were the House to comply with the prayer of the petitioners, probably next year they would be seeking something else. He moved that the Committee rise without reporting.

Hon. Mr. Laird seconded the motion.

Mr. Brecken was not of opinion that the Committee should rise without reporting. When a public house became a nuisance, surely those in its immediate neighborhood were the best judges in the matter. If a person opened a good house, the probabilities were, even should the recommendations of the report be adopted, that he would be allowed to continue it. Did it prove to be a nuisance, and result in destroying the morals of the district, certainly it was preferable that one person should be exposed to some sacrifice than that a whole community should suffer. He also thought that the method of calling a public meeting—though such meetings did not always arrive at a correct opinion—was perhaps the best to ascertain the views of a district in regard to an application for license. The whole subject was one of grave importance; the evils resulting from the too free use of intoxicating drinks were great, and it was right that legislation should place restrictions on the traffic.

Hon. Col. Secretary knew that documents were sometimes sent to his office to which forged names were attached; but it was not easy to detect such, and of course the license was granted. He would not object to the system of calling public meetings, still he thought the law upon the whole better as it was.

Hon. Mr. Hensley had listened to all the arguments which had been urged against the report without being convinced that its recommendations were not just or desirable. He was sorry to hear from the hon. member for Prince County (Mr. Howlan) that people—perhaps it was peculiar to his own part of the country—could be so easily influenced as to be bought by a pound of tea or the like This was a contingency for which the Committee certainly did not provide. He would decidedly object to their rising without reporting. Some hon. members had expressed themselves opposed to increasing the quantity under store licenses from a pint to a quart. He, for his own part, thought the suggestion of the report was an improvement; still he admitted that it would be better to place them under the same restrictions as tavern licenses.

Mr. Howat was willing, if a quart was thought too much, to divide the difference with the advocates of a pint license, and say three half pints.

Mr. Haslam believed the object of the petitioners was to remove, as much as possible, from young men in settlements the temptation which taverns afforded them to spend their money and waste their time. In his district, a year or two ago, a person succeeded in getting a license by coaxing some to sign for it, intimidating others, and forging two or three names. An effort of the kind had since been made, but without success A public meeting, however, he thought would be the best way to prevent imposition in this matter. There were Sons of Temperance in almost every district who would attend these meetings, hear the reasons urged in favor of applications for license, and discuss the subject.

Mr. Sinclair thought this was the third time this question had been before the House Those indefatigable individuals—the Sons of Temperance—had got up petitions time and again praying for increased restrictions on the license system. He was one of those members of this House who at first opposed granting to a majority of householders in a school district the power to prevent taverns being licensed in their midst. But as the House had admitted the principle that the people should have a voice in this matter, and be empowered to judge whether taverns were required in districts or not, it certainly followed that they ought to have the privilege of saying when it would be advisable to discontinue them. The petitioners asked that a majority should have this power; but the report recommended that it ought to be placed in the hands of not less than two-thirds of the householders in the district. This was surely fair if the first principle be admitted, and he would therefore support the motion for the adoption of the report.

The question was then put on Hon. the Solicitor General's motion, that the Speaker do take the Chair, when there appeared

For it—Hons. Solicitor General, Speaker, Coles, Warburton, Laird, Thornton, Messrs. Ramsay and Duncan—8.

Against it—Hons. Messrs. Hensley, Davies, Col. Gray, Longworth, Kaye, Pope; Messrs. Howat, Haslam, Brecken, Sinclair, Howlan, Conroy, Yeo, Montgomery—14.

The main motion that the report be agreed to, was then carried, and reported accordingly. The following gentlemen were appointed a Committee to bring in a Bill in conformity thereto, viz:—Messrs. Howat, Hensley and Davies.

House adjourned.

CORRESPONDENCE.

CANADA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Toronto, March 7, 1865.

CONFEDERATION

Goes bravely on here, and the day is not far distant when it will be an accomplished fact. The debate is still progressing in the Lower House, although it has received its *quietus* in the Upper House by being adopted by an overwhelming majority. The Government have adopted a wise course in allowing all the members who are opposed to the scheme to have their full swing, and each has an opportunity to have his say. It is thought here that because all the speeches are to be reported *verbatum*, that there is a great deal more said than there otherwise would be, as each member is anxious to have his name handed down to posterity as having been a member of the Legislature when the most important event for the British North American Provinces is about to transpire. Had it not been so, it is not at all likely that they would have had quite so much to say. It is just as well, however, to let them air their views, and let them have all the notoriety they wish. All that has been said against the scheme here yet has, however, had little weight, and not a vote has been gained. The four members who spoke in favor of the scheme exhausted almost all that was to be said, and are given the Opposition plenty to exercise all their ingenuity and powers of rhetoric. Mr. Dorion is still a bitter opponent of the scheme, and he is doing all that he can to render the scheme unpopular. He is introducing petitions, and flatters himself that he has made a great stroke of policy by getting a monster petition from Montreal containing 5,000; but these petitions are easily got up, and this one is not unlike others; hundreds of names are written by the same hand, and it will be very amusing to examine these names and find out whether the people whose names appear are really alive, or if they wished their names appended. It is possible to get signatures to a petition to hang almost any one, and it is not to be wondered at that this monster petition is presented. The people of Lower Canada, at least the French speaking portion, are well known to offer considerable opposition to the scheme, and in Montreal so many influences can be brought to bear upon the *habitans*, that it is not a matter of surprise to any one to see them appending their names to the petition. Mr. Bellerose charged the Rouge emissaries with scouring this country to obtain signatures for the petition, and Hon. Mr. Dorion did not deny the soft impeachment. Mr. Eric Dorion is busying himself also in getting up petitions, but they might just as well save themselves the trouble, as they cannot accomplish anything. Canada West is ripe for the change; in fact, must have a change, and that now offered is the best that has been proposed yet. Mr. Dunkin is the only member who has, as yet, offered anything like tangible reasons for delay, and for an appeal to the people; but even all *his* eloquence and sophistry fails to accomplish the end he wishes. He fears that the new system of Government will be too *expensive*, and that the Federal Government will have to foot more bills for the Local Legislatures than will be for the common weal of the whole of the Provinces. He also fears that with this Union we will be no better prepared to meet the advancing columns of a common foe. The last argument is of course opposed to the well known adage, "that union is strength," and is a weak argument, indeed quite unworthy the propogation of a man like Mr. Dunkin. Some men are so constituted, however, that they always look on the dark side of everything, and hem and haw until they are led by the tide of public opinion, then they join the ranks of the crowd, and huzzah and shout as loudly as those who were in favor of the movement from the first, so it will be with many who have lifted up their voices against the Union.—Mr. M. C. Cameron has woefully deceived his constituents. At his election, when he ran against the Hon. Mr. McDougall, Provincial Secretary, he said he was in favor of the Confederation, and opposed the Provincial Secretary on personal grounds only, the latter admission secured his return, and his constituents are now loud in their protest against his want of faith. He has gained the ill will of most of his constituents, and should an appeal be made to the country soon his chance for re-election will be slim indeed.—The address of the manufacturers and mechanics of St. John, N. B., in which they declare themselves in favor of the Confederation, has been received here, and the opponents of the scheme are very much exercised about it. One by one they see their hopes dashed cruelly to the ground, and day by day they learn that it is hard to oppose a popular measure for factious motives.—On Wednesday, the 1st instant, Mr. A. A. Dorion accused the Government of having given pabulum to the extent of £10,000 worth of printing to the *Journal de Quebec*—an order for one hundred thousand copies of one blank, fifty thousand of another, and twenty-five thousand of a third. Hon. Mr. Brown defied the opposition to shew that there was one tittle of truth in the statement. Mr. Holton said it was notorious that a short time since the *Journal* was opposed to the scheme of Confederation, but that now it is one of its strongest supporters. A discussion ensued when the Speaker rose, and a

SCENE

transpired, of which the Toronto *Globe* gives the following account:—

"Mr. Cauchon, crossing behind the Speaker's chair to the other side of the House, approached the desk of Mr. Dufresne (of Iberville) and made an angry remark about the way in which Mr. Dufresne had pressed his motion. Mr. Dufresne said that more than that, he intended to make the motion ascertain who really was the proprietor of the *Journal de Quebec*, and also what had become of certain mantel pieces. Mr. Cauchon said in that case he would make a motion about a certain Insurance Company, an agent of which for twenty years had been robbing the public. Mr. Dufresne retorted, according to one version of the story, with, 'If any one says that with reference to me he is a liar;' according to another version, plumply, 'You are a scoundrel and a liar.' Mr. Cauchon then struck him, or gave him a fillip in his face with his finger. Mr. White stepped in between them and said to Mr. Cauchon, 'You dare not do that to me.' Messrs. Holton and J. S. Macdonald then rose and requested that the gallaries should be cleared, and the House then proceeded to discuss the *fracas* with closed doors. It is understood that, after a good deal of talk, Mr. Cauchon made an apology to the House, and withdrew his statement with reference to Mr. Dufresne. Mr. Cartier moved that the apology be accepted. The Opposition resisted the motion, contending that Mr. Cauchon should make an apology also to Mr. Dufresne. This Mr. Cauchon refused to do, unless Mr. Dufresne would first withdraw the imputations he had made against himself during the altercation, which Mr. Dufresne declined doing. Mr. Holton moved in amendment that a Committee be appointed to enquire and report on the whole facts. This was negatived by a vote of 47 to 31, and Mr. Cartier's motion was carried on the same division."

THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

which have been laid on the table show the following figures:—Expenditure for 1864, $10,587,142; revenue, $11,170,966; showing a surplus from 1st January to 31st December, 1864, of $583,824. Expenditure for 1863, $14,909,182; or, if we deduct from it $4,166,375 for redemption of debt, it was $10,742,807. Expenditure for 1864, $14,544,882; or, if $3,957,739 expended in redemption of debt be deducted, it was $10,587,142; showing a decrease in expenditure of $155,665. Total receipts for 1863, $14,382,508; less loans and sinking fund, $4,622,191, they were $9,760,317. Total receipts for 1864, $15,525,548; less loans and sinking fund, $4,354,581, they were $11,170,966; thus shewing that the receipts have increased $1,410,650 as compared with 1863. Expenditure decreased $155,665, the receipts increased $1,410,650; financial improvement over 1863 amounts to $1,566,315.

On Thursday the debate on Confederation was again resumed, Mr. Archambault opening the ball. He was, however, in favor of the resolutions, and thought that union would put an end to all sectional difficulties. That of course is one great reason why the scheme is so vigorously pushed through, as all along ever since the *quasi* union of East and West, there have been sectional difficulties, which, at times, seemed as if it would be better for the two sections to go off independently, and each fend for themselves. Messrs. Blauchet, Beaubrin and Cauchon followed, all speaking in favor of the scheme. The latter directed most of his speech to the course which the Hon Mr. Dorion had in former times pursued with regard to a union, and shewed very clearly that the opposition now offered by Mr. Dorion was not altogether sincere. He closed an able speech by confuting the doctrine that the Parliament was unable to deal with the question without an appeal to the people.—On Friday, Mr. Perrault and Col. Hamilton spoke. The former urged time in the deliberations, and is evidently one of those who neglect to take the wheel of fortune just at its turn, but waits irresolute until it rolls round and is lost for ever. The latter spoke strongly in favor of the scheme, and reviewed Mr. Dunkin's speech, showing up the points in which the latter gentleman had failed to make his mark.

THE ST. ALBAN'S RAIDERS

Are still kept in Montreal, and on the tender hooks of uncertainty. The hearing of their case has been postponed for some time in consequence of the indisposition of Judge Smith. The case is, however, expected to go on to-day. Few entertain any other opinion here than that they will be given up as demanded, and then we may expect the abolition of the hated

PASSPORT SYSTEM

which has wrought so much evil in Canada. The railways have been necessitated to take off their trains, and to discharge hundreds of men in consequence of the cessation of the passenger travel; but it is an ill wind which blows nobody good, and what has been lost in the passenger traffic, has been gained in the amount of freight carried on the road.

FATAL RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

I regret extremely to state that we have been afflicted with the news of accident after accident on the Grand Trunk Railway. Most of these have not been attended with serious injuries to passengers, except one on Friday week last, which happened at a small village named Petersburg, in the vicinity of Berlin. The train ran off the track, and the passenger car, with about thirty persons in it, were hurled over and over down an embankment which is thirty feet high. As may be expected, almost all the passengers were injured, but, strange to say, only two seriously. One of these, Mr. Nassau C. Gowan, is not unknown to the people in Charlottetown. He unfortunately had his spine fractured near the neck, and lingered in life until Friday last, when death relieved him. He suffered very much during the week which he lived, but died contented and in full hope that his Redeemer lived. If rumor is correct, the death of Mr. Gowan will bring sorrow into the family of an Hon. gentleman in Prince Edward Island. The remains of the deceased were buried on Sunday last, and were accompanied to their narrow bed by the members of the Orange and Temperance Societies in this city and vicinity. Mr. Gowan had been an active and zealous member of both organizations, more especially, however, of the latter, and today, many thousands of wives and families bless his memory for having been instrumental in weaning their brothers, husbands and fathers, from indulging in spirituous liquors. Since this last accident on the Grand Trunk, the speed of the trains has been reduced, at least, until the Spring opens up and renders the road fit for travelling.

ANOTHER DEATH.

The Hon. Geo. Moffatt died suddenly in Montreal last week, and his funeral is said to have been a mile long.

THE MILITIA

are still out, and military schools have recently been established in Montreal, Kingston, Hamilton and Gordon, and these have each and all had all the Cadets entered that they can now take. The military spirit is being well fostered, and our Volunteers are acquitting themselves most creditably.

SKATING

has been all the rage, and the lovers of that healthy amusement have had a grand opportunity of enjoying themselves this winter. "Jack Frost" still holds sway. The winter seems loth to leave us. The ground is still covered with snow.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

The manner in which the subject of Confederation will be treated in Prince Edward Island is of great consideration here. The Toronto *Leader hopes* that the people will reject it, but if they do, the *Globe* says they will not know what to do with themselves, because if the other Maritime Provinces adopt the scheme, Prince Edward Island will *be left out in the* cold, and it is scarcely probable that they can hold out as a separate nationality. The Ingersole *Chronicle* thinks that if the scheme is defeated in Prince Edward Island, *that the people* will resemble those who drew the elephant—not know what to do with their new nationality.

ADJUSTED.

At one time it was thought that the dispute between Messrs. Cauchon and Dufresne could not be settled except by recourse to dwelling: happily, however, Mr. Cauchon has apologized, thus ends this disgraceful affair.

To the Editor of the Examiner.

Sir:

The attention of the inhabitants of Charlottetown has been called to a rather unusual circumstance in the passing history of Prince Edward Island, and especially of this city; I mean the examination of the students attending the Prince of Wales College, concerning misdemeanors which have been committed, and which have led to the expulsion of three of them. I think it but fair to the people of Charlottetown that they should be allowed to see the true state of affairs concerning that College and the late axamination.

The facts which I now would wish to bring before and impress on the public mind are not out-door tales, or oft repeated stories, nor are they the imaginations of a prejudiced mind; but they are stern realities which ought to be enquired into, not on account of the intense value or usefulness of the Prince of Wales College, but that the minds of parents may be enlightened, and that they may know what kind of institution they are sending or are going to send *their* children to.

As to the examination and suspension of three of the students by the Trustees, I must say it was rather too severe a sentence. When I say too severe a sentence, I mean nothing against or prejudicial to the character of the Trustees; they are all men of the highest integrity, and men who, I think, would show no partiality. They may say the boys' conduct has been very bad. Allowing it so, is it usual to expel a boy for the first offence? I use the word expel, for I think the suspension for two years is just the same, saving the harshness of the term. What is the boy to do *in the meantime*? Is the benefit of the high *moral* and *intellectual* education of the Prince of Wales College of so great a consideration, that a boy can afford to waste two years of the most precious time of his life in order that he may again participate in the educational course of that College, the Trustees of which, on account of its loose and bad management, have been compelled—I say compelled—to have an investigation of the disgraceful manner in which that College was kept both by the Principal and the boys? I think not. Therefore, I think the sentence was too hard. If those boys had been publicly reprimanded before the Trustees, and the whole school, that would have been, in my opinion, a sufficient punishment, and it would have effectually checked that course of conduct concerning which the Masters were either so careless or indifferent that they allowed it to continue for so long a time. That investigation ought to have been had two years ago. Dr. Inglis, the Principal of that College, when spoken to on the subject, says: "This course of conduct has gone on for two years." Such an admission for any Master to make! What the Doctor says is not exactly true. It was not so bad at first. Does the Doctor expect that such conduct, allowed to go on for two whole years, will not get worse? No, he cannot, nor can any man think so. Why then was it not stopped in the beginning? Let us look at the state of affairs in that College the summer before last. Boys' comforters, caps, boots, gloves, coats, and all kinds of things, were destroyed, burned, torn, or in some way damaged. But you may ask did Dr. Inglis know it? Yes, I say he did know it, and Professor Anderson knew it, (but he being in one of his amiable moods only laughed). Dr. Inglis, on the occasion of every new offence, said he would investigate it; but did he investigate it? No. He allowed boys to come to the College full of mischief and deceit; he allowed them to go from bad to worse, and other boys to be led on to do those things which they themselves were frightened to do—in short, to be their dupes. The Normal School windows were broken, the furniture destroyed, yet Dr. Inglis held his tongue. Was that the conduct of a Principal of any school? Boys brought up in the best society to be ruined, parents to take away their children and the College itself to be defaced. Dr. Inglis did nothing, worse than nothing. He told the boys stories about policemen and the police-office, and how did it end? The boys, not only these three, but nearly all, laughed at him; they had no respect for him; they carricatured him and his son on the very walls inside the College, past which he walked every day; and, when still the Dr. held his tongue, they grew worse. They drew obscene pictures on the walls, and endeavoured to irritate him in every possible manner. But was this state of affairs to last always? Was any school ever known to stand when the Masters were openly disrespected, and quietly submitted to it? Was that conduct just in the sight of God or man to parents who entrusted their children to their *care*—to parents who not only entrusted to them the minds and bodies of their children, but also their immortal souls, at least when they were under their tuition? No, I think not.

The climax came on Monday evening, when the Doctor was lecturing before a large and respectable audience. Previous to the lecture, a quantity of pepper was put on the stove by one of the three who have been suspended, which, when heated, caused such irritation to the audience that the lecture had to be postponed. This boy first went to that College with unimpeachable character, but by means of those boys whom the Professors had allowed to do what they chose, to write what they chose, and ruin other boys when they chose, he was led away, and in an evil hour (but I trust it may yet turn out a good one, both to him and to the College, in as much as it brought things to light) he was led to put the pepper on the stove, by doing which he publicly set the Professor at defiance. I, however, sincerely think that he did not mean to do that; it was but a boyish prank which he had been led to do by bad companions—by those very boys whom the Professors themselves, knowing their bad conduct — for they often accused them—had permitted to remain and to contaminate the whole school.

This act at last compelled the Professor to perform that duty, both to those boys and also to the other boys committed to his charge which he ought to have done long before. The investigation took place on Friday. We know the result. Some were justly rewarded, *one* was not, of that one I have spoken before. But perhaps the Trustees were afraid that their bright characters might be stained, or that the world might say that they were partial, if they let him off with a lighter punishment, therefore they punished them all alike.

I would not wish my remarks to be construed into anything condemnatory of the Professors personally, or of the College as an institution. A seminary of that kind is necessary to the prosperity of Charlottetown; but when the Government has expended and is yearly expending so much money to support it, there surely should be some better management on the part of those whose duty it is to see that the students conduct themselves properly. Were this the case, there would not in my opinion be so few students attending that College as there are at present, and the fruits of the hard labour of both the Professors would not be so comparatively small.

Sincerely hoping that the present state of the College may be amended,

I am yours, &c.

CUSTOS.

To the Editor of the Examiner.

Sir;—I wish to draw public attention, through your widely circulated paper, to the "Inspection of Pickled Fish Act," as it stands at present. No doubt, before it was passed, some law was much required to protect the purchaser from being deceived in the quality and quantity of fish, as it could not reasonably be supposed that farmers and other consumers were great judges of the like, and too often bought fish unfit for use, merely on the word of the seller assuring their being good. The error exists in each barrel of herrings, &c., having to be emptied out, weighed by the inspector, and repacked. It adds an expense of three shillings per barrel for salt, pickle and packing, without in any way improving the fish for consumption here. It is impracticable in the case of herring arriving here late in the fall, which is by no means unusual. In many harbors and rivers in this Island where fish are brought into for sale there are no stores or warehouses with stoves in them, and how, in the name of common sense, can persons pack off fish exposed to the cold and frost. Last fall I had occasion to take an account of part of a cargo of herrings landed, the ends of the barrels I found covered with about an inch of ice. In less than an hour, although I had a pair of good gloves on, my hands were so benumbed with cold I could not mark the tallies. In such weather who will our law makers get to "bell the cat."

It has practically been found such a useless trouble and waste, that in most cases the Inspectors only weigh one barrel out of a certain number, say five or ten, thus leaving themselves open to an action at law for not fulfilling the requirements of the Act. In Nova Scotia, inspection is optional, but when fish are inspected it is done the same as prescribed in our law, the charge for which is two shillings and sixpence per barrel that currency; but the difference is that when inspected they are supposed to be fit for shipment to the West Indies or other warm climates, and consequently are repacked with coarse salt, which in many cases the fishermen do not attend to.

The proper method for us is the barrels to be a certain size—the inspector to measure by callifers, or otherwise that they are of that capacity, and by opening the end examine the quality, and see that the barrels are packed full. This will be found to be quite sufficient and more effectual in preventing the consumer being imposed on than the present expensive and impracticable plan.

Hoping our public men may see the necessity of changing an Act so detrimental to that valuable but sadly neglected branch of industry, our fisheries,

I am, Sir,
Your obt. servant,

March 10th, 1865. JOHN.

[FOR THE EXAMINER.]

A correspondent in the *Examiner*, of a late date, states that Mr. Commissioner Campbell, of District No. 9, in King's County, sold the opening of a new road leading from Montague to the Whim road, by private contract, a mile and a quarter from the spot where the work was to be performed. The result of this neglect of duty is now fully come to light. The contractors went to work and opened up a road more than a chain *to the east of the line laid out by Mr. Curtis*, in 1863, for the same road. The road, where it is opened, is on the land occupied by Mr. Campbell. This winter, Mr. Curtis was again sent to lay off this road, and, to his satisfaction, found the stakes *standing where he laid off the road in '63*. Now, Sir, as the Legislature is in session, I think it is the duty of the Opposition to oppose the payment of this twenty pounds of public money, when it is clear that the Commissioner did not do his duty in not holding the sale where he ought to, and showing the contractors where to commence their work.

Hoping the Opposition members will look after the conduct of such affairs, and make them or their masters pay for such wilful neglect of public duty, is the wish of him who desires to see the right man in the right place.

LOT 59.

March 8th, 1865.

The Examiner.

Charlottetown, March 27, 1865.

THE LEGISLATURE.

During the past week the public business in the House of Assembly has proceeded very steadily, and considerable progress has been made in matters of routine. The Resolutions in Committee of Supply and the Revenue Bill have been under consideration, and are nearly finished—the road scales are, for the most part, prepared, and ready to be submitted. Indeed, everything indicates a rapid approach to a termination of the Session.

There was a desultory and wearisome debate in the House on Wednesday evening, ostensibly on the despatches from the Colonial Office to the Lieut. Governor; and, in the course of the debate, the Land Question, the Fifteen Years' Purchase Bill, and the Tenant League, were discussed, besides a great many small matters of a personal nature, which led to much crimination and recrimination. The debate was abruptly postponed, without the House passing an opinion, by resolution, on any measure under consideration.

On Friday evening the question of Confederation was before the House, the Colonial Secretary commencing the debate, very much to the displeasure of his brother, the Leader of the Government, whose duty it was to initiate the proceedings, and define the policy of the Government. The Secretary, however, was too fast for his colleague, and the slow Leader, though supposed to be "master of the situation" in opposition to Colonial Union, was compelled to play "second fiddle" to a most decided advocate of that measure.

The speech of the Colonial Secretary occupied nearly two hours, and was a manly, straightforward and argumentative review of every branch of the great question. In short, the subject of Confederation from the affirmative side, was very ably handled, and this was frankly admitted by some of the most intelligent opponents of the measure who listened to the Col. Secretary. He concluded his speech by moving a series of resolutions, in which were fairly embodied the views entertained by the advocates of Confederation.

The Hon. J. C. Pope, Leader of the Government, replied to the Colonial Secretary, taking a side directly opposite, and using the threadbare arguments, which are familiar to most of our readers, and which have been employed in order to delude uninformed people into the belief that Confederation would be ruinous to this Colony. He submitted something, in the form of a written document, which was intended for a resolution, but it seemed to be more like a speech than anything else. It contained, in the preamble, nearly all the fallacious arguments which the Hon. Leader used in his long speech, and it concluded by declaring that the proposed Confederation would be ruinous and disastrous to the Island.

There was some discussion after Mr. J. C. Pope concluded his address, but the discussion referred merely to points of form, as to the mode of carrying on the debate. The general merits of the question were not referred to, except, indeed, by Mr. Cornelius Howat, who discoursed in his usual learned and eloquent style, and denounced the "abominations" of Confederation. There was considerable merriment in the House during the delivery of the honorable member's speech, but we fear that it was evoked more by the exhibition of his ignorance than anything else.—The debate stands adjourned, and will probably occupy two or three days during the present week.

ANOTHER LAND QUESTION BILL.

On Wednesday last, when the House of Assembly, in Committee, had under consideration the despatches on the Fifteen Years Purchase Bill and other public matters, the Hon. Mr. Coles advised the Government to bring forward a Bill, authorising a liberal sum of money to be placed at the disposal of the Government, to be *appropriated in assisting the tenantry to purchase* the freehold of their farms under the provisions of the Fifteen Years Purchase Bill—such assistance to be as follows:—When a tenant agreed with his landlord upon a price, the tenant should be required to pay one-third of the amount down, and the Government become liable for the other two-thirds—these two-thirds to be paid back to the Government, by instalment, in the same manner as payments are made under the operation of the old Purchase Bill. Mr. Coles suggested that the price should not exceed twelve shillings and six pence an acre.

A Bill, introduced by the Government, which embodies Mr. Coles's views to a very considerable extent, is now before the House, and will, no doubt, be passed. When it shall have become law we shall have much more to say about it.

Catholic Young Men's Literary Institute.—We are requested to state that the Lecture by Mr. Whelan, with accompanying vocal and instrumental music by several other persons, as announced last Wednesday evening, will not take place on Wednesday evening next, owing to the circumstance that some of the principal parties that would be engaged will be required to give their attention to proceedings in the House of Assembly.

SUMMARY OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Monday, March 20.

Hon. Solicitor General presented a petition from the inhabitants of Georgetown and Royalty, praying for an Act to authorize the letting of the Georgetown Common.

The said petition was received and read, and ordered to be referred to a special Committee to report thereon by Bill or otherwise. The following gentlemen to be a Committee for that purpose, viz: Hons. Sol. General, Kaye and Thornton.

On motion of the Hon. Solicitor General, the House went into Committee to resume the consideration of the Bill to amend the law of libel. Mr. Sinclair in the chair.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Hensley, a clause was added to the Bill to abolish Criminal Information in the cases of private individuals.

After some debate relating to this point, the Bill was amended by adding the said clause thereto; after which the bill was agreed to.

Hon Mr. Hensley moved the second reading of the liquor license Act amendment Bill. He explained that its provisions were in conformity to the Report of the Committee appointed last Session, and which had been adopted by the House.

The Bill was accordingly read a second time and committed.

In Committee, when the clause was read providing that Store licenses should not be granted for a less quantity than one quart, a motion was made to substitute the words "three half pints" for the word quart, which was opposed by several hon. members, and on the question being put thereon it was lost.

Mr. Montgomery said that when the majority of any District gave their consent to the establishing of a Tavern, they would not give their consent to cancel the license of such a Tavern-keeper without a just cause The amendment proposed by the Bill would very properly place a safeguard in the hands of the people, so that when, for the sake of peace and good order in any settlement or district, they thought proper to abolish any licensed Tavern within the same, it was but just and proper that they should have the power to do so.

Hon. Mr. Hensley suggested that if the matter had not gone too far, it would be well to so amend the Bill as to provide, according to the prayer of the petitioners, that Store licenses should be placed under the same restrictions as Tavern licenses in regard to receiving the sanction of a majority of the householders in school districts, and he understood that his colleague intended to make a motion to that effect.

Hon. Mr. Pope said he opposed the motion for three half pints licenses, but would support an amendment which would leave the quantity to be sold under Store licenses at a pint, and which would place them, as suggested by the hon. member for East Point, under the same restrictions as Tavern licenses.

Hon. Mr. Beaton then submitted an amendment to the effect that applicants for Store licenses should be required to obtain the consent of householders in School Districts, as in the case of Tavern licenses.

This amendment was agreed to: and on motion of the Hon. Mr. Warburton, the clause in regard to extending the quantity under Store licenses to a quart, was struck out of the Bill. Progress was then reported.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Pope, the Bill to compel Masters of Vessels to exhibit a light when in harbors, was submitted to a Committee of the whole House. Mr. Green in the chair.

And after some debate, progress was reported, and the House adjourned.

AFTERNOON.

The House in Committee resumed the consideration of the Bill relating to lights on board Vessels in harbors of this Island.

Said Bill, which provides that a good clear light shall be exhibited, at a distance not less than six feet from the rail of every vessel when in harbor, from the hour of sunset to sunrise, was read a second time and agreed to.

The order of the day for the House in Committee of Supply, having been read—

On motion of Hon. Mr. Davies, the Estimates were referred to the said Committee. Mr. McLennan in the chair.

Several resolutions were then reported from Supply.

Hon. Mr. Coles moved to amend the resolution containing the sum of £20 as wharfage for the Island Mail Steamers at Brule, by deducting that sum from the said resolution. In support of his amendment, the hon. member said that the payment of any wharfage at any of the wharfs of the other Provinces would be establishing a bad precedent. If the Steam Navigation Company of this Island required accommodations for their Steamers at Brule, they should provide for it themselves.

Hon. Mr. Hensley and Mr. Howlan also spoke in favor of the said amendment, and concurred with the remarks of the Hon. Mr. Coles, relative to the impropriety of paying wharfage on that, or any other wharf belonging to the other Colonies. If the object were the granting increased facilities to the Company, they should pay for it and not this House.

Hon. Mr. Davies said the daily communication, via Brule, was found to be highly advantageous to the interests of the public; the small sum of £20, in question, was granted to induce the people of the other Province to build a wharf at Brule for the convenience of passengers.

Hon. Mr. Pope said that the Steam Navigation Company of this Island had to pay £200 for the erection of the Wharf at Brule, and only asked the Government for this small sum to pay for wharfage of Mail Steamers.

Hon. Mr. Longworth said that the Governments of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia provided accommodation at Shediac and Pictou for our Mail Steamers. He contended that it was no invasion of any principle to grant the sum of £20 for wharfage at Brule.

After some further remarks from hon. members, Hon. Mr. Coles' motion was lost on the following division:—

Yeas—Hons. Messrs. Coles, Warburton, Kelly, Thornton, Whelan, Hensley, Beaton, Messrs. Walker, Sinclair, Howlan, Conroy, Sutherland—12.

Nays—Hons. Messrs. Pope, Davies, Gray, Longworth, Col. Secretary, Sol. General, Kaye, Laird, Messrs. Green, Montgomery, Ramsay, Haslam, Brecken, Yeo, Howat, Duncan—16.

After which progress was reported.

Hon. Solicitor General submitted a Bill to amend the Act to promote Vaccination; and also, in accordance with a resolution of the House, a Bill to amend the Act for constituting a Board of Health—both of which were received and read, and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

Hon. Mr. Davies, a member of the Government, presented a petition of certain inhabitants of Crapaud, setting forth the advantage which would result from the extension of Steam communication to that place, and praying for a grant for that purpose.

Said petition was ordered to be laid on the table.

Hon Mr. Coles, pursuant to the notice which he had given *on Saturday last, asked the Government* the questions to which he then alluded.

Hon. Mr. Pope said that McLeod's Model of a Ship for the London Exhibition, was not such a work of art as merited the compensation asked for by the petitioner; and as to a subsidy for the Boston Steamers, he remarked that whilst the Government were prepared, on all matters, to afford every information that might be desired by any member of the House, they did not conceive it to be their duty to gratify the hon. member, in answering a very improper question such as that put. He (Hon. Mr. Coles) had no right to ask the Government the reasons why they had not done that or any other act. If the hon. member would submit his question properly, he would receive a satisfactory answer.

Hon. Mr. Coles then gave notice that he would, to-morrow, ask for the Accounts of Sale of the Barrack Square.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Pope, the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to take into consideration the various Despatches and Correspondence transmitted by message to the House this Session. Mr. Yeo in the chair.

The several Despatches and Papers relative to the Land Settlement Bill of last Session having been read, a debate ensued, which was kept up till a late hour, and was ordered to be resumed to-morrow afternoon; after which the House adjourned.

Tuesday, March 21.

The Bill to incorporate the Summerside Bank was read a third time and passed.

The Bill relating to Merchant Seamen was read a third time and passed.

The Bill to regulate the salaries of the Collectors of Customs at Georgetown and Bedeque was read a second time; committed and reported agreed to.

Hon. Mr. Coles suggested that the Clerk be directed to have a few complete copies of the Parliamentary Reporter from its first publication bound up in volumes for the use of the House. The suggestion was generally concurred in by hon. members.

Hon. Mr Warburton, pursuant to notice on the Order Book, asked for a copy of the agreement entered into between the Government and the Professor of the Prince of Wales College, and also for a report of certain proceedings which had recently taken place, resulting, as he understood, in certain expulsions from the College.

Hon. Leader of the Government replied that no written agreement had been entered into with the Professors of the Prince of Wales College; and with respect to the latter question, he might state that there had been no expulsions from the institution.

Hon. Mr. Hensley moved the second reading of the Bill to regulate the rate of interest, and to repeal the Usury Laws. The hon. member explained the principles of the Bill, and was supported by the Hon. Solicitor General and several other hon. members, all of whom concurred in the opinion that there existed a necessity for the adoption of the principles of the Bill, which was similar to a Bill passed by the British Parliament in the year 1854, when the remaining laws in *that country on the same subject were repealed*. The Bill before the House was therefore a mere transcript of the British Statute, and a similar law also obtained in Canada. The Bill provided that where no rate of interest was named, the rate should still be *6 per cent*; if any other rate was fixed upon, it must be expressly stated in the agreement. Existing contracts would not in any way be interfered with by the provisions of the Bill. It was argued by the supporters of the Bill that the present law on this subject was evaded every day, by which the borrower had to pay frequently from 15 to 25 per cent for borrowed money; whereas, by abolishing the restrictions of the law, those who would not violate its provisions, would throw their capital into the market, and thus money, like any other article of merchandize, would find its own level. In a new country like this free scope should be given to trade, and money should be as free from restrictions as any other goods or chattels, so that men of conscience, who would not evade the law, might be allowed to go into the market and compete with those who constantly evaded its restrictions.

Mr. Howat said he had the same objections to the Bill as when it was introduced at the last Session of that House, and he saw no reason why he should change his opinion on the subject. He was suspicious of the quarter from whence the Bill emanated, and thought its principal object was to afford facilities to the money lenders of Charlottetown. He was of opinion the Bill would tend to increase rather than lessen the rate of interest that would be charged under its provisions. He would therefore move that it be read a second time this day three months.

Hon. Mr. Laird seconded the motion of the hon. member, and also spoke against the Bill. He said he was not aware that any petition or application of any kind had come from the people in favor of passing such a Bill, and would therefore oppose it.

Mr. Howat's motion having been put and lost, the House went into Committee on the Bill. Mr. McLennan in the chair.

The Bill was then read a second time and agreed to, after which the chairman (Mr. McLennan) claimed the privilege of addressing the House on the subject of the Bill. He said that having occupied the chair, he was deprived of giving his views in Committee, but would now state that he was prepared to give the measure his hearty concurrence. He had done so last year, and he saw no reason why he should not support it now. The principle of the Bill, he said, was ably explained by the Hon. Mr. Hensley, who introduced it to the House, and from his knowledge of that hon. member, he did not believe that he would submit any measure to that House that would tend to prove an injury to his own constituents, or to the country at large. He was of opinion that the repeal of the Usury Laws was in accordance with the principles of sound and enlightened legislation, and would therefore give it his support.

On motion of the Hon. Solicitor General, the House went into committee on the Bill to promote Vaccination. Hon. Col. Secretary in the chair.

After some time spent in committee, during which the purport of the Bill was explained by the Hon. Solicitor General, it was agreed to.

House adjourned.

Wednesday, March 22.

The Bill to regulate the salaries of Impost Collectors at Summerside and Georgetown, was read a third time and passed.

The Bill to Incorporate the Summerside Bank was also read a third time and passed.

Hon. Mr. Pope submitted the account of sales of the Barrack Square, and other papers connected therewith

House in Committee on Ways and Means.

In accordance with a resolution, the following gentlemen were appointed a Committee to prepare the Revenue Bill, viz:—Hons. Messrs. Pope, Davies, and Mr. Green.

Hon. Solicitor General, Chairman of the Committee to whom were referred the petition of the inhabitants of Georgetown and Royalty, relating to the Georgetown Common, reported a Bill which was received and read. Ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

The Bill to enlarge the Jurisdiction of the Mayor's Court in the City of Charlottetown, was ordered to be read a second time; to which Hon. Mr. Coles objected, and moved that the words "Criminal Jurisdiction" be struck out of the title of the same.

The Bill was then recommitted, and amended accordingly; after which it was read a second time and agreed to.

The Bill to amend the law to promote Vaccination was read a third time and passed.

The House in Committee resumed consideration of Supply.

Hon. Mr. Coles moved that the sum of £20, for the payment of wharfage at Brule, be struck out of a resolution then before the Committee; which motion was lost on the following division:

Yeas—Hons. Messrs. Coles, Kelly, Thornton, Warburton, Messrs. Conroy, Howlan, Sutherland, Sinclair, Walker—9.

Nays—Hons. Messrs. Pope, Gray, Longworth, Solicitor General, Colonial Secretary, Kaye, Davies, Laird, Messrs. Green, Howat, Brecken, McLennan, Ramsay, Montgomery, Haslam, Yeo—16.

Several resolutions were reported from Supply and agreed to.

A discussion took place on a Resolution granting £1,000 towards building a Market House in Charlottetown, to which Hon. Mr. Coles moved an amendment, namely, that the words "provided said Market House be not built on Queen Square" be added to the said resolution. He said he was not opposed to a grant for the purpose of assisting the City to build a Market House—the necessity of which was obvious to all—provided it was not built on Queen Square. He then spoke of the filthy condition of the said Square, which would always continue as long as a Market House was there. Some might say that, with a new building properly constructed, the Square could be kept clear of filth, but such would not be the case; it would, on the contrary, be utterly impossible to keep the square free