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**The Daily Examiner.**

APRIL 29, 1879.

**PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.**

**HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.**

THE EXAMINER'S SUMMARY REPORT.

MONDAY, April 28.

Mr. SHAW rose to propose the Draft Address in answer to the Lieutenant Governor's Speech. Two subjects, he said, presented themselves prominently. First, the unsatisfactory condition of the finances; and secondly, the best remedy for placing them on a sound basis. Since this Island became a part of the Dominion we have a fixed revenue from the general treasury, and in order to supplement this allowance we must have recourse to direct taxation. It is therefore necessary to practice the strictest economy. He thought one Legislative body quite sufficient for the good government of this Province. The Legislative Council cost yearly \$7,000, which, if spent in some other useful way, would be more beneficial to the country. He did not wish to cast any aspersions on the men composing the Council; but he thought a small Province like this did not require all the governmental paraphernalia of one much larger. This is a farming country; the people are an industrious, law-abiding people; they all have an interest in the country and in its good government; and it is their interest to assist the Government in rightfully carrying out all measures that will benefit them without paying for too much legislation. Regarding the financial condition of the Province, he had little to say. The expenditure in every department was certainly enormous, and considerable pruning should be done in the working of the departments. Referring to the Fishery Award, he said the Island had a right to a good share. Here we are situated in the midst of the greatest fishing grounds of the Dominion. The greater quantity of fish are caught around our shores. The Island's counsel on the Commission was the Leader of the late Government; and he estimated our claim at a million and a quarter dollars. This, he thought, was a fair share, and the Government would use every legitimate means to obtain that amount from the Dominion Government, notwithstanding the disheartening reports which many alarmists are circulating. He did not wish to complain of the legislation of the late Government regarding the Roads and Bridges' Act; but there were certainly a great many complaints about it; and he hoped the present legislature would make it most satisfactory to the country. Another matter which required the urgent legislation of the Province was the abolition of the Act relating to Imprisonment for Debt. This Act had disgraced the statute book of the Province for years. Its provisions are shameful and tyrannical; and he thought, with its abolition and the enactment of a Lien Law, which would protect the workmen from being fleeced by the master builder, and the master builder from being fleeced by the owner, the requirements of the people would be well met in that respect. At present we have far too much machinery for running elections. After two or three years experience, it has been found rather expensive, and it is now the duty of the Legislature to pass a measure which will lessen the cost of elections. With reference to the cost of public officials he did not think it would be proper to cut a man's salary down to a starvation price. There were too many officials in the Public Departments; and, he thought, the departmental offices required a good deal of pruning.

Mr. UNDERREY seconded the motion. He said as retrenchment was the order of the day, every unnecessary word uttered was a wilful expenditure of the people's money. He thought we should get a fair share of the Fishery Award, as our shores were surrounded by the most valuable fisheries. The abolition of the Legislative Council would certainly meet the views of the people, and the voice of the country in reference to it has been well heard of late. The Road Act was unsatisfactory; and he was convinced the present legislature would make it satisfactory to the country. The abolition of Imprisonment for Debt; and the adoption of a Lien Law were very much required, and both would be readily endorsed. The Assessment Act was bad, but bad as it was, he thought it did a great deal of good for the people, because it taught them to look and see how and for what purpose the public money was expended. There are many of the Acts of the late Government which require amendment. The School Act is one of these; but the measures passed by them were so interwoven that it would be impossible to attack one without attacking the whole of them. If all the measures promised in the Governor's Speech were brought to maturity the present would undoubtedly be a successful Legislature.

Mr. YEO said the Speech was rather a meagre bill of fare; but if the Government had the ability and will to carry out the measures which it promised, he would not show them any opposition in so doing. He alluded to the paragraph in the address regarding the inconvenient season at which the Legislature had been called. He thought the present Government might have avoided it; as when it was formed it had enough supporters on the floor of the House to carry on the business of the country without an election. The financial paragraph in the Speech was a reflection on the late Government. All he had to say in reference to it was that the finances of the Province were not in a bad state while he sat at the Council Board. The public accounts were very satisfactory up to the time the late Government went out of power, but he could not tell what occurred since the present Government got the reins. He had yet to learn that the Province had a public debt, and therefore could not understand the paragraph. He spoke for some length on the Fishery Award, and hoped that the present Government would add to the efforts of the late Government to secure a fair share of the money. He could not tell what was meant by the fourth paragraph of the Speech. Whether it meant less elections or whether this Assembly was to be a permanent one, or what. But he would wait for an explanation. After a few brief remarks in reference to the bringing down of the Public Accounts and estimates, he said, if the present Government carried out the policy inaugurated by the speech, they were exactly carrying out the policy of the late Government. With respect to the paragraph relating to Civil Service, he did not believe in cutting down salaries to starvation prices, and while trying to secure increased efficiency in the Departments, he would oppose any measure which had such a tendency. He spoke highly of the adoption of a Lien Law and the abolition of Imprisonment for Debt. The amendment of the Road Act was the only new phase in the speech. He could only say about the Assessment Act that, if it could be done without, well and good. Taxation was never popular in this or any other country, and if the Government could adopt any other means of raising a revenue, he would be glad to support them in so doing. He was much surprised that there was not a paragraph in the speech about the bountiful harvest, after all that was said at the recessession by the hon. member from Belfast. It was a grave neglect, and he hoped Mr. Nicholson would rebuke them for it.

Hon. Mr. SULLIVAN said the speech of the hon. gentleman who had just sat down left for him a small duty to perform. There was nothing in it. He did not even inform the House whether or not he was the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. YEO—You did not inform the House that you were Leader of the Government.

Mr. SULLIVAN—It was officially announced by my hon. friend from New London. The Leader of the Opposition is displeased with the Speech. He calls it a meagre bill of fare; but let him compare it with the one brought down by the late Government and he will find that it contains eight measures, whereas the speech by the late Government contained only three. Then he complains of its being short, but he could tell him that this was not a Government of professions, but a government of business. He (Mr. Yeo) also finds fault with the present Government for having an election. He has no reason to do so, as the late Government are wholly to blame in the matter. He (Mr. Y.) could not understand the expression in the Speech in reference to the public accounts. He will understand it when they come down. All he (Mr. S.) said in reference to the public accounts before the election will be proven after the accounts are laid on the table. The Government have been exerting themselves to secure a fair share of the Fishery Award. They are now using every legitimate means to obtain a share; and if they fail it will not be for want of exertion on their part. The Leader of the Opposition criticized the paragraph in the Speech in reference to the elections. He had no doubt that the hon. gentleman would like to see the number of elections diminished! What the Government intend doing is to reduce the cost of elections and also the cost of legislation. He (Mr. Y.) also thought the Government were going to abolish the Assessment Act. He (Mr. S.) would be very glad if it could; but he must remember that we had an Assessment Act before this unpopular one; and, that, owing to the extravagance of the late Government, the present Government will be compelled to levy some little assessment in order to meet the requirements of the country. That the Assessment Act will be repealed is a matter which will be brought to the notice of the Legislature in due time. The Leader of the Opposition also paid particular attention to the paragraph relating to the small-pox, and to the exclusion of a paragraph relating to the bountiful harvest. All that can be said is, that the small-pox went with the late Government; and, if the late Government omitted the paragraph about the harvest, it was not now the duty of the Government to insert one. He (Mr. Y.) was dissatisfied that the Legislature should be called at such an inconvenient season. He (Mr. S.) regretted it very much himself; but the late Government are to blame in the matter. Had the members of that Government acted properly the business of the Province would have been transacted by this time. As it is, the Government have all their bills prepared, and the business will be transacted in as short a space as possible, in order that members may be enabled to return home to their own business.

Mr. FARQUHARSON said he had little to say; but he was prepared to prove what he had to say. He had been twitted with his small majority; but he had this to say—that he represented the property-holders of the district. He represented as much property as any two members of the Government. But the Government has a large following. He should not like to have a family as large and unruly. It is said there are three or four aspirants for the Leadership now. Yet they pretended to be a happy family. Mr. Farquharson then made an attack upon Messrs. Prowse, Campbell, Cameron, McKay, Lefurgy, and Ferguson, upon Confederation and the National Policy. The latter, he said, is going to run the Province. There is a tax upon every bushel of oats imported into the Province, and the trade with the United States will be stopped. The Government, he said, have slept upon their rights in the matter of the Fishery Award. He said he is opposed to the abolition of the Legislative Council. It only costs about thirty cents to each family; and it is a protection to

property-holders. He expressed himself favorably to the abolition of Imprisonment for Debt and a Lien Law. He defended the Assessment Law. It is a poor man's act. It is based upon the right principle, and it was not condemned in the late election.

Mr. CAMERON said he approved very highly of the remarks of the mover and second, and also of Mr. Yeo. But he thought the speech of Mr. Farquharson rather rambling. Mr. Farquharson had attacked him for voting for Confederation; but the fact is he was not in the House when Confederation was carried. The Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Yeo) seems to dispute that this Province is financially in a bad state. For his part, he believed that the late Government could have done without the Assessment Act much more easily than the present. He hoped our share of the Fishery Award would be obtained; and he thought every possible means of retrenchment should be adopted. He would go for a repeal of the Ballot and Registration Act on account of the great expense it involves. He thought the abolition of Imprisonment for Debt loudly called for. He failed to see what benefit a creditor received from having a debtor in jail. The laws, as a whole, require consolidation and amendment. Even the lawyers do not now understand them.

Mr. DEBLOIS thought the introduction of Dominion politics out of order. He said if any blame was to be attached to any person for the lateness of the session, it was to the Hon. Leader of the Opposition. If he had acted as he should have acted—as a Conservative—the Davies Administration would not have been able to hold on to power as long as it did; and, consequently, there would have been no need of holding the election so late in the season. Everyone knows that Confederation had nothing to do with the bad state of our finances; and, if it had, the Conservative Party is not to blame. It was the other party who built the branches and necessitated Confederation, and opened negotiations for it; and it is they, too, who have reaped the advantages of Confederation. It is Mr. Laird and his friends who got the silver spoons of which the member for West River spoke. He believed the Province fully entitled to a share of the Fishery Award; and he, for one, would do his best to obtain it. With reference to the Legislative Council carpet, he knew nothing about it. He did not even know it had been ordered.

Mr. RICHARDS said that though the Opposition were few, yet they represented a large body of the people. For it would be noticed that many supporters of the Government were elected by very slim majorities; and the Opposition is really strong in the country. He impugned the statement that there is a public debt. There is, he believed, no debt. Nevertheless, he hoped the Government would take prompt action in the matter of the Fishery Award, because the disposition of the money would be decided upon by the House of Commons in the course of a few days. He believed in lessening the Legislative machinery of the Province. He did not like the vague way the Government spoke of the Assessment Act. During the late campaign he had not heard one man say that that Act was not based upon a sound principle.

Hon. DONALD FERGUSON rebatted the statement that the Opposition is strong in the country. In five districts the late Government had not dared to put a candidate in the field; and some of the majorities the few returned obtained were not worth boasting much about. He defended the statements of the Governor's speech. The language of the speech is strictly correct respecting the finances of the Province. The Accounts, when laid upon the table, will prove this. It is true the National Policy was raised by Mr. Farquharson; but his colleague, who did not raise that question came out hundreds of votes ahead of him. With reference to the distribution of seats in the Government he thought it fair. Queen's County has two of the members for King's residing in it. After the boasts made about the memorial regarding the Fishery Award, a wonderful document was expected; but, really, when published, it seems as though it was got up in a hurry.

Mr. McMILLAN defended the late Government while he was a member of it. He opposed the abolition of the Ballot Act, and was in favor of the abolition of the Legislative Council. He wanted to know whether the four members who left the Government had anything to do with ordering the carpet?

Mr. GORDON said he had not.

Mr. DEBLOIS said he had not.

Hon. Mr. FERGUSON said: There is no trace of the carpet in the Public Works Department until the 24th of September last.

Hon. Mr. PROWSE said the Government never ordered the carpet while he was a member of it. Neither were the grates and mantles so ordered. Neither was the glass contract made with the consent of the four Conservative members. No bill from Dodd & Rogers had been paid with their knowledge. Some bills of other parties had been paid not only without their knowledge, but in direct opposition to their expressed wishes and in glaring violation of the oath which binds members of the Executive to be true to one another. Yet it was reiterated from one end of the Island to the other that the four Conservative members of the late Government betrayed their colleagues. But four hundred and fifty electors in Murray Harbor had given the lie to that statement; and every one who left the late Government had been returned. As for Confederation, that question was brought in and submitted to the people by Mr. Laird. It was the Conservatives who obtained the Better Terms! It was said that the official members of the late Government were going to take \$1,300 instead of \$1,600 for their services; but it turns out that two, at least, of them demanded and were paid to the time they left office at the rate of \$1,600 a year. The speech of the member for West River reminded him of the viper gnawing at the file. The file was not hurt. He regretted that the Opposition was not stronger, and that those who vilified the Government in the late campaign were not present to receive the castigation they deserved.

The motion passed without division; and Mr. A. J. McDonald took the chair of the Committee.

After some time spent therein, he reported progress and asked leave to sit again. Mr. SPEAKER read to the House a letter

from the President of the Young Men's Christian Association, offering the use of the Reading Room in connection with that Institution to the members of the House during the Session. Also, a letter from the Manager of the Charlottetown Reading Room and Merchants' Exchange, extending the privileges of the Room, free of charge, to the members of the House.

House adjourned.

TUESDAY, April 29, 1879.

House met at 11 o'clock, a. m.  
Hon. Mr. SULLIVAN moved the House into Committee of the Whole on the Draft Address, Mr. A. J. McDonald in the Chair.

Upon the first paragraph being read,—

Mr. YEO said that the ex-Provincial Secretary, last evening, felt disposed to throw the blame of the late period at which the session had been called, upon him, because he remained in the Government after the withdrawal of the four conservatives. But, as an honorable man, he felt bound to remain in that Government so long as they honestly administered the affairs of the Province. Other hon. members who left the Government had insinuated that they had reasons for doing so other than those given, and he contended that it was unfair at the present time to throw out insinuations of this kind.

Mr. DEBLOIS considered that it was the duty of the Conservative wing of the late Government to have withdrawn their support from their Liberal colleagues when the latter, contrary to an expressed understanding, took an active part in Dominion politics, and tried to drag the Conservatives, as a tail, after them.

Hon. Mr. PROWSE was surprised at the hon. Leader of the Opposition again referring to the withdrawal of the Conservative members from the late Government. None of the members who left that Government gave any reasons for doing so at the time.

Hon. Mr. LEFURGEY briefly reviewed the Speech. He did not hold himself accountable for the late period at which the present Session was called. The Hon. Leader of the Opposition was more accountable on this head than he. With regard to the paragraph alluding to the unsatisfactory condition of the finances of the Province, he would be in a better position to deal with it when the Public Accounts were brought down. But he believed that the late Government had drawn heavily on this year's subsidy to pay last year's accounts, and thus a public debt had been created. The Government would put forth every possible exertion to procure for the Island its fair proportion of the Fishery Award. He hoped that the measures to be brought down to reduce the cost of legislation would meet the views of the Opposition. It would be the duty of that party to go with the Government for abolishing the Legislative Council, when the people were asking for such a measure. He believed that property could be sufficiently protected by thirty members in the Lower House. A Civil Service Bill was being prepared, which would save from \$12,000 to \$14,000 by the reduction of offices and the salaries of officials. He was of the opinion that the hard times rendered it necessary for the Government to give the people the privilege of either paying or working on the roads. He was glad that a measure was to be brought forward which would do away with Imprisonment for Debt, while, at the same time, it would protect the creditor. He took his full share of the responsibility attached to him for the Assessment Act, and all other measures passed by the late Government. The Assessment Act had some good features to commend it. But it was too cumbersome, and the cost of collecting taxes under it was too high. The people desired to go back to the old system of levying direct taxes; and a measure much more simple and easily worked would be introduced. About \$35,000 is raised under the Assessment Act; and if half that amount can be saved by cutting down salaries, it will leave only \$15,000 or \$18,000 of a land tax to be raised. But the business of the country cannot be carried on without resort to taxation. He did not find fault with the late Government for the amount expended—though very large—in putting down the small pox at Alberton. Mr. Lefurgy next referred to the hon. member for West River (Mr. Farquharson), who attached great blame to the Conservatives who left the late Government, but he (Mr. L.) believed that they had good and sufficient reasons for leaving. He was always a Conservative, and was he bound to sink his political views for all time to come, and fall into the arms of the Grits? He repelled the insults sought to be cast upon the independent electors of Miscouche by the hon. member for West River, and referred at length to the unfair character of the canvass made against him by the Opposition previous to the late election.

Adjourned at one o'clock for one hour.

**Citizen' Skating Rink.**

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Citizens' Skating Rink Company will be held in the Rink on **Wednesday, 14th May**, at eight o'clock, p. m., for the election of officers and the transaction of other business.

W. C. HOBKIRK, Secretary.  
Ch'town, April 29, 1879.

**CARD.**

W. D. STEWART begs leave to inform the public that he has resumed BUSINESS as an Auctioneer, and will attend to the sale of Merchandise, Lands, Stocks, etc., either within the city or country. Office, cor. of Pownal and Water streets, opposite Rankin House.  
Ch'town, April 29, 1879—2w

**Insolvent Act of 1875, and Amending Acts.**

JAMES O'BRIEN, Plaintiff,  
—and—  
JOHN W. HUGHES, Defendant,  
A WRIT OF ATTACHMENT has issued in this cause.  
ANGUS A. McLEAN,  
Official Assignee.  
Charlottetown, Queen's County,  
P. E. I., 25th April, 1879. } 29 li

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**NOTICE.**

THE annual meeting of the "PHOENIX CRICKET CLUB" will be held on **Thursday Evening next, May 1st**, at 8 o'clock, sharp, in Citizens' Skating Rink. A full attendance is requested, and members would confer a favor by bringing the amount of their subscriptions with them. By order.  
FRED. MITCHELL,  
Sec. Treas.

April 29, 1879—

**TO ARRIVE**

THIS WEEK,  
Per S. S. "Prince Edward,"  
45 CASES,  
EQUAL TO  
90 Boxes Oranges,  
8 Cases (equal to)  
16 Boxes Lemons.

**20 HHD'S.**  
**ENGLISH REFINED SUGAR**

To the Wholesale Trade, only, at lowest prices.

W. E. DAWSON & CO.  
Ch'town, April 28, 1879—6i

**WIRE FENCING.**

50 COILS, MEDIUM SIZE!  
For sale cheap.  
CARVELL BROS.  
April 28, 1879—3in cod

**Coal. Coal.**

ON HAND, and ready for delivery, Round and Nut COAL, fresh from the Mines. Terms cash.  
CAPT. JOHN HUGHES,  
Water Street.  
Charlottetown, April 28, 1879—1m

**Insolvent Act of 1875 and Amending Acts.**

In the matter of James Duncan, John Ferguson Robertson, and Robert Robinson Hodgson; trading under the style, firm and name of James Duncan & Co.

By PUBLIC AUCTION, will be sold  
**ON WEDNESDAY,**  
the 21st day of MAY, at 12 O'CLOCK, noon,  
at Duncan's Wharf, Charlottetown,  
where she now lies,

The Brigantine "L. J. WESTAWAY," built a P. E. Island, in November, 1871, 278 tons register. Length, 125 feet; breadth, 27.2 feet; depth, 12.9. This fine vessel was thoroughly repaired at Pictou in May last, and had a complete new set of Masts, Spars, Sails and Rigging, metalled, and reclassed at Lloyd's, A1 in red, for three years.

At the Public Wharf at Pictou, where she now lies, on FRIDAY, the 23rd day of MAY, at 12 o'clock, noon,

The Brig "PEERESS," built in P. E. Island, in August, 1877, 249 tons register. Length, 104 feet; breadth, 25.8; depth, 12.9. Classed A1 7 years at Lloyd's, has a very good outfit, and loaded with deals under a charter for Liverpool, G. B.

Terms at sale. For further particulars, apply to  
B. WILSON HIGGS,  
Assignee.

Charlottetown, P. E. Island,  
23rd April, 1879.—2aw t sale [24, '79.

**"WESTBOURNE."**

**Desirable West End Residence.**

I WILL SELL AT AUCTION, ON THE PREMISES,

**On Monday, the 5th of May,**  
AT 12 O'CLOCK, NOON,

That Handsome New Dwelling House, situated on West Street, commanding a lovely and extensive view of the harbor and surrounding river scenery, and at present occupied by J. S. CARVELL, Esq. The house contains Fifteen Rooms, besides Kitchen, Scullery, Pantries, Bath Rooms, Closets, and all modern conveniences. It is heated by hot air throughout, and has hot and cold water in the principal bedrooms. There are Verandahs on the south and west sides. A stable fitted for two horses and two cows, Harness Room, Coach House, Ice House and Wood Shed, Water fit for all purposes is to be had from a Well sunk in the cellar and connected with a brick tank. The land measures 125 feet on West Street, and extends back 290 feet to the River (with water privileges) and is tastefully laid out with Walks, Lawn, and Ornamental Trees. This Property is most eligibly situated in a good neighborhood, is in close proximity to Government House and Victoria Park, and is unrivalled in its appointments as a Gentleman's Private residence.

Terms—Twenty-five per cent. cash down, and the balance to be secured on the premises, payable in 4 years with interest at 6 per cent., payable half-yearly.

Immediate possession given.  
For further information apply to  
WILLIAM DODD,  
Auctioneer.