LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Wednesday, April 19th, (Continued.)

AFTERNOON SESSION.

IMPRISONMENT FOR DEBT.

Hon. Mr. Laird said it would appear from the remarks of their honors that there was some virtue in putting a man in jail, but he was at a loss to understand how a man who had no property could pay his debts when deprived of his liberty. It appeared to him that the proper way would be to abolish imprisonment for debt altogether. It would be better to give the creditor power to attach a man's income, or wages, and leave him at liberty so as to be in a position to earn something for the support of his family. It did appear [illegible] to pass a law which would leave the man who owed $20.01 liable to imprisonment, while the man who owed $19.99 could not have his liberty restricted. If fraud could be proved it should be punished as such, but to deprive a laboring man of his liberty in order to recover debt from him was a strange process. It had been said that imprisonment for debt was abolished some years ago, and the people petitioned to have the act repealed. It was a retrograde movement. What position would they be in if the prayer of every petition were granted? If that act had not been repealed the country would be in better circumstances to-day. To imprison men and train them to habits of idleness was injurious to their morals.

Hon. Mr. Stong had not spoken in favor of imprisonment. He had been in business for thirty years and had only imprisoned one man. When offered his liberty he had declined, saying, he knew he would have to pay the debt either in this world or the next, and he would remain in jail and pay the debt honestly. While he was not an advocate for the imprisonment, he was aware that the power of the creditor to imprison had a salutary influence upon some debtors. His honor who had just spoken had not as much experience in this matter as he (Mr. Strong) had. The jail was no place for an honest man, and it was rarely an honest man got there. It was against the interest of the creditor to put an honest man in jail. The clause was partial and would operate against the very class whose necesities were greatest. If a man were imprisoned for $20 and could show he had acted honestly he would be set at liberty, and why not allow the man who might be imprisoned for $25 the same privilege?

Hon. Mr. McGill understood one of their honors to say this provision was only intended as an experiment, and he was afraid they would have to try further experiments next year. He had intended to introduce a suggestion to amend the law of attachment so as to give the creditor power to attach wages or income, but upon consulting the law clerk he found that a very lengthy bill would be required. He hoped the subject would be taken up next session.

Hon. Mr. Dodd would support striking out the clause and hoped that next session a bill would be passed to abolish imprisonment for debt altogether. The clause would induce parties to go in debt for more than $20 who could not get credit for lesser sums. The clause would be injurious to both creditors and debtors.

Hon. Mr. Reid had been doing business for a number of years with good and bad customers, but had never committed a man to jail, except one, and that was for attempting to commit fraud. If the clause were passed he believed many would take advantage of it and would perpetrate fraud.

Hon. Mr. McEwen had not heard any sound argument in favor of imprisonment for debt. He thought it should be abolished except fraud should be shown. As their honors were in favor of abolishing imprisonment for debt he did not see why they should be unwilling to pass the clause.

Hon. Mr. Laird was disposed to support the motion, to strike out the clause and let the House of Assembly devise a measure to abolish imprisonment for debt altogether. A man who was in debt $25 should have as much protection as his neighbour who only owed $20. To be consistent they should aim at carrying out the principle without respect to the amount. He was rather reluctant to strike out the clause, because he considered the principle of the abolition of imprisonment for debt to be sound, but he could not vote for it in its present shape. It had probably been inserted to gain little popularity. Much had been said against the credit system, but he believed the people were not so much to blame as the merchants for pressing and almost forcing their goods upon them. He (Mr. L.) had done a pretty active business for a number of years, and had sued no man, yet he had got along as well as those who were often in the courts. The bill was very lenghthy and after all it was a crude piece of Legislation.

Hon Mr. McGill thought it would be a retrograde movement to strike out the clause. If it were amended so as not to come into operation till the end of the year it would perhaps meet the objections. If there was time several amendments might be introduced. If a man was receiving eight or ten dollars per week the Judge should have power to order that a certain part of it should be appropriated to the liquidation of a debt.

Hon. Mr. Dodd said that during the present winter many of laboring classes in Charlottetown were out of employment, and if they could not get credit many of them would be in want. Many of them were honest men, but there were some who were only made to act honestly by the fear of the jail.

Hon. Mr. McDonald said that every session a large bill was introduced to enable the merchants to collect their debts. Three years ago they passed a very large County Court bill, and every year since there has been an amendment to it, but here was another larger still. There was too much credit given, and it was time to make a stand against it. If the clause were struck out it might be just as difficult to pass a bill for the same purpose ten years hence.

The question was then put on Mr. Dodd's motion to strike out the clause, and the committee divided:

Contents — Hon. Messrs. President, Balderston, Laird, Dodd, Reid and Richards—6.

Non-Contents—Hon. Messrs. Strong, McGill, McEwen and McDonald—4.

So it passed in the affirmative.

Further progress was reported and the House adjourned until eleven o'clock to-morrow.

Thursday, April 20th

SCHOOL VISITORS' REPORTS.

Hon. Mr. Strong laid before the House the School Visitors' reports for the three counties for the past year.

LAND PURCHASE ACT.

A bill to amend the Land Purchase Act, 1875, was brought up from the House of Assembly by Hon. Mr. Brecken, and read the first time.

COUNTY COURTS.

The County Courts Amendment Act was again referred to Committee.

Hon Mr. Strong observed that in Prince County the County Court would sit in October, and might interfere with the October term of the Supreme Court. He moved a suggestion that January, April, July and October be struck out, and February, May, August and November substituted.

The suggestion was agreed to.

Hon. Mr. Laird suggested an amendment with respect to confession of judgment which was also adopted.

Further progress was then reported and the House adjourned for one hour. The House being again met, a bill to amend an act relating to the running at large of

HORSES, CATTLE AND SHEEP,

in certain school districts in Queen's County, was read the second time, and on moving that it be referred to committee,

Hon. Mr. Laird said the Act proposed to be amended allowed school districts in Queen's County, to prevent the running at large of horses, cattle and sheep, if they should consider it expedient to do so. The bill proposed to extend the operation of the Act to the other Counties, and also to prevent the running at large of geese, and of bulls at certain seasons. The Legislature had expended large sums for the improvement of stock and for fostering agriculture, but some persons were very carelesss in allowing animals of inferior breeds to run at large, and at certain seasons no fence would keep them out. By that means a man who might have the best stock upon the Island might have them deteriorated. Farmers had been asking for a measure of this kind, though not by petition this year, and it had been thought advisable to introduce a bill upon the permisive principle. It was a step in the right direction though he would prefer making it binding, but it might not be applicable to some parts of the country.

House in committee.

Hon. the President was satisfied that a bill of this nature was required in the country, and he would support it. He had seen persons from the country who were opposed to the bill when it was passed for Queen's County, but were now asking for such a measure. It would be in the power of school districts to put the law in operation or not, as they thought proper.

Hon. Mr. Munn was aware that droves of cattle and horses running at large sometimes did a great deal of injury, for they often broke into fields and destroyed crops. A compulsory measure might be oppressive in newly settled parts of the country, but as the bill was permissve he would support it.

Hon. Mr. Balderston was glad to find that representatives from Prince and King's Counties, who opposed a measure of this kind two years ago were now in favor of this bill. An amendment to include geese was objected to by the House of Assembly two years ago, but he trusted that this bill, containing the provision to prevent geese from running at large, would be acceded to. He considered the bill highly necessary, and those districts opposed to it could continue the old system.

Hon. Mr. Strong approved of the bill and thought there could not be any objection to it, but there might be some difficulty in reference to geese. As they could fly he did not know how they could be prevented from going at large.

Hon. Mr. Laird was well aware that geese could fly and swim also, but it was not difficult to prevent them. If two-thirds of those in a district qualified to vote for trustees were in favor of putting the act in force, a reeve would be appointed whose duty it would be to enforce the law by devising means to prevent animals from running at large. That, he considered, was one of the best features of the bill. Many of our laws, though good in themselves, remain inoperative, because there was no means of putting them in force. It was not pleasant for one neighbor to enforce the law against another, but by the bill a man would only have to inform the reeve, if animals were going at large contrary to law, and he would be bound to perform his duty. He had no doubt but an expert reeve would find means to prevent geese from flying.

Hon. Mr. Strong approved of the bill but thought there should be some scale of charges for taking up animals found at large.

Hon. Mr. McDonald said he was glad to see geese included in the bill. They were a greater annoyance than any other animals running at large, and would destroy more in a grain field. Almost every farmer suffered from their depredations. It was easy to keep them from flying if their owners desired to do so. If geese were not included he would be very careless about having the bill extended to King's County.

Hon. Mr. Balderston observed that there was a provision to prevent bulls from running at large, and allow other cattle to be at liberty. If a district should so desire, and also to prevent cattle from running at large at certain seasons. It required a two thirds vote to put the law in force, and when that was obtained the minority should submit. All those liable to pay school assessment would have a right to vote.

Hon. Mr. Laird submitted an amendment requiring notices to be posted in districts adjoining those in which the law was put in force. Cattle often strayed from one district to another, and it was simply an act of justice to notify districts adjoining those in which the law was put in force. The bill would give the people power to say how long they would have the law in force, and what months of the year. That provision was not contained in the former act.

The amendment was adopted and the bill was reported from committee agreed to without an amendment.

Adjourned.

Friday, April 21st.

A bill to amend an act to prevent the running at large of horses cattle and sheep in certain School Districts was read the third time and passed

A bill in further amendment of an Act to Incorporate the City of Charlottetown was brought up from the House of Assembly by Mr. L. H. Davies, and read the first time.

BANK RETURNS.

Hon. Mr. Strong presented to the House copies of returns of the several Banks of P. E. Island for the past year.

COUNTY COURTS.

The County Courts amendment bill was again referred to committee.

Hon. Mr. Strong observed that the chief clerk in Charlottetown had to provide an office at the expense of $100 a year, while the clerk at Summerside had an office provided for him. He thought this was unfair.

Hon. Mr. Munn considered it strange that a member of the Government should condemn himself. The Government should place all the chief clerks upon the same footing.

Hon. Mr. Strong said the matter had only been brought to his notice yesterday. He did not think it could be said, strictly speaking, that the Government had found an office for the clerk in Summerside, but there were rooms to spare in the new Court house and the gentleman was occupying one of them. It was just as well to have those matters brought to light.

Hon. Mr. Dodd said it just reminded him of what his honor from Alberton (Mr. Reid) had said, that the Government were negligent of their duty. Some clerks received $200 for doing very little while others who were toilng from morning till night, and day after day, received no more. He had no personal knowledge of the matter just brought to light, but it was like many more of the acts of the Government. It was very unfair and should be remedied at once.

Hon. Mr. Balderston did not know that the Goverument were to blame, though he was not the apologist. The law did not require the Government to find offices for the clerks, but if the clerk in Summerside could get an office free of rent he could no not be blamed for taking it.

Hon. Mr. Strong said it was creditable to Prince County that there were rooms to spare in the building referred to. His honor from Fort Augustus (Mr. McGill) proposed to fill the building with some of his children, but he hoped he would not succeed. He (Mr. Strong) hoped there would always be room in the jail in Prince County.

Hon. Mr. McGill said it was gratifying to hear his honor's open confession, and he hoped his soul would derive all the benefit from it which it was calculated to afford. He thought the Government should allow the clerk for Queen's County an office in the new law courts building. There was a room occupied by the commissioner in bankruptcy.

The house was then resumed and further progress was reported.

LAND PURCHASE ACT.

A bill to amend the Land Purchase Act of 1875, was read a second time, and on moving that it be referred to a committee—

Hon. Mr. Strong said the object of the bill was simply to obviate some difficulties which has arisen in carrying out the act of 1875, and on account of which some of the awards of the commissoners had been set aside by the Supreme Court. It was not the design of the framers of the bill that any awards should be set aside on account of technical objections, but that they should be sent back to the Commissioners to be amended. The Supreme Court, however, had thought proper to make them null and void, and to require, in some cases, that the work should be gone over again, by the 28th section of the Act, certain things had to be taken into account by the commissioners in making their awards, but they had not been fairly and fully set forth and expressed, and therefore, according to the finding of the Supreme Court, the law had not been literally complied with, though in spirit it was. The bill was intended to remedy that defect in reference to future awards. Then, the judges had thought proper to make certain awards invalid because the boundaries of estates had not been defined and fully described. In the case of the Montgomery Estate the awards was not completed when one of the Commissioners resigned and the work would have to be gone over again. Then there had been some delay in notifying certain proprietors on account of difficulty in ascertaining who the owners of the lands were. All those defects and omissions were intended to be remedied by the bill.

Hon. Mr. Laird was sorry to find that a bill passed with the unanimous approval of the Legislature, passed with the best intentions, and designed to meet the whole question, had not been entirely successful, and that it was necessary to pass a bill ancillary. It was to be supposed that the Judges of the Supreme Court knew their duty, and according to the British Constitution they were held as above suspicion. There was no reason to suppose that they had not carried what they conceived to be their duty, but their decisions had necessitated further enactments, and additional expenses would be incurred. He presumed there would be no opposition to this bill. He observed that there was a clause requiring the titles of land purchased under the act of 1875 to be placed indisputably in the Government. There was a possibility of disputes arising, for there were some lands held by adverse possession. When large proprietors held their estates by possession it was not surprisng that their example was followed by parties holding small tracts of land. He was of opinion that it would not only be difficult, but decidedly wrong to attempt to disturb those parties. If the government would attempt to act up to the strict letter of the law there would be cases of great hardship, and perhaps injustice would be done. There was no doubt, however, but the Gouernment would be disposed to favor the occupiers of land, and if there was any danger it would be of going to the opposite extreme. He thought the Government should not sell land which had been acknowledged by the neighbors to belong to certain parties though those lands were not all enclosed by fence. This might not be according to the decision of the Court of law, but if the Goverument received land tax from those parties it would be hardship to disposess them. It would not be adv able to introduce any amendment to meet those cases, as the introduction of any new matter might obstruct the passing of the bill. He was satisfied that no Government would be found in this Province who would attempt to take land from those who held it by mere possession. The tendency of former Governments had been too lenient in that respect. Large amounts of arrears of rent were due to the Government, and instalments from those who had purchased their land from the Government. He thought this matter might be safely intrusted to the good sense and generosity of the Government.

RANDOM READINGS.

A young lady was asked upon her return from church last Sunday, what the text was, to which she unhesitatingly replied, 'Blessed are the dressmakers.'

An Irishman having been told that the price of bread had been lowered exclaimed—'That is the first time I ever rejoiced at the fall of my best friend.'

Irascible gent (to waiter)—'They say there's nothing like leather, don't they?' 'Yes, Sir.' 'Then it's a lie, for this steak is!'

Mark Twain speaking of a new mosquito netting, writes:—'The day is coming when we shall sit under our nets in church and slumber peacefully, while the dishonfitted flies club together and take it out of the minister.'

The following from a Chicago source, may be received with some reserve:—'Last Tuesday, while a St. Louis young woman was putting on a pair of ball slippers she found a missing sealskin jacket in the toe of one of them.'

A merchant, who died suddenly, left in his desk a letter written to one of his correspondents. His sagacious clerk, a son of Erin, seeing it necessary to send the letter, wrote at the bottom, 'Since writing the above I have died.'

A Detroit boy informed a dealer in cocanuts, after examining a fine one and deciing to purchase it, that his opinion was, 'If the fellow who made cocanuts would fix 'em to open on hinges us boys would buy millions of 'em.'

Sister—'Well, you know, Bobby, your eye's very inflamed; you can't go out with Tommy Brown till that speck of dust's ont of it.' Bobby (anxious to be off)—'I'm all right—I know its out now; (earnestly) I—I think I heard it fall!'

Two card-playing friends were passing through a pine forest when one asked the other this audacious conundrum: 'Why can not the proprietor of this forest fell his own timber?' 'Because no one is allowed to cut when it is his own deal.'

Algy (a small boy)—'Oh, so you're going to marry Jack? I wouldn't, not is I know'd it, rather!' Bethrothed one—'Why not, dear?' Algy—'Why, he's an awful bully! He twists me round by the neck and dusts my jacket, and he'll do the same to you. You'll see!'

THE INVALID—A PEN PICTURE.

See her pallid countenance, but a short time ago the picture of ruddy health, the envy of the school and the pride of the household. She was always welcomed by her schoolmates, for her little form and pleasing disposition carried cheerfulness into their ranks. Diligent, punctual and exemplary, obedient and graceful at home, she won the hearts of all. But, alas, we are sorrowed. Those rosy cheeks and ruddy lips are blanched by consumption. The voice once so enchanting in laugh and song is feeble husky and supplanted by a hollow cough. Let us approach her couch gently and take her hand. Do not shudder because of the feeble and passionless grasp. The hand once so hearty and plump is emaciated and shows bony outlines, while the cords and tortuous veins are plainly snapped upon the surface. The pulse that bounded with repletion, and imparting life, beauty, vivacity, health and strength, is delicate to the touch. The feeble heart cannot propel the thin, scanty blood with force. Must we lose her while yet in her teens? Companions and friends gather around with words of cheer and consolation and depart with moistened eyes and quiet steps. Must we lose her? No! there is relief! We can stop this destroyer of our happiness and not suffer the loss of so bright a gem. Something more is required now than dietary and hygienic observance, for nature calls for and she shall have it. Take this pleasant medicine. It is invigorating. How it allays the irritable cough, improves the appetite and digestion, and sends a healthy tingle through the frame. The blood is enriched, nervous force increased, and the heart bounds with a new impulse. See her face brighten by degrees, the colour is returning, her voice is getting clearer, and pleasant words are spoken. The strength falters yet, but is gaining. Let us take her out in the warm sunshine. In a short time she will be able to go without our aid, a cheerful girl. This delightful medicine must be God-blessed. It is restoring health to our loved one. She is emerging from her sickness sweeter and nobler than before, and Dr. Pierces Golden Medical Discovery must have the credit. It has raised her.

S. R. Eglar, druggist, of West Union O., says that Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery has affected a wonderful cure of Consumption in his neighborhood.

A Judge in sentencing a man to death observed:—'Prisoner at the bar, you will soon have to appear before another and perhaps a better Judge.'

Mrs. Cluppins thinks as there's a T wrong in them Sofas. The Ottomans and Sofas are more likely to be mixed up together on the Turkey carpet.

The ruling passion of bull making strong in death or near its neighborhood, was strongly illustrated in another story McGee was fond of telling—that of two Irishmen who were strolling along the docks of Liverpool, penniless, and without any prospect of securing money or employment. Presently they came to a placard:—

Royal Humane Society,
£2 reward for saving a life!
£1 10s for recovering the body!

'Mike,' said Dennis, 'Mike, d'ye see that? I'll fall overboard and you'll jump in and rescue me, and we'll divide the reward, which'll be a pound apiece.' 'Agreed,' said Mike; 'here goes,' and a minute later he was floundering in the water. But no sooner had he fallen in than Dennis to his inexpressible horror, remembered that he did'n't know how to swim, and so instead of springing in and rescuing the drowning man he stood leaning over the rail staring at the bubbles where Mike sunk. Once Mike came up but Dennis gave no sign. Twice he came up but Dennis could neither move nor utter a word. For the fatal third time he came to the surface and faintly exclaimed—'Denny, av ye ain't d—d quick it's only fifteen shillins' aich we'll get for recoverin' the body!'

Prince Edward Island Railway!

CHANGE OF TIME.

ON and after MONDAY, June 5th, trains will run as follows:—

TRAINS GOING WEST.

STATIONS.	Express.	Mixed.
Georgetown	Dep. 7.00 a.m.	
Cardigan	7.26	
Mount Stewart	Arr. 8.50	
	Dep. 9.00	
Royalty Junction	10.20	
Charlottetown	Arr. 10.40	
	Dep. 10.00	Dep. 3.30 p.m.
Royalty Junction	10.20	3.50
North Wiltshire	11.03	4.37
Hunter River	11.16	4.52
Kensington	12.30 p.m.	6.11
Summerside	Arr. 1.00	Arr. 6.45
	Dep. 2.00	
Wellington	2.50	
Port Hill	3.32	
O'Leary	4.54	
Alberton	Arr. 6.00	
	Dep. 6.30	
Tignish	Arr. 7.30	

TRAINS GOING EAST.

STATIONS.	Express.	Mixed.
Tignish	Dep. 6.15 a.m.	
Alberton	7.15	
O'Leary	8.19	
Port Hill	9.40	
Wellington	10.25	
Summerside	Arr. 11.15	
	Dep. 12.00 m	Dep. 7.30 a.m.
Kensington	12.30 p.m.	8.02
Hunter River	1.44	9.20
North Wiltshire	1.57	9.33
Royalty Jun'n	2.40	Ar. 10.20
		Dp. 10.30
Charlottetown	Arr. 3.00	Ar. 10.50
	Dep. 2.20	
Royalty Junction	2.40	
Mount Stewart	Arr. 3.50	
	Dep. 4.00	
Cardigan	5.18	
Georgetown	Arr. 5.45	

Souris Branch.

Going West.			Going East.	
STATIONS.	Mixed.	STATIONS.	Mixed.	
	A. M.		P. M	
Souris	Dep. 6.00	Ch'town	Dep	2.20
Harmony	6.23	Royalty Junc.		2.40
St. Peter's	7.37	M. Stewart	Ar	3.50
M. Stewart	Arr. 850		Dp	4.00
	Dep. 9.00	St. Peter's		5.13
Royalty J'c't	10.20	Harmony		6.25
Ch'town	Arr. 10.40	Souris	Ar.	6.45

C. J. BRYDGES,
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W. McKECHNIE,
Supt. P. I. R.

Charlottetown, June 12, 1876.—6ins

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Fellows' Syrup of Hypophosphites,
The Great Shoshonee's Remedy,
Kennedy's Medical Discovery,
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Dr. Larookah's Pulmonic Syrup,
Peruvian Syrup and Iron Combined,
Whitwell & Clark's Quinine Wine,
Largeson's Calculifuge, for Dropsy, &c.,
Radway's Renovating Sarsaparillian,
Grant's Wild Cherry or Indian Bitters,
Dr. Flint's Quaker Bitters,
Dr. Walker's California Vinegar Bitters,
Constitutional Catarrh Remedy.

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Good Work Triumphant!

NOTWITHSTANDING the Dull Times, the demand for my make of Carriages, Sleighs, Threshing Machines, Fanners, &c., in King's County, has rendered it necessary, in order to supply the rapidly increasing demand, that I should extend my business into that County. I have, therefore, at the request of a large number of my friends and patrons, opened a BRANCH FACTORY AT CARDIGAN BRIDGE, which is conducted by a competent mechanic, who served his time in the "Nonpareil," and has since worked for several years in the United States—a mechanic who knows his business, and has such an interest in the work as to allow nothing but a faithful job to pass. He and several competent workmen will attend to the wants of the public in that County.

The stock used in the construction of the work will be of the best imported, viz:—American Hickory, Oak, Ash, Elm, Bass, Whitewood, etc., etc. The iron will be of the best English refined; and Norway and Swedish iron will be used for the parts requiring extra strength and durability.

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Proprietor.

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