

MONDAY, March 23.

Hon. Col. Secretary presented to the House a communication from the Post Master General of this Island, to His Excellency the Lieut. Governor, regarding the duties of his department, and the inadequacy of the salaries of himself and his Assistant. Referred to Committee on Post Offices.

Hon. Mr. Montgomery, from the committee to whom was referred the petition of Thomas MacNutt and others, shareholders of the Princetown Royal Mechanics' Institute as also the petition of inhabitants of the northern and western portions of this Island, praying for the establishment of a Court House, to examine the same and report thereon, presented to the House the report of the said committee; which report was read again at the Clerk's table, and is as follows:—

Your Committee to whom was referred the Petition of the Shareholders of the Princetown Royal Mechanics' Institute, praying that a Lock-up House may be built or obtained at the above place, the Shareholders of the Institute offering a room in the building for the purpose, provided the Government would contribute the cost of the building offered to be erected, recommended the prayer of the Petition to be acceded to.

Your Committee to whom also was referred the Petition of certain residents of the northern and western portions of the Island, praying for the erection of a Court House, establishment of a Surrogate's Office and Courts of Law at Casumpec, cannot recommend the prayer of the said Petition; but as a means of preventing riots or of punishing disturbers of the peace, they recommend the erection of a small building as a Lock-up House at Casumpec, provided a site be obtained—all which is respectfully submitted.

The report, after some unimportant discussion in the course of which it appeared that one of the committee disagreed to the report, it was laid on the table.

The Hon. Col. Treasurer, from the committee of the whole House, reported according to order, three resolutions of the said committee which resolutions were again read at the Clerk's table, and agreed to, without alteration or amendment, (and which have already been printed in the debates of March 12th).

The House then proceeded to the further consideration of private petitions.

The petition of Thomas Robson, of Sackville, inventor of a fog bell; and the petition of inhabitants of Tignish and others, praying for a grant of money sufficient for the erection of a Light-house at the North Cape, were again severally read, and referred to the Committee on Light-houses, &c.

The petition of Donald McDonald and others, Township 47, praying relief in the matter of the seizure and sale of a quantity of Spirituous Liquors imported by their last season was again read, and referred to a Special Committee. Messrs. McIntosh, Cooper and Clark, were appointed the said committee.

Mr. Clark, from the Special Committee appointed to report on all private Bills, presented the following report, which was again read:—

Your Committee appointed to examine and report upon Private Bills, having under their consideration the Bill introduced for the naturalization of Lawrence Warren, submit—that the Bill is of a private nature; but inasmuch as the fees upon Private Bills have not, in similar cases, been exacted by the House of Assembly, your Committee recommend that the said Bill be exempt from such fees. WILLIAM E. CLARK, EDWARD WHELAN.

On motion of Mr. Clark, the report, after a short discussion, was adopted, and the Bill for the naturalization of Lawrence Warren was read a second time, and committed to a committee of the whole House, Mr. Munro in the chair. After some time spent therein, the House resumed. The Chairman reported the Bill agreed to without amendment. The report was received, and the Bill ordered to be engrossed.

The order limiting the time for the reception of private petitions was suspended, on motion of Hon. Mr. Mooney, who presented a petition of inhabitants of Pisiquid River Settlement and its vicinity, praying aid to repair a road, which was received and read, and the same was referred to the members for the district. Adjourned for one hour. T. KIRWAN, Rep.

AFTERNOON SITTING.

SUPPLY.

House in Committee of Supply, when the appropriation of money for a member of the salaries not fixed by statute, and for other purposes were agreed to.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY GRANT.

On the reading of the appropriation of a grant of £1000 to this Society.

Mr. PERRY said, he thought in voting a sum to the Society last session, they would not require to vote a sum this session. He could not make up his mind to agree to the amount named.

Mr. MACINTOSH fully agreed with what the hon. member said. He moved that the sum granted to the Society be £600, and considered at the same time that he was not going far enough.

Mr. PERRY seconded the motion. Hon. COL. SECRETARY said, it was no use now to cripple the energies of the Society in reference to the model farm. The House last year appropriated a sum to induce the Society to enter upon the farm, and now it would not be productive of the advantage expected from it, unless some stock were imported to be placed on it. This year, an entire horse, some mares, some superior sheep, &c. were required for the farm. The proposed sum would only be £600 for the farm, the remaining £400 being for the other operations of the Society, which indeed asked a much larger sum than the one proposed to be granted.

Hon. T. H. HAVILAND quite agreed with what had fallen from the Hon. Col. Secretary. The Society had been encouraged in taking the farm, and now should be assisted in carrying out their plan. There was no better way to expend the public money than in encouraging such institutions.

Hon. Mr. MONTGOMERY said, they had already granted a large sum for the farm in question, and in order to make it useful, it would be necessary to appropriate a further sum to it. As the farm had been established, it would be better to grant it an additional sum at once for the benefit of farmers generally. There was no doubt, if improved stock were raised on the farm, that it would be much better adapted for the Island than imported stock, and would also be cheaper.

Mr. MACINTOSH said, these things might be all very well to talk about; but he thought it a very heavy tax to draw £1,000, for that farm alone. They had given a very fair amount for the farm last year, and now when it was begun, if they had to grant £1,000 to it every year, how many thousands would it amount to, at the risk of losing the whole? The sum granted to the farm ought to be in some degree proportioned to the benefits derived from it. He was not inclined to oppose the project of the farm altogether, but to be somewhat reasonable. Such schemes might be extolled in words and look very well; but he was certain not much profit was derived from them.

Hon. Mr. LONGWORTH did not think £1000 would be required, he did not think it too much; because great results would ensue. Even with a loss of £500 yearly, the farm might perhaps confer advantages worth £1,000. The sum granted to the Society last year, could not be all employed in the purchase of stock; but if the House granted them the sum proposed, he had no doubt they would import such stock as would be a benefit to all the Counties, and an immense advantage to the country generally.

Mr. PERRY would be favorable to the grant, if it would be a benefit to the country at large. Persons residing at Lot 1 derived no advantage from the Society. He was well aware that if they wanted seeds of any kind, they had to procure them from Charlottetown. Taking into consideration, then, that distant parts of the country derived no advantage from such large grants to the Society, and in view of all the circumstances of the case, he thought the sum of £600 was quite sufficient.

Hon. Mr. WIGHTMAN replied that the Royal Agricultural Society were proposing to establish a depot in a near part of the country where the hon. member resided.

Last year the Society had induced the House to further a new undertaking,—a model farm; but the advantages of it were of them could judge particularly if they crippled the operations of the Society. Were they going to encourage such an undertaking as the one alluded to, they must take the public money and apply it for that purpose; for it was unreasonable to expect that the anticipated advantages would result from the new scheme of the Society, unless the funds which they required were placed at their disposal. For his own part, he thought the scheme in question, would be a very great advantage to the Island. The importation of stock, though at an enormous expense, was of immense advantage to the Colony. People from other countries admired the stock of the Island, and many were now coming yearly from Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, &c. in order to purchase and take the improved stock of the Island to those Provinces. Such could not be the case, unless stock had been imported to the Island; therefore, the House ought not to be so penurious in granting a sum of money to the Royal Agricultural Society for that purpose. Before the model farm could be fairly set in operation, a large sum would be required to be expended; but the House were lavish in granting sums for other purposes, which would not be of much advantage to the Island. Besides, there was now much improved stock in the Colony, some of which the Society could purchase, and by attention to breeding, have a pure breed of animals preserved; so that after the importation now proposed, three or four years might elapse before there would be any occasion to import stock again. He cheerfully gave his encouragement to the Society; for he thought every person in the Colony, derived a benefit from it; and he hoped the hon. member, Mr. Macintosh, would see the advantage derivable from agreeing to the grant proposed.

Mr. MACINTOSH said, he never denied that the Society had done good; but he would ask, who did it? The House were charged with being lavish in other grants; he wished indeed that the model farm might be an advantage to the Colony, but he was afraid it would be a more dangerous speculation to the House than was expected. If the Society proposed buying up stock in the Island, what were they going to do with the sum named. The grant was so very extravagant that he could by no means agree to it.

Mr. COOPER said, when so many gentlemen saw so many advantages to be derived from the Society, he was surprised they did not give something out of their own pockets towards its funds, and not desire that they should be all supplied from the public purse. The farm was a very good one; but it was not a benefit to the country at large. They had already seen the proceedings of the Society, and it was a benefit to only a few parties.

Hon. Mr. LORD said, when the Society commenced operations a few years ago, under the present name, many persons did give out of their own pockets towards its funds. He himself derived no advantage from the Society, yet he had yearly given £5 to it, amounting to £25 in five years, which he did freely, and was now glad that he had given it such a sum; for it was a benefit to the country far and near. He was now a member of the Committee of the Society, and was only surprised that they had asked so little. It was not merely the farm that required to be kept up; seeds and other articles had to be bought, and the Society expected an importation in the spring of such articles as were required. Should they not come, what a disappointment it would be to the Colony? When £400 were subtracted from the sum proposed to be granted, only a small sum was left for the purpose of stocking the farm. Some regarded the scheme as a visionary one, but they must recollect that after the importations necessary to stock the farm were made, three or four years must elapse before the advantages anticipated from the scheme could be experienced. He would have much pleasure in supporting the resolution, and thought the grant proposed would be money well expended. Some might think it advisable that a small farm should be taken; but unless the best breed of animals were placed on it, and the farm well cultivated, it would be a failure. He, however, thought the undertaking in question would turn out to be a profitable one for the farmers of the Colony; and he was sure that a pure breed of animals could be raised in the Island for 50 per cent. less than would be required to bring them across the Atlantic.

Hon. Mr. MOONEY would not be opposed to going so far as voting the amount named, if they might get rid of those incessant grants to the Royal Agricultural Society. After what Hon. Mr. Wightman said of people coming from the other Provinces in order to purchase improved stock, he thought possibly parties might soon be sent from England for a similar purpose. He would grant £1,500 or £2,000, for the sake of getting clear of those incessant votes to the Society, and if then they could not swim, let them sink. He was delighted when he learned that they had adopted a new plan; and he really trusted they would raise stock on it, so that a good breed might be obtained at once, and that such large sum would not require to be granted from year to year for the importation of stock.

Hon. COL. SECRETARY was glad to hear that the hon. member was so liberal. The Royal Agricultural Society had sent in a statement of their accounts with reference to the farm; and they now required a large amount for the purpose of providing fencing materials, &c. The hon. member from Kings' County, Mr. Cooper, must have forgotten that some years ago when the constitution of the Society was remodelled, there were subscriptions to it from that County. Many members of the committee of the Society took a deep interest in its affairs, and spent much of their time in connection with it, and he was convinced, that every person thought the Society was a benefit to the country by encouraging Agriculture. What signified the small sums they had voted to the Society? [The hon. member then briefly detailed some of the benefits conferred by the Society.]

Mr. LAIRD entertained some doubts as to the model farm being so great a benefit as some hon. members expected. He thought the Society was generally more beneficial to the wealthy farmers than to the poor ones; yet it was some benefit to them too. A change had taken place in the mind of some members of the House respecting the Society; and he thought the reason that his friend, Hon. Mr. Mooney, was now more favorable to it than formerly was, that he had become the possessor of an estate. For his own part, having a small farm, he was opposed to so large a grant as was first named, and would support the amendment proposed. If gentlemen farmers thought the model farm would be a profitable speculation, let them borrow a little money from the Bank for the purpose of carrying it on, and not tax poor people in order to keep it up. He would support the grant of a small sum for the importation of some well-bred animals.

Hon. Mr. PALMER had always supported the claims of the Royal Agricultural Society, and thought it one of the best institutions in the Island. He was surprised to hear the reasons given by some hon. members for opposing the grant. It was said that the Society was maintained for the benefit of the few at the expense of the many, or rather that the many did not partake of the advantages of the Society. Such being the views of some hon. members, there was great inconsistency in their reasoning; for the same hon. gentlemen would support other large grants, such as that for education, the tax for which many considered they paid without deriving much benefit in return; yet the Legislature said, education must be provided for, because it was a benefit to the Island in general. The Land Purchase Bill was another scheme which was not a benefit to every individual in the Island; yet hon. members would say, it must be carried out. The principle respecting the Royal Agricultural Society was the same; and that Society he

considered to be very beneficial to the Colony; but if some persons in the extreme part of the Island were not benefited by it, these were extraordinary cases; yet he must say it was their own fault, if they did not derive any advantage from it; for they might have depots established in their own localities. Even should they not have such establishments, yet by coming to Charlottetown, they could purchase from the central depot at greatly reduced rates. Thus, if some parties did not derive any advantages from the Society, it was because they did not know what was for their own good. Dependence could be placed on the Society that the best seed, and most improved implements could be procured at its depot, and many inconveniences would be experienced by farmers, if no such place existed in the Island. He would grant double the amount named in order to give the model farm a fair trial, and if it failed, he would not lament his vote any more than he did that for the establishment of a Seal Fishery in the Island.

Mr. COOPER said, the great advantage derived from the importation of horses had been mentioned; but he believed that the breed of horses which was in the Colony when he arrived in it many years ago, was as good to be used in the Island as any imported since. When horses were required in the neighbouring Colonies, no doubt a good price would be obtained for them, when to be employed in lumbering and railroads. He had been in company with people who were making wearisome journeys from some of the more eastern States of America to California, and the horses which they required for those journeys were procured in Canada. He thought that the horses from that Province would suit the Island well.

Hon. COL. SECRETARY explained, that the Royal Agricultural Society have imported some horses from Canada; but though they suited the Island, yet they did not answer for the market in the other Provinces. The price of the Island breed of horses at the time alluded to by the hon. member was about £25, now a man could not buy a horse fit to be ridden on for less than £40 or £50, and some of the blood horses had brought £70 or £80. Formerly sheep yielded about two pounds of wool yearly, and weighed about eight pounds per quarter, now they frequently yielded fourteen pounds of wool, and weighed from twenty to thirty pounds per quarter. A similar improvement had been made in horned cattle, and the profits of the farmer were greatly increased by having well bred animals, as they required very little extra attention and food. The Society had also imported better implements of husbandry, in fact, they paid particular attention to that department, and whenever they heard of improvements being made, they endeavored to have them introduced into the Island.

Mr. MACINTOSH did not agree with some of the statements just made. He had seen as good horses in the Island before the hon. member was born as ever he saw in it, and had also seen better sheep in King's County long ago than were to be found now; and they had not been imported by the Society, but by enterprising private persons. If the model farm was likely to be a profitable speculation, why was it, since there was money enough to be had, that some individuals did not undertake it, and have the credit and profit themselves? If he had the money at hand and were sure of success, he would undertake it himself.

Mr. CLARK thought the estimate formed by the hon. member who had just resumed his seat, of the improvements effected by the Society, was too low. At the time to which he had alluded there were very few moiden men in the Island, who might import a few animals of an improved breed; but now there was a great demand for them, and dependence was placed on such importations being made. He did not regard the Society as a matter of pounds, shillings and pence; for the object contemplated by it were beneficial to the country at large. The House afforded the means of importing improved stock into the Colony, and should they not also supply the funds for raising well-bred animals in the Island where they might become inured to its climate. He knew that losses had been sustained by the Society in importing stock, which if it had been bred on a farm in the Island, the money might have been saved to the Society. He would cheerfully vote for the £1,000.

Mr. Macintosh's motion was then put and lost; and the grant was agreed to by the Committee.

Hon. Col. Secretary introduced a Bill for the establishment of a Board of Works; read a first time. House adjourned.

Correspondence.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

DEAR SIR,—For some time I have carefully considered the point at issue between Mr. Barker and Mr. Heard. I am willing to award justice to whom justice is due, and was prepared to look the matter full in the face. Having heard the reports in circulation, I considered Mr. Barker was in duty bound to contradict them, as they reflected seriously on his character. He did so. His letter is plain and pointed. He confines himself to the subject in hand, and descends not to low personalities. Mr. Heard's reply appears, "a column and a quarter in length." Had its strength corresponded with its length, he would have made rather a strong case of it; but, sir, what did it all amount to?—nothing. In the plenitude of his wisdom he assumes the task of enlightening the public about this stranger, &c. For the information of those who would insinuate that Mr. Barker is a Jesuit, &c., I would observe that he has been for nineteen years a minister in connection with the Bible Christian Conference—that he has laboured with great acceptance in some of the largest cities of England—that he has honorably filled some of the most important offices in the connexion, and that he was unanimously chosen by Conference as their Deputation to this Island. This, then, is the man who is represented as an embodiment of everything that is bad—and by whom? The people of Charlottetown can answer that question pretty correctly themselves. Mr. Heard speaks of the harmony, &c., existing between Wesleyans and Bible Christians. Now, I must confess it is the first I ever heard of the harmony existing between them. I never saw any of it. The conduct of the former towards the latter has ever evinced itself in haughty intolerance and deadly antagonism. It is very well to talk of harmony now, to serve a certain purpose; but it is a well known fact that they ever regarded the latter as "the contemptible Bryanites."

Mr. Heard accuses Mr. Barker with proselyting, sowing the seeds of discord, &c. I imagine he will find it rather hard to prove that. The conduct of Wesleyanism at Three Rivers and elsewhere ought to lead persons in that communion to speak cautiously on that subject.

For Mr. Heard to talk of the absolute authority of Mr. Barker as a Bible Christian Minister, comes with a very bad grace indeed. If he is under absolute, thank Heaven we are under constitutional, authority. If Wesleyans are under the iron heel of Conference, God be praised we are a free people. Let Mr. Heard read the history of the Wesleyan body for the ten years last past, and methinks, he will be ashamed to speak of the absolutism of any other body after. Let the taunting Wesleyan read of the treatment of Dunn, Everill, Griffiths, Walton, and others, condemned by Conference for daring to speak like men, and then turn to the writings of Lord John Russell, and read "That if the Wesleyan Conference possessed the power that Rome once possessed, she would equal Rome in the spirit of persecution."

Mr. Heard would have the public believe that politics is the foundation on which Bible Christianity rests in Charlottetown. Poor man! he was much in need of something to

write about, surely, when he wrote that. Probably he was dreaming that it was the politico-temperance cause he was writing about, and fancied himself at Winsloe Road again with some of his political friends, professedly to advocate the claims of total abstinence, but really and truly for the purpose of upsetting the Liberals and replacing the Tories in power. No, no! Mr. Heard, we go not underhandedly to work. Wake up, sir, wake up, and I will tell you what we intend to do in Charlottetown. We intend (D.V.) to plant constitutional Bible Christianity alongside despotic Wesleyanism, and constitute Charlottetown the head quarters of our Society in this Island, and make it the permanent residence of a Bible Christian Minister. We entered it, not for political, but for religious purposes.

Mr. Heard's last letter contains a long array of names, and perhaps, some may think that he has fully substantiated his assertions, that Mr. Barker is guilty of "evil speaking, lying and slandering." Stop a moment. And, first, Mr. Heard says, "that Mr. Burnett says that Mr. Woodman said so and so." Perhaps if this was sifted, it might appear somewhat differently. Mr. Scott's evidence amounts to this: that there had been some drinking on board, nothing more. Had I been in Mr. Heard's position, after stating that Mr. Barker wanted to lecture for the purpose of "showing up the disgraceful conduct of Warburton," &c., I would never have inserted the letter of Mr. W. C. Trowan in my reply. This letter completely clears Mr. Barker from Mr. Heard's charge in his would-be reply, and it throws on Mr. H. the odium of "inventing" what he said therein. "A gentleman of Picou" is next called into the witness-box, but he prefers sending his information verbally; and, again, Mr. Heard says, "this gentleman said so and so." Now, what in the name of common sense is this evidence worth? If Mr. H. professes to cite witnesses, let him do it in a manly manner. Why this concealment of the man's name? Let the name be given; for without more proof than his (Heard's) own assertion, the public know too much about him to believe all he says as gospel. The next evidence in the case is Mrs. Narraway. Now to me this lady's evidence appears somewhat singular. Now, mark, Mr. Narraway writes to Mr. Barker, disavowing any knowledge of the matter. But, lo! in a short time, his wife professes to know "a great deal about it." Now is it reasonable to suppose that her husband had received a letter from Mr. Barker making such enquiries, and he had never told her. Is it not more likely that she was fully aware of the matter, and that, in the reply, the husband expressed the minds of both. To me the matter is thus explained—Mr. Heard perceiving the case a desperate one, was driven to the stern necessity of confessing his guilt, or propitiating the favour of this lady. His own letter, prevents the husband from appearing in opposition to Barker; but Heard's position, Wesleyan interests, &c., urgently require something to be done. Mrs. Narraway taxes her memory. Oh, yes! she remembers quite well now—Barker said so. Now, I do not say such was the case, but I ask, what other inference can be drawn from the conduct of these parties? I must confess, that under such circumstances, I feel very dubious about receiving Mrs. Narraway's evidence. I do not think it would be worth much in the Court House.

Mr. Heard's conduct towards Mr. Williams is ungentlemanly, unchristian and mean; and I would simply say, "Physician heal thyself." Surely Mr. Heard must be one of the most self-conceited beings in existence to think that the public will believe "his word" before Boundy's oath. He next taunts us for writing for your journal, sir; but the Protector is so thoroughly imbued with Tory principles, that with the Islander, it denies us a hearing. Mr. H. says he is "instructed to say that Mr. Cross sent no invitation to Mr. B. to call and see him." For Mr. Heard's information, I could name parties who are "quite prepared to prove that Mr. Cross did send an invitation to Mr. B., requesting him to call."

Mr. Editor, allow me in conclusion to thank you for the friendly part you have manifested towards us, as a people, and that we highly approve of the course you have taken in the stormy scenes of the past winter. Continue to maintain the same liberal and commendable course, and you will ever have the cordial support of the truly wise.

I am, sir, yours truly, A BIBLE CHRISTIAN.

May 12, 1857.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR,—A short time since I returned to Charlottetown after a business tour, occupying ten or twelve days, through the south-eastern section of the Island. On the day preceding that of my arrival in town, a friend whom I happened to meet, advised me of a most scandalous rumor, which, he said, had been widely circulated, and was generally believed. On the evening of Saturday, 21 May, I reached Charlottetown, and found, on making some friendly calls, that even my return elicited surprise,—it having been added to the original slander that I had deemed it prudent to leave the Island. After a rigid enquiry, occupying four days, I succeeded in tracing the rumor to its source. It appears that on Thursday the 16th ult., two ladies of this city took a walk to the Protestant Cemetery, and while there, that they saw a person—whom one of them supposed, and informed her companion, was me—in company with a female, unknown to either of them. I called on one of them, the lady who had stated that she saw me at the cemetery, and who still persisted that she believed the person so seen to be me;—but she had neither observed nor reported any thing disreputable concerning me; and added that the young lady whose name had been associated with mine, was not so associated by her—she having failed to recognize the female, who, however, bore no resemblance to, and could not have been mistaken for her who had been reported as my companion. I then called on the other lady. She confirmed her companion's version, as to what was seen; but stated that she now felt satisfied her friend had been mistaken as to the person seen there having been me.

The transaction, then, as really seen, amounted to nothing, whoever may have been the parties; but iteration and reiteration soon magnified it into a crime, such as would shock every sense of decorum either to repeat or listen to; and yet, it was related and listened to, not only by systematic scandal-mongers, but by those who generally stand aloof from such disreputable practices. And when it is considered that every particular was dwelt upon in narration, and conclusively established on the authority of credible witnesses—little wonder was it, indeed, that the few relatives of her who had been so vilely maligned, spurned her from their circle as unworthy of countenance, and cast her forth homeless upon the heartless community, which, to gratify the fiendish passion of detraction, had thus, without a vestige of justice, robbed her of all that any lady values—an untarnished reputation. I cannot close these remarks without adverting to the conduct of two men (?) in this matter. One of them seemed to pride himself in having obtained the most exaggerated version, and on such undoubted authority, as left not a shadow of doubt on the minds of his hearers; but, on my tracing it to him, he had the effrontery to deny, in the face of much evidence from persons of veracity, what he had uttered. The other, while professing friendship for me, urged one of the ladies who saw what gave rise to this calumny, to persist in asserting that I was the party seen by her, even after she had avowed to him her belief that it was another—a fact I can prove by certificate. With the annexed affidavit, I shall conclude this refutation, and remain, Mr. Editor, yours, &c.

JAMES J. RICE.

AFFIDAVIT.

Personally appeared before me, John Treanman, Esquire, one of the Majesty's Justices of the Peace for Queen's County, James J. Rice, Minister, of Charlottetown, who maketh oath and saith: That during his last