

they may be established, greater power over their own local affairs. Any measure which may be therefore submitted to us on this subject, will receive the fullest consideration.

We fully concur with Your Excellency in opinion that the system under which the public moneys are applied for the construction and repair of Roads, Bridges, and other public works, should undergo a careful revision; and the suggestion which Your Excellency has been pleased to offer, with reference to the establishment of a Board of Works, in order to remedy present defects, will be attentively considered.

We shall daily consider the expediency of re-enacting or continuing the Laws which have given to this Colony such an enviable pre-eminence, by securing to its inhabitants the blessings of a free education. We share with Your Excellency in the knowledge of the fact, that the support of our educational establishment involves a heavy charge upon our Revenue—a charge far heavier than that which falls to other communities, circumstanced as we are with regard to revenue, individual wealth and population; but we firmly believe that considerations, with regard to the pecuniary outlay of such an establishment, should never deter us from applying the public money, under wise and judicious regulations, in order to continue that free system of public instruction which has hitherto given such general satisfaction to the people of this Colony, and the effects of which will not only be apparent in our own time, but in after generations.

We have at all times given special care and attention to the interests of agriculture, because we feel that, in a country where a large portion of the community is employed in agricultural pursuits, such interests imperatively demand the fostering care of the Legislature; and we are quite sensible that the well directed exertions of such institutions as the Royal Agricultural Society have materially tended to promote the prosperity of an agricultural population.

The subject of Steam Communication with the neighbouring Provinces has for many years engaged the attention of the House of Assembly; and so sensible are we of its importance, that we desire to assure Your Excellency of our readiness to assist in making arrangements of a more permanent character than have yet been effected, towards placing that communication on a satisfactory footing.

We beg to thank Your Excellency for the promise of your zealous co-operation in carrying out such measures as may tend to promote the happiness and contentment of the people of this Island; and we humbly pray that an all-wise Providence may so direct our united exertions as to accelerate the advancement of the important interests committed to our charge.

Messrs. McDonald, Cooper, and Hon. Mr. Whelan, were then appointed a Committee to wait upon His Excellency, to know when he would be pleased to receive the Address. House then adjourned. T. KIRWAN, Rep.

TUESDAY, March 3.

House adjourned for want of a quorum.

WEDNESDAY, March 4.

Mr. McDonald, from the Committee appointed to wait upon His Excellency, to know when he would be pleased to receive the Address of the House, in answer to His Excellency's Speech at the opening of the Session, informed the House that they had waited upon His Excellency, and that he had been pleased to say he would receive the Address of the House, this day at 2 o'clock.

PETITIONS PRESENTED.

By Mr. Cooper—from certain inhabitants of the north part of New Harmony, praying aid to a new road; laid on the table.

By Hon. Mr. Wightman—from divers inhabitants of Townships Nos. 59, 61 and 63, praying for a sum of money to repair the wharf, known as "Aitken's Wharf," or to build a new one on or near the site of the present one; laid on the table.

ADDRESS TO HIS EXCELLENCY.

The time having arrived for the House to wait on His Excellency with their Address, in answer to his Speech at the opening of the Legislature, they accordingly waited on His Excellency, in the Legislative Library, and presented their Address, to which he was pleased to make the following reply:—

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

I thank you cordially for your Address, and for the assurance of co-operation which it contains; and I confidently rely on your assistance in my endeavours to promote the interests of the Island.

On motion of the Hon. Col. Treasurer, it was resolved that a Supply be granted to Her Majesty. House adjourned. R. LAIRD, Reporter.

AFTERNOON SITTING.

Hon. Col. Secretary, by command of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, presented the following Messages:—

1. "The Lieutenant Governor transmits, for the information of the House of Assembly, the accompanying copy of a Despatch, of the 28th May, 1856, No. 22, from the Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, in reply to the Joint Address of the Legislative Council, and House of Assembly of last Session, regarding the Memorials of certain Proprietors of Lands. "Government House, P. E. I., 4th March, 1857."

2. "The Lieutenant Governor transmits, for the information of the House of Assembly, the following copies of Despatches from the Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, on the subject of a guaranteed Loan:— "Despatch from Mr. Secretary Labouchere, of the 18th July, 1856, No. 24. "Despatch from Mr. Secretary Labouchere, of the 23rd November, 1856, No. 43. "Government House, P. E. I., 4th March, 1857."

Mr. McDonald moved a Bill to continue and amend the Act to prevent Horses, Swine and Geese, from going at large in Georgetown. Read a first time. House adjourned. T. KIRWAN, Reporter.

THURSDAY, March 5.

Hon. Col. Secretary communicated to the House a Message from His Excellency, the Lieutenant Governor, desiring that the House do adjourn till Thursday next.

PETITION PRESENTED.—By Mr. McDonald, from the Keeper of Georgetown Jail, praying remuneration for certain services performed by him about that building; laid on the table.

ACCOUNTS PRESENTED.—Hon. Col. Treasurer presented to the House the Treasurer's Accounts for the past year, which were laid on the table.

Mr. Clark presented to the House the Impost Accounts for the past year, and the Light Duty Accounts for the same period; laid on the table.

BANK ACCOUNTS.

Hon. Col. Secretary presented to the House the following papers, in pursuance of the Act 18, Vic. cap., which were read and laid on the table.

STATE OF THE BANK OF P. E. ISLAND ON THE 24 DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 1856.

Table with columns: £ s. d. Bills (Bank Notes) in circulation, 8,990 10 0; Profits on hand, 161 4 10; Balances due to other Banks, nil.

Table with columns: £ s. d. Cash deposited, including all sums whatever due from the Bank not bearing interest, its bills in circulation, profits and balances due to other Banks excepted, 21,013 3 10; Cash deposited, bearing interest, 550 0 0; Total amount due from Bank, £30,723 18 8; Rate and amount of the last dividend, and when declared, nil; Amount of reserved profits at the time of declaring the last dividend, nil; Amount of debts due and not paid, and considered doubtful, nil.

RESOURCES OF THE BANK.

Table with columns: £ s. d. Gold, Silver, and other coined Metals, in its Banking House, 17,856 0 0; Real Estate, nil; Bills of other Banks incorporated in this Island, nil; Balances due from other Banks, 250 3 9; Amount of all debts due, including Notes, Bills of Exchange, and all stock and funded debts of every description, except the balances due from other Banks, 12,222 5 5; Total resources of the Bank, £30,328 9 2; Expenses attendant on commencing business, including Bank furniture, stationery, fuel, &c., as far as paid, 395 9 6; £30,723 18 8.

WM. CUNDALL, Cashier Bank P. E. I.

September 3, 1856. Sworn to as a correct and true return, before me, this 3d September, 1856, THEOPH. DESBRISAY, J. P.

STATE OF THE BANK OF P. E. ISLAND ON THE 31 DAY OF MARCH, 1857.

DUE FROM BANK.

Table with columns: £ s. d. Bills in circulation, 38,847 10 0; Net profits on hand, 2,359 10 0; Balances due to other Banks, nil; Cash deposited, including all sums whatever due from the Bank not bearing interest, its bills in circulation, profits and balances due to other Banks excepted, 26,066 13 0; Cash deposited bearing interest, 4,831 4 6; Total amount due from Bank, £72,104 9 7; Rate and amount of the last dividend, and when declared, nil; Amount of reserved profits at the time of declaring last dividend, nil; Amount of debts due and not paid, and considered doubtful, nil.

RESOURCES OF THE BANK.

Table with columns: £ s. d. Gold, Silver, and other coined Metals, in its Banking House, 22,716 5 1; Real Estate, nil; Expense account, 1,220 9 4; Bills of other Banks incorporated in this Island, nil; Balances due from other Banks, including Bills of Exchange sent abroad for collection, 10,342 8 7; Amounts of all debts due, including Notes, Bills of Exchange, and all stock and funded debts of every description, except the balances due from other Banks, 37,816 6 6; Total amount of the resources of the Bank, £72,104 9 7.

WM. CUNDALL, Cashier.

Sworn to as a true account, this 4th day of March, 1857, by the said Wm. Cundall, before me, R. HUTCHINSON, Mayor.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.

Mr. YEO said, with regard to the Public Accounts, as the members of the committee on those accounts were all from the majority, and none of the minority, who ought also to be acquainted with the proceedings of that committee, had been appointed members of it, he moved that Hon. Mr. Longworth be a member of that committee.

Hon. COL. SECRETARY said, he did not know why the hon. member cast such reflections on the majority of the House. The Public Accounts were open both to Mr. Yeo and to Hon. Mr. Longworth, and they might examine them when they thought proper; but he did not think the reasons given by the hon. member for making the motion were very complimentary to the majority of the House.

Hon. Mr. MONTGOMERY suggested, if a motion were made at all, it should be that the number of the members of the committee be increased. If necessary to add one member to the committee, it would be necessary to add two.

Mr. Yeo, having assented to the suggestion made, the motion that two members be added to the committee on Public Accounts, was then put, when the House divided as follows:—

Yeas—Mr. Yeo, Hons. Montgomery, T. H. Haviland and Longworth, Messrs. Heath Haviland, Dingwell, Macintosh and Laird—8.

Nays—Hons. Col. Secretary, Wightman, Whelan, McMoney & Col. Treasurer, Messrs. Clark, Muirhead, Cooper, McDonald and Munro—10.

So the motion was lost.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

Hon. T. H. Haviland introduced a Bill to continue and amend the Princetown and Royalty Church Incorporation Act, and to repeal a certain Act therein mentioned; read a first; second reading on Thursday next.

Hon. Colonial Secretary introduced a Bill for raising moneys to be applied to the purchase of Lands under Act 16 Vic., cap. 18, intitled "An Act for the purchase of lands on behalf of the Government of Prince Edward Island, and to regulate the sale and management thereof, and for other purposes therein mentioned." Bill read a first time; second reading on Thursday next.

PRINTING DEBATES.

Mr. SPEAKER informed the House that more definite arrangements appeared to be required with regard to printing the Debates and Proceedings of the House. One of the printers of Charlottetown, Mr. Ings, had spoken to him on the subject, stating that he had not yet received any matter for publication.

Hon. COL. SECRETARY said, this question had been very fully discussed at the commencement of last session, and many complaints had then been made respecting the printing of the debates and proceedings of the House in separate sheets; but notwithstanding these complaints on the subject, they had resolved to try it another year; just as many complaints had been made as on the previous year. Hon. Members did not seem to care for the debates in that form. At the beginning of the present session, something had been said about reporting; and as two Reporters had applied, it was just a suggestion, but was understood, that both of them should try their hands and whatever matter they prepared, they were to furnish to the printers. Whatever newspaper began a debate, they were to furnish with to the conclusion of it. As to remuneration for services performed, the House would grant what they thought proper at the close of the session. He thought the plan he had now indicated was the only one that could well be adopted; but he thought it had been generally known that such were the arrangements, and that such was the understanding some hon. members had with the Reporters.

Hon. Mr. MONTGOMERY thought the Reporters themselves were at a loss how to act, and that they required some instructions. Perhaps it would be well to let the arrangements go forth to the public, as many might not know what they were.

Hon. Mr. LONGWORTH did not think it necessary that one newspaper should furnish a debate, before any of it was given to another; for a copy could not be furnished to several newspapers. Let any matter that was prepared be furnished to the paper that was to be printed next in the order of time, and whatever was not complete might be copied from the other paper.

Hon. COL. SECRETARY said, it would be no use to publish a part of a debate in a newspaper in which the commencement of it did not appear. Let the arrangements be, that matter should be furnished to whatever newspaper appeared first in order; for example, if the Islander was issued to-morrow, let the matter be furnished to it up to that date, and afterwards to the Examiner up to the time of its publication and so on in regular order.

The views expressed appeared to be generally acquiesced in by the members present, and the discussion dropped. House adjourned till Thursday next. R. LAIRD, Rep.

THURSDAY, March 12.

House adjourned for want of a quorum.

Correspondence.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR.—Having been employed by you to record the statements made at the "great Protestant Meeting," and having given, as I am ready to prove, a correct version of what was said by the Reverend gentlemen there and then, it was with surprise, not unmingled with contempt, that I noticed in the public prints statements calculated to show me in an unenviable light to the public. At first, I was determined to remain silent, and let them go forth uncontradicted, as, for instance, the explanations of the Rev. Mr. Lloyd did not in any degree alter the sense of what he said, and which might have been as he stated; but which, by some unaccountable defect in my hearing, had been misunderstood. When the first number of the Protector and Christian Witness was issued, I had the curiosity to glance at its contents, and after reading some poorly written editorial, I came at last to a wretched piece of composition, penned by the Rev. David Fitzgerald, informing his "country subscribers," and those who had not "attended the great Protestant Meeting," that he "need not inform them the proceedings were incorrectly reported, &c." That specimen of editorial, (excuse the term, Mr. Editor), I was also willing, and in fact had fully determined, to let pass without comment from me, and "go the way of all rubbish." But, behold! sir, the next Examiner that is issued contains an extract of a letter from the Rev. George Sutherland denying that "he said what he did say." Now, sir, I consider it high time to come out in my own defence.

I was willing to let all the Rev. gentlemen see their speeches before they were put in the hands of the composers, and give them every fair opportunity of correcting what I might have misunderstood; for, sir, where declamation is used for argument, it is sometimes impossible for a reporter to follow the speaker in his "ground and lofty tumbling," and record all the nonsense he may utter. I, therefore, submitted a draft of the speeches to all the Revs. I had an opportunity of seeing, and even went so far as to modify, in some instances, the unconditional statements made by them. In particular, the Rev. George Sutherland made the full benefit of altering what he said; and, sir, the very statement or misstatement he denies and attempts to qualify, received at that time his approval, viz:—"It was to the Jesuits, under Archbishop Laud," &c. That he made the statement, as I have recorded it, in the Public Meeting which called forth the brilliant display of his historical acquirements, I will maintain, and could refer to others who were present at the meeting, and who cannot be accused of partiality, to corroborate. It is likely that this statement, like other false ones, would have remained as it is, but that the Rev. Mr. McDonald contradicted it, which incited Mr. Sutherland to examine history, and find that his memory had played him a trick; but, fruitful of expedients, it at once occurred to him that the reporter was a very convenient person to father his blunders upon. The reporter, however, would much rather be excused. I will, however, be charitable enough to suppose that the Rev. gentleman meant to be correct, and who can blame him. But what the Rev. gentleman meant, is indeed quite another thing, and no affair of mine. And, indeed, Mr. Editor, it was quite suffering enough to have to listen to those "foul-mouthed divines," (I will except Messrs. Lloyd and Barker) and record the trashy rhodomontade uttered by them, not to be afterwards subjected to a course of chastisement for their folly.

The task of a reporter is no easy one. He has very often to pick out of words, uttered in a moment of excitement, a meaning, which but for the gesticulations of the speaker, might go for as much in an unknown tongue. He has to follow the speaker in his gyrations of fancy, mixed with highly colored fact. He has to beware of frequent repetitions; and it is certainly hard for him to know what a speaker is driving at when the speaker does not know himself.

Apologising for having trespassed so much on your valuable space, I remain, &c., THOMAS KIRWAN. Charlottetown, March 11, 1857.

[COMMUNICATED.]

"Come on ye scribbling host, the gauntlet 's thrown, Enter the lists and make the field your own."

In our review of "the principles upon which the conduct of the Protector would be regulated," as stated in its last editorial, we will confine ourselves, in our criticism, to a few observations upon those principles, briefly quoting from them, in inverted commas, such parts as apply to our subject, and animadverting upon them as we press about mere secular matters, and defend their dogmatism in the way best suited to their individual tempers." (How excessively condensing.)

"We will allow them to dogmatise about mere secular matters, and defend their dogmatism in the way best suited to their individual tempers." (How excessively condensing.) "at the same time, however, we claim for politics that which we award—to stand clear of religion and religious rights. So long as they remember there is a boundary line between the two domains, we interfere not. Let them cross the line, and we are bound in self-defence to warn our friends. We shake hands and wish them God speed, so long as they respect the interests of a higher kingdom; but once they forget their duty in that respect, and trample on rights that belong to us as subjects of that King, &c., we feel in duty bound to inform them of their trespass, and warn them from the forbidden ground."

Politicians, pause! editors, pause! writers, pause! before you legislate or advocate any Christianity that does not proceed from the pen of these most learned writers; for if you do, you will have hurled at your devoted heads all the combined artillery of these thunder-and-lightning Protectors; you will all be consumed to dust, and out of your ashes will arise a Phoenix, so drilled into obedience by the power of their combined editorial pen—plucked from the greener of geese by these birds of wisdom,—that the weapon you may hereafter wield, will be a hissing and a reproach to even the gosling of the bird from which it is drawn, be he wild or tame.

"That we have no pecuniary views, none who know us will ever think of doubting." Let us look at the advertisement that heads the Protector and Christian Witness (of truth):—"Terms: Twelve shillings in advance, otherwise fifteen shillings will be charged. Advertisements inserted at the usual rates." (But Protestant clergymen never equivocate.)

We will pass over the lachrymal visages they propose to put on for our sakes, as too sickly and sentimental to take even with a girl of ten years old; but when we come to their benevolent offer—"To join you, go to your jails with you, visit your prisoner with you," &c.—we think it the most funny, drull and superficial piece of humbug we ever heard of; be-

cause it is well known that, out of all the denominations of professing Protestant ministers, not one has ever been in the habit of visiting the jail in Charlottetown on a Sunday; and upon that day the prisoners are altogether without any religious instruction whatever. It is true they are visited every Friday, for a short time, by a clergyman, but that is all the spiritual instruction they get.

"Roman Catholics! believe us, we love you— from the inmost depths of our hearts we love you. God knows it. We prove it, for we pray for you. We award you all your rights."

We pause to ask ourselves whether it can be possible that a Protestant minister wrote these sentences; for we have yet to learn what Protestant minister ever used other words than those of vituperation and abuse of all Roman Catholics, denouncing them from the pulpit, and using every means of bringing their religion into ridicule and contempt. But Protestant ministers never lie!

And now, most reverend scribblers, we have a word for you. So long as you confined yourselves to your pulpits, and dealt out your notions of rewards and punishments according to your gifts and to the best of your knowledge, from the place to which you were appointed, we had nothing to say to you. You were performing your several duties. But when you descend from your place of strength, in which you were free from attack, and in so far mistake your abilities and calling as to enter into newspaper controversies, and add lay practice to your clerical duties as teachers of the several forms of worship you profess, you must not be surprised if you receive severe castigation from the pens of abler men than yourselves as public journalists; and you ought not as Christians to shrink from the application of that rod to your own backs which you had, as you thought, prepared for the backs of others.

We are aware that most of you are responsible to no earthly master for your actions; but we do hope the Bishop of Nova Scotia will so order and govern the affairs of the Church over which he so ably presides, as to prevent his clergy, at least, from mixing themselves up with dissenters of every denomination, and assisting them in spreading an unchristian spirit throughout the whole length and breadth of the land.

The Examiner.

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I., MARCH 16, 1857.

A BOARD OF WORKS.

THE speech with which His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor opened the present Session contained some pertinent and well chosen observations on the necessity of establishing a Board of Works, in connection with Municipalities, with the view of more carefully expending the public moneys for various objects of general necessity. We are not aware of any subject which more imperatively demands the serious attention of the Legislature. Of the great importance, and indeed absolute necessity of a Board of Works, we have been long convinced, and the more we think of it now, the more we feel surprised that it was not sooner brought to the public notice. We, as a public journalist, may have been somewhat blame for our remissness in this respect, but we trust we may atone for such apparent neglect by the readiness, and, perhaps, the zeal, with which we shall advocate the measure.

His Excellency has spoken of establishing the Board in connection with Municipalities. Let us hope that this will not be taken to imply, as we are satisfied it was not intended, that without the one there is no need of the other. The Municipality Bill is now before the House: it may sink or swim; but if the former, why should it be suffered to drag after it a measure for the erection of a Board of Works? Let no one imagine that we are indifferent to the fate of the Municipal Bill. We see no reason to change the opinions we so recently expressed on the subject; but we have seen "honourable members" shake their heads, and say, "no hope for this cherished offspring of our Executive Council. The Government have done their duty by introducing the Bill, but if they find there is not a majority to carry it to the present Session, they will not rashly peril their position by attempting to force it any further than a first reading; or, what is, perhaps, worse, carrying it through the Legislature, as they may do, with the fatal optional clause. There is no denying the melancholy fact, that the public mind of Prince Edward Island is not yet schooled up to Municipal Corporations. There is the shadow of taxation which frightens every unthinking man who has heard his neighbour or his acquaintance mention the subject; and, after all, it is nothing but a shadow. The "honourable member" who has received no advice or instruction from his constituents, and who does not care to strike out a bold course for himself, if his doing so might be attended with any loss of popularity—probably thinks that "we may jog on awhile longer well enough, without Municipal Corporations— what need our constituents care so long as they can get enough to eat, drink, and a rag to wear—the great duty of their member is, to take care that they are not over-taxed; and Municipal Corporations, it is feared, may have a tendency to over-tax?" This is the philosophy of much of our Colonial legislation. We are not going to say what value we set upon it.

All public measures, like all public men, have their opponents; and the better the measure, as is frequently the case with the man—the more violent is the opposition. It appears to us that we carry things in this country to extremes. Nor has this one of the effects of our isolated position— not to offend the prejudices of our good readers by whispering a word as to defective civilization. We boast that we have the best educational system in the British Provinces; and so we have;— we have as free a Government as ever existed;— we have as much civil and religious liberty as we can possibly desire;— we have a suffrage unequalled in British America for its universality; and no one is rash enough to say that he is unduly or oppressively taxed. Yet, with all these advantages, it occurs to us, that with respect to many other things which should characterise a free State and a prosperous people, we are only about half a century behind many other parts of the civilized world. We cannot hope, indeed, to arrive at perfection in a day or a year. The smell of the forest which may linger about us, will wear off as we become accustomed to the working of free institutions. What if we have received some of our best gifts with a snap and a growl? This ugly trick will grow into disuse as we grow in intelligence. In 1853 the Government that had the hardihood to give us a free system of education, met with the characteristic reward of being turned out of office. He who would now revile the Administration of 1853 for such a boon, would be the centre of attraction as an unfortunate being caught in the innermost recesses of the "vast wilderness" of Nature. The Charlottetown Incorporation Act was another violent inroad upon our primeval simplicity. Those who now rank amongst the most ardent admirers of our central Municipal Government, three or four years ago po-poohed the thing from their thoughts, unable to express their astonishment and disgust at the proposal of such an institution.

"But all this has nothing to do with the establishment of a Board of Works."