Maritime Farmer.

FREDERICTON, N. B., March 4, 1885.

The Council's Amendments to the Address.

If the Government were able to persuade the members of the Assembly to swallow the address in reply to the Governor's Speech without protest, except from the leader of the Opposition, and Mr. Adams, they found the temper of the Legislative Council quite unsuited to the reception and passage of that remarkable document, until some striking amendments thereto, had been carried.

The Council, in the legitimate exercise of its functions, struck out entirely, the sections in the address referring to the decision of the Canadian Supreme Court on the Dominion License Law, the proposed amendment to the constitution of the Council, the payment of the Eastern Extension claims, and that referring to the bountiful harvest, and modified the section regarding the cost of the representation at the Forestry Exhibition.

The most important of these, to the Government at least, was the amendment to the Eastern Extension claims matter. As is well known, the justness of these claims were continually urged on the Dominion Government, by the late Local Government, and on the eve of the latter's retirement from office, they had the assurance, that the amount of the claims would be paid. Well, Mr. Blair's Government came in, and a few months afterwards, without an effort on Mr. Blair's part, to have the matter in dispute, adjusted, one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, the principal sum, was paid over by the Dominion authorities, to Mr. Blair, and Mr. Blair and his organs at once proceeded to take credit to themselves for their success in securing the payment of this long-standing claim. There could have been no more absurd pretence, and Hon. Mr. Woods did the correct thing, in the Council, in moving his amendment, which places the credit of securing the settlement, just where it belongs, namely to the late Government.

Another matter, over which the Local Government has been congratulating itself, is the decision of the Canadian Supreme Court, on the Liquor License Law, which in the Speech, they heralded abroad as a great victory for Provincial Rights. This again was absurd. That decision while delegating to the local authorities, the control of retail licenses, places the control of wholesale licenses and the regulation of the traffic on steamboats, in the hands of the Federal Parliament, and no honest politician would see in such a decision as that, a triumph for Provincial Rights. As Hon. Mr. Jones, the mover of the amendment, Hon. Mr. Davidson and other gentlemen who supported it, pointed out, there was no contest between the Federal and Local authorities. The rights of each are guaranteed by the Constitution, and if there is an infringement of this, they have their remedy on application to the Courts of the country. In view, however, of the intention of the Dominion Government to appeal from the recent decision of the Supreme Court, to the Privy Council, the Council considered it unwise to concur in the Local Governments premature and uncalled for glorification over the alleged victory for Provincial Rights, and therefore passed Hon. Mr. Jones amendment, which expresses the hope, that steps may be taken to settle the right to legislate on the liquor question solely with the Provincial or Dominion Parliament.

A section of the address expressed gratification that good results had been achieved for the Province, by the display made at the Edinburgh Forestry Exhibition, which the Government asserted, had been carried out at a "moderate cost." Hon. Mr. Davidson took exception to this, inasmuch as the Council had no information beyond the bald assertion of the Government, to convince it that the address in this respect was correct. The words "at a moderate cost," were therefore expunged from the section, on Hon. Mr. Davidson's motion. The amendment to the section relating to the harvest of the past year, was perhaps unimportant in itself, but Hon. Mr. Young felt that he could not consistently go on record, as concurring with the assertion that the harvest had been bountiful, when his own observation assured him that in certain portions of the Northern Counties, there had been a short crop, and in consequence, considerable distress among the people. Hence his amendment. Hon. Mr. Young also amended the section relating to the proposed change in the Council's constitution, providing that when it was thought desirable to attack the existence of that branch of the Legislature, the Council would be willing to appoint a committee to confer in the matter, with a committee of the Assembly. In order to maintain its self respect, no other course was open to the Council.

In its much amended form, the address was finally passed, but its contents must be very unsatisfactory to the Government, who perhaps will be taught the lesson, that indiscriminate assaults on its opponents' past and present policy, will not be permitted by the Council at least, who in this matter, have but reflected public opinion, and once more shown itself a useful branch of the Legislature.

The Organ's attack on Mr. Adams.

Mr. Blair's subsidized organ does not have the temerity to deny, that Chief Superintendent Crocket acted the part of a political demagogue in the meeting of the Northumberland Teachers' Institute, but assails Mr. Adams for his reference to the matter, during the debate on the address in the Assembly, Thursday evening. Now Mr. Adams stated nothing but what he is in a position to prove by more than one gentleman, equal in respectability to the Attorney General, or his partizan Chief Superintendent, and both these officials will hear more on the subject before the session closes. Mr. Blair, however, exhibited more hardihood than his organ, for he put forward the statement, that Mr. Crocket denied that he had made political references in Chatham, or attacked the late Government. Then Mr. Crocket will deny anything and everything. Does not Mr. Crocket remember that so injudicious, and out-of-place were his remarks on that occasion, that the members of the Institute declined to incorporate them in the official record of the proceedings?

Regarding the Organ's unjustifiable attack on Mr. Adams, we may say that its alleged proprietor must have had quite a different opinion of the ex-Surveyor General, a few months ago, when he, the alleged proprietor, sought Mr. Adams' influence to assist in the elevation of his father, to the position of Chief Superintendent. Mr. Adams evidently was then considered an excellent gentleman, but as he declined to write the required letter to a certain church authority in Fredericton, he has gone away down in the estimation of the alleged proprietor, who may possibly remember the very complimentary epithat he, the alleged proprietor, applied to the Attorney General, while seeking Mr. Adams' good offices on behalf of his parent.

Death of Hon. Isaac Burpee.

It is with a sincere feeling of regret, that we record the death of Hon. Isaac Burpee, M. P., for St. John City and County, which occured at New York on Monday. Mr. Burpee had been in poor health for some time, the worry of business and political matters, together with severe family affliction, having completely broken down his naturally strong constitution. It was thought, however, that rest and change would restore his strength, and to secure these, he went to New York a few months ago. Lately, however, reports concerning his health, had not been cheering, and it may be said that the announcement of his death on Monday, was not unexpected.

The deceased gentleman was a native of Sheffield, Sunbury County, and was born November 28, 1825. He was educated at the County Grammar School, and when twenty-three years old, removed to St. John, where soon afterwards, engaged in the hardware business, amassing a handsome competency. He was first elected into the House of Commons for St. John City and County, in the general elections, 1882, was re-elected in 1873, and entered the McKenzie Government as Minister of Customs, holding that position until the resignation of the Government, immediately after the general elections of 1878, in which he was again re-elected. His constituency endorsed him a fourth time in 1882, and he held his seat in the Commons up to the time of his death, although he has not sat in Parliament, since the session of 1883, owing to his declining strength.

Mr. Burpee was a man of excellent parts, a good citizen, a generous friend, and a worthy representative. In St. John and Portland, he scattered his money liberally, aiding all good works. He was loved by his friends, and respected by those who were politically opposed to him. His place in society, and in the political arena in St. John, will be hard to fill. His great strength in his constituency, was due more to personal friendships, than to the influence of the party with which he was associated, and his loss to that party would seem irreparable.

Mr. Burpee's remains have been brought home for interment.

Some Items of Provincial Expenditure.

A glance through the Auditor General's Report on the public accounts of New Brunswick, for 1884, is worth the time, even if only to observe how lavishly Mr. Blair has strewn the public funds among certain of his friends, whose zeal in the service of the Government, is thus explained. The following items are suggestive:—

James H. Crocket	$200 00
James H. Crocket	100 00
James H. Crocket	200 00
James H. Crocket	75 00
James H. Crocket	450 00
James H. Crocket	177 50
James H. Crocket	414 56
James H. Crocket	13 25
James H. Crocket	29 00
James H. Crocket	10 65
James H. Crocket	2 75
James H. Crocket	33 88
James H. Crocket	100 00
James H. Crocket	185 55
James H. Crocket	20 00
James H. Crocket	14 50
James H. Crocket	50 00
James H. Crocket	53 05
Total	$2,135 69

It may be interesting to know that this James H. Crocket is the alleged proprietor of Mr. Blair's subsidized organ, which during the year 1884, secured two thousand one hundred and thirty-five dollars and sixty-nine cents of the public funds of this Province. The zeal of the subsidized organ on Mr. Blair's behalf, will therefore be very readily understood, after an examination of these figures.

Mr. Blair not only subsidized the alleged proprietor, but paid also to the alleged editor, the sum of $625 for writing a hand-book of New Brunswick, which has not yet seen the light of day. Summarizing the amount of public money handed over in 1884 to the concern now popularly known as the subsidized organ, we have the following:—

Paid to the alleged proprietor,	$2,135 69
Paid to the alleged editor....	525 00
Total	$2,660 69

There is another little account that will be read with interest. It shows the advantages that a certain legal firm reap from handling the public funds. As salary for discharging the duties of Attorney General, Mr. Blair received during 1884, the sum of $2,100, and for travelling expenses, $476. Then we find one George F. Gregory, for professional services, has drawn during 1884, the sum of nine hundred and one dollars, a total of three thousand four hundred and seventy-seven dollars paid to Messrs. Gregory & Blair. Adding this amount to the sum of two thousand six hundred and sixty dollars and sixty-nine cents, the cost of the subsidized organ, we have the following summary:—

Paid to subsidized organ,	$2,660 69
Paid to Gregory & Blair.....	3,477 00
Total	$6,137 69

These figures are taken from the accounts, and may be verified by anybody who will take the trouble to procure a copy of the Auditor General's Report.

Hon. John Flewelling's Decease.

Hon. John Flewelling, M. L. C., of Hampton, King's County, was among the members of the Legislature who arrived in this city last Wednesday evening, to be present at the opening ceremonies the following day, but it was decreed that the honorable gentleman should never again take his seat, nor indeed be permitted to mingle again with his fellow men. On the train coming from St. John, he was attacked with a mild form of apoplexy, and although some hopes were entertained for his recovery, he gradually sank, and on Monday night about 11 o'clock died at, the Royal Hotel.

The deceased gentleman was first elected to the Assembly from King's Co. in 1866, and sat in that body until 1870, and again from 1874 to 1878, when he was appointed to the Legislative Council, being a member of that branch until his death. He was a man of sterling character, and was universally esteemed by those with whom he associated. In both branches of the Legislature yesterday, when his death was announced, fitting tributes were paid to his memory, and an adjournment made to attend his funeral, which took place yesterday afternoon, the members of the Legislature, walking in procession to the Railway Station, whence the remains of the deceased were conveyed to Hampton, for interment. The Legislative Council passed a resolution, expressing its appreciation of Mr. Flewelling, tendering the sympathy of its members with the friends of the deceased gentleman, and adjourned yesterday forenoon, until to-day, as a mark of respect to his memory.

The Attorney General was in a great hurry to rush the address through the Assembly, Thursday, and would not hear to a suggestion for adjournment until there should be a fuller House. For that purpose an evening session was held on Thursday, and the address passed before the House rose. Friday and Saturday the Assembly did not sit two hours in all. There would have been abundance of time to have considered the address on those days, but Mr. Blair wanted to make a show of promptness altogether unnecessary under the circumstances, and utterly refused to entertain the request for postponement.

OUR OTTAWA LETTER.

The Government interviewed by the Licensed Victuallers. Scott Act supporters, and other varieties of people.—The Cowhiding case Senatorial Senility—The proposed Treaty with Spain—Sir Richard snubbed.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Just as I was closing my last letter, a very interesting scene was taking place in the Opera House here, being a conference between the Premier and a most imposing array of what are euphoniously termed "Licensed Victuallers." Owing to the surprising rapidity with which the Scott Act is being accepted by the Counties of Ontario and other Provinces, the trade in liquors, which not only cheer but unhappily inebriate also is being rapidly brought face to face with the very serious problem of its own existence, and not only is the direct trade in intoxicants threatened by the temperance resolution, but many other lines of business which are closely allied with it, and to a large extent depend upon it for their profit and success. The "Licensed Victuallers" consequently, were not alone in coming before the authorities, but had the support of a number of the managers of banks and loan societies, who claimed that the Scott Act was hurting their business; coopers, who deplored the falling off in the demand for casks; cigar manufacturers who had to tell of a waning appreciation for their odoriferous commodities, and brewers, who were learning to sympathize with the distillers in their griefs. With one voice did these allied forces

PROTEST AGAINST THE PROPRIETY OF SUMPTUARY LEGISLATION

and demand that if Parliament, after having legalized their business for generations, was now going to allow it to be swept away, it should in all justice make some compensation to the sufferers.

The Premier listened very patiently and attentively while the case was being most effectually stated by Mr. Fullerton, and then made reply in that candid, courteous but exceedingly non-committal way, which he so perfectly understands. Admitting the great importance of the representations which had been made, he disclaimed all ability on the part of the Government to deal with it, independent of Parliament. It was a matter for legislation altogether, he said, and not a matter of executive administration for the government to deal with, as a government, and he assured them that it would receive the fullest consideration from Parliament. While carefully refraining from committing the Government, however, he uttered no uncertain sound as to his own individual views: "As to the question of compensation—If total prohibition were introduced I certainly, as one, should vote for compensation," and it would be difficult to see how the soundness of such a position can be assailed. The liquor traffic having been legalized, surely has a claim for compensation in event of its abolition, just as the slave traffic bad. But I shall not pursue so difficult a subject farther.

Since in deference to a growing temperance sentiment the bar, which used to be maintained during the session of the House of Commons was discontinued, the precincts of the Legislative Halls have not been disgraced by so scandalous a proceeding as occurred one afternoon last week, when a member from Quebec, committed a most

VIOLENT ASSAULT UPON A JOURNALIST

from the same Province, just in front of the door leading from the lobby to the Speaker's apartments. Whatever may have been the cause of provocation, the method of revenge chosen by the aggrieved member, admits of no defence, and could not fail to cast discredit not only upon himself, but upon Parliament itself. The assault had evidently been carefully planned, and not the slightest pretence of concealment was made, so that there were not many to sympathize with the legislator who saw fit to take the law into his own hands, when the following morning the Stipendary Magistrate made both him and his accomplice pay heavy fines for their little amusement.

Those members from New Brunswick, who are supposed to have influence with the Government, have been kept pretty busy of late, attending to the interests of the various gentleman who aspired to the positions of Senator and Judge, lately made vacant. All sorts of rumors were in circulation as to which of the many applicants would be successful, but it is now definitely settled, that the Senatorship goes to Mr. Pascal Porier, Postmaster of the House of Commons, who claims to represent the Acadian French element, and the Judgeship to Mr. Tuck, who no doubt will make a very good Judge.

The Hon. Wilfred Laurier, leader of the French division of the Opposition, is such a charming gentleman, such a fascinating specimen of the true *noblesse*, that one cannot help thinking that there must be

SOME MISTAKE IN HIS BEING AMONG THE GRITS,

and this idea is strengthened whenever he assumes the role of assailant, because even then, his manner is courteous, and his method so fair, that really it is hard to understand how he ever came to enrol himself under Mr. Blake's banner. However, there he is, regretable as the fact may be, and being there it is of course his duty from time to time to make attacks upon the Government of the day. On Monday afternoon last, the ground of his assault was the action of the Government in reference to their Short Line Railway Policy, and although his motion was unexceptionable in itself, he accompanied it with a good deal that required reply at the hands of the Premier and Sir Hector Langevin. Mr. Laurier wanted the section of the route for the Short Line to be subject to the approval of Parliament but in the absence of the reports and other papers required for a full understanding of the subject, and which will not be ready for some time yet, no definite action could be taken and the motion had to be voted down. One feature of the debate which took place, is worth noting, viz, that Mr. Charles Langelier, a fresh recruit to the Opposition ranks, and a man of some local celebrity in Quebec, proved

A DISMAL FAILURE AS A SPEAKER,

much to the surprise of friend and opponent alike.

By way of an antidote to any malign effect created by the imposing attack, the "licensed victuallers" made upon the Premier a day or two ago, a large delegation of members of Parliament and Senators, in obedience, no doubt, to hints from home, invaded Sir John last Monday, the purpose of their visit being to ask for the acceptance of certain amendments to the Scott Act, designed to render that famous measure more efficiently operative. Prof. Foster was naturally enough appointed spokesman, and of course put the case as well as it could be put. Sir John promised that the proposed amendments should have his careful consideration, and that the Government would not fail to do whatever might be legally right and proper, in the direction of making the Scott Act as beneficial as it was designed to be. The two great parties have thus each made their move, and the matter now rests with the Government. Some alterations in the existing laws will, no doubt, be made, but it is doubtful if anybody yet knows just what they will be, and the country can afford to wait with patience, considering the present temper of the House.

The Senate is occupying a wonderful amount of public attention just now, owing to the vagaries of the Hon. Mr. Alexander, of whom the best that can be said in charity is, that

AGE, ILLNESS, AND CHAGRIN HAVE RENDERED HIM IRRESPONSIBLE.

The Minister of Justice, the Minister of the Interior, and the Hon. Mr. Allan have twice within the past fortnight, been made the subjects of most undignified, violent and indefensible attacks in connection with something which occurred a quarter of a century ago. It matters little to Mr. Alexander, that his charges have even proven entirely baseless, and his real motive in making them, clearly exposed. He returns to them again, and again, being egged on by the sham sympathy and hollow support of a clique of persons who use him as their catspaw. The fact of Mr. Alexander pretending to be a Conservative, lends some fictitious weight to his wild utterances, and the Grit organs seize upon everything he says, with as much avidity as if it were really worthy of attention. They will drop him quickly enough the moment the game has been played out, and then perhaps the poor old man will realize what a fool he has made of himself.

The proceedings in the Commons on Tuesday afternoon, were pleasantly enlivened, for everybody else but Sir Richard Cartwright, by that worthy Knight so far forgetting himself in his eagerness to have a

SLAP AT THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE,

as to call down upon himself a pretty sharp reproof from the Chair, and a still more cutting and effective reprimand from the Premier. It came about in this way. The bill providing for a census of the North-West territories, was under discussion, and the ex-deficit-maker had a good deal to say about it, and a good many amendments to move, and in the course of his argument, got so excited as to commit himself to the statement, that the last census of the Dominion had been deliberately and fraudulently falsified for certain purposes. Mr. Pope immediately called him to order. Sir Richard then tried to back down, and repeated his offensive statement in a much milder form, but the Speaker was not to be fooled by this transparent device, and accordingly ruled him out of order. The same afternoon, a matter of considerable importance to Canada, and especially to the Maritime Provinces, was brought forward for debate, through a motion of Mr. Vail's, asking for correspondence in reference to the treaty between Spain and the United States, which has been so much talked about of late. In supporting his motion, Mr. Vail took occasion to censure the Government for what he was pleased to consider their dilatoriness in not having done anything towards serving the interest of the Dominion, by having a corresponding treaty arranged with Spain, through the medium of the Imperial authorities. This complaint, however, was immediately shown to be groundless, by Sir Leonard Tilley, who explained that the Dominion Government had long ago, taken steps through the High Commissioner

TO HAVE AN ADVANTAGEOUS TREATY ARRANGED

with Spain through the medium of the foreign office, and that Spain had refused to enter into any negotiations, until the answer of the United States was known, as to the treaty Spain was seeking to conclude with them. The Dominion Government consequently could only bide their time patiently. The Premier also supplemented these remarks, by assuring the House that if there was one thing as to which constant vigilance had been exercised by the Canadian Government, and its representative in England, it had been with regard to the negotiations with Spain, and that there would be continual watchfulness and pressure upon the Spanish Government, until an advantageous arrangement was secured. The country may therefore rest assured, that whatever is the best possible thing to be done, the present Government will not fail to do in this important matter.

G. M. A.

Ottawa, Feb. 27th, 1885.

THE LEGISLATIVE OPENING.

The Governor's Speech and the debate on the Address in reply thereto.

Government Policy criticized by Wetmore and Adams.

Points of Interest.

A very large gathering of people attended the opening ceremonies of the Local Legislature last Thursday afternoon. Long before the hour for opening had arrived, the Legislative Council Chamber was packed with spectators, the majority of whom were ladies, and outside the Parliament Buildings there was as large a crowd of people as could be accommodated within the square and its approaches. Shortly before 3 o'clock, the guard of honor, consisting of the full strength of the Infantry School Corps, in command of Major Gordon, with Lieuts. Young and Hemming as subalterns, and headed by the band, marched down Queen Street, and a few minutes later received His Honor the Lieutenant Governor with a general salute, the band playing "God Save the Queen." The guard looked exceedingly well, marched well, and the playing of the band was very creditable indeed.

Promptly at 3 o'clock, His Honor entered the Council Chamber accompanied by his Private Secretary, Mr. Henry Wilmot, Capt. Street, A. D. C., Sheriff Sterling, Coroner G. E. Coulthard, and a brilliant military Staff, consisting of Lieut. Col. Maunsell, D. A. G., with Capt. Campbell of the Kings Co., Hussars. and Lieut. Bremner, acting A. D. C.'s, Major Gordon, Lieut. Young, Lieut. Hemming, Surgeon Major Brown and the attached officers of the Infantry School Corps, Lieuts. Russell, Boone, Coleman, Raymond, Kirkpatrick, Reed, Shaw and McRae.

The Chief Justice and Judge Fraser occupied positions on the right of the Governor who being seated and the assembly members summoned, opened the session with the following speech:—

Mr. President and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

I have very much pleasure in again meeting you in Parliament assembled. In summoning you to the discharge of your public duties, I do so in the fullest confidence that they will be faithfully and efficiently performed.

The visit of His Excellency the Governor General and his amiable consort to this Province last autumn, though I regret to say necessarily brief, was recognized by our people as evidence of the interest taken by Her Majesty's representatives in the several Provinces of Canada. I am sure that all who had the opportunity of meeting His Excellency were impressed with his many excellent personal qualities, as well as his eminent fitness for the high position he occupies.

The wide-spread depression in all branches of business, which is was my unpleasant duty to remark upon when I last convened you, has not passed away. A bountiful harvest rewarding the labor of the husbandman, has done much to diminish the ill effects always consequent upon commercial depresion, but I can as yet see no trustworthy signs of an early revival of trade, as respects our greatest staple article of export. This important industry still languishes, and, as a consequence, an effect has been produced during the past year to a greater extent than was anticipated, upon the revenue of the Province arising from its timber lands.

I have much satisfaction in congratulating you upon the creditable display made by this Province at the International Forestry Exhibition, Edinburgh. My Government deemed it advisable to act in this matter in concert with the New Brunswick Land and Lumber Company, and when the report of the joint representative of the Government and company is laid before you, it will be seen that the results, which I trust may be lasting benefit to the Province, have been achieved at a moderate cost.

Another exhibition, at which all the colonies and dependencies of the empire are invited to participate, will be held in London in 1886, under the presidency of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. I shall invoke your aid to this important undertaken, and hope our people will make timely preparation, so that New Brunswick may be fittingly represented.

The recent changes in the Common School system give promise of very gratifying results, and all parts of the Province are taking advantage of the facilities afforded by the legislation of last session in aid of the secondary education. I shall ask you to consider whether the system might not be rendered still more complete and sufficient by the adoption within certain limits and under proper conditions of the principle of compulsory attendance at the public school.

The decision of the Supreme Court of Canada, pronouncing the License Act of 1883, passed by the Dominion Parliament, to be, in the main, unconstitutional, as infringing upon the powers of the local legislatures, has given satisfaction to all who value and would maintain the legislative rights of the province unimpaired. The action of my Government in making the common cause with the sister provinces in this contest has been thus more than justified, and I sincerely trust that the judgement now pronounced will be accepted as determining this regrettable conflict. Pending the decision of the Dominion Government on the question of appeal, I do not deem it advisable to propose any other legislation to you at this time than to renew the very useful act passed by the last session

A bill will be introduced to change the constitution of the Legislative Council. I invite your careful consideration to its provisions, as I believe they will be found to furnish the best solution practicable to a controversy of long standing.

I am happy to say the principal sum of the Eastern Extension claim, the payment of which has been so long and so unaccountably deferred, has at last been adjusted. My Government has pressed for payment of the interest due on this sum, but as yet without effect.

A measure will be submitted to you to amend the Election Act in several important particulars, and to widen the elective franchise.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

I have directed the accounts of the income and expenditure for the past year, as well as a statement of the receipts and payments of the current year, up to the opening of the present session, to be laid before you.

Estimates of the probable income and expenditure for the current year, will also be submitted to you; and I think you will find that the estimates of expenditure have been prepared with a due regard to economy and the requirements of the public service.

During the year much activity has prevailed in the work of railway construction in this province. Some of the companies whose lines are embraced in the Subsidy Act of 1882, but are now within the mileage limit stated in the act, have been stimulated by aid from the Dominion Parliament, and have applied for a subsidy from this province. In submitting any proposals to you of this character, I shall ask you to join the other branch of the Legislature in considering whether the public interests involved in the building of new lines of railway by provincial aid, should not be more efficiently guarded than is practicable under existing legislation.

Mr. President and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

Bills—to authorize the incorporation of Joint Stock Companies by Letters Patent; for the future and better protection of the Legislative rights of the Province under the British North America Act; for the prevention of Forest Fires; to provide for the stenographic reporting in the Supreme and Equity Courts; to amend the practice and procedure in the Court of Equity, and other measures will be laid before you, to each of which I invite your attention consideration.

Relying with confidence upon your zeal in the public service, I leave you to the discharge of your important and arduous duties.

On the return of the members of the Assembly to their places, that body was called to order by Speaker Lynott, and the writs and returns of the Victoria and Sunbury elections, which were held during the recess were read by the Clerk. Messrs. Baird and Glazier were then introduced by Hon. Messrs. Blair and McLellan, and sworn in by the Chief Justice.

Mr. Stockton moved the Address in reply to the Governor's speech, seconded by Mr. Hibbard. The former gentleman spoke with moderation, and was complimented by members of both parties on closing. The seconder's remarks were very brief.

Mr. Wetmore congratulated the mover of the speech on his eloquent address. He humorously referred to the rumor that the Solicitor-General was to accept an office in St. John, and that Mr. Stockton was to be promoted. He thought it a peculiar thing that the first intimation the members had of the contents of the address of his honor was from one of the St. John papers. The change in the fiscal year was not beneficial, thus postponing the meeting of the Legislature and necessitating the rushing through of business. He deplored such hasty legislation. The house should be congratulated that the juggernaut wheel of reform had not gone over the Solicitor-General, the Legislative Council and Executive as proposed by the late Opposition. Instead of the Legislative Council, that asylum for decayed politicians, being abolished, he had to congratulate his friend from York (Mr. Thompson) on his prospective elevation to that body. He did not believe that the Government's habit of locking up large tracts of land promised well for the lumber interests of the province. He agreed with the previous speaker as to the great agricultural resources of the country. He attacked the Government for not issuing information with respect to immigration. He did not think that the legislation of last session as to secondary education gave promise of gratifying results, were approved of by the country. What was the use of economy when it did not assist the people? They had no more money for their roads and bridges. The salaries of the teachers were small enough already, and the reduction made by the Government in many cases had to be made up by the districts. The tendency was to depreciate the standard of the teaching profession. There was no call for compulsory education in the province. Whatever it might do for older countries, such a system would produce grievous hardship and inconvenience in this province. It was rumored that the Government intended to make scapegoats of the cities of Fredericton and St. John to test this measure. As to the Dominion License Act he was of the same opinion as last year in believing that that measure was perfectly constitutional, although he bowed to the decision of the Supreme Court of Canada. If it was correct procedure to appeal to the Privy Council in the Hodge case why should the decision of the Supreme Court be final? Mr. Wetmore said the thanks of the country were due to the late and not to the present Government for securring a settlement of the railway claims. The Government had expressly stated in demanding that the debenture debt should be funded that there was little prospect of getting the claim for the Eastern Extension.

Mr. Blair said no supporter of the Government would corroborate that statement.

Mr. Wetmore—Oh! they will say anything you tell them to. He wished to know in what particular the franchise was to be extended. The measure was one of the highest importance. A bill for protection from forest fires was desirable. He warmly congratulated the Government for their measure to introduce stenographic reporting and thought it would lighten the cost of litigation and the costs of the courts to the Government. The saving of jury fees, he believed, would pay the reporters. After the system came regularly in vogue it would be a complete success. Aside from the expense, he thought the Government were justified in having the minutes taken down correctly. Cases of incorrect taking down of evidence occurred almost daily in the Supreme Court. Every member of the bar would be pleased to know that the bill was to be introduced. Mr. Wetmore, accused the Government of vaccilation on the Stock Farm question and recited the circumstances connected with the proposed removal. Like the prophet of old the papers of St. John had gathered around the Government crying, what meaneth the bleating of the sheep and the lowing of the oxen in mine ear? As to the delegation of hon. gentlemen to Ottawa, he thought they had selected a very bad time for the visit.

The House then took recess till 7.30 o'clock.

At the evening session, Mr. Wetmore continuing, attacked Mr. McManus, whom he said had turned Turk on the late Government, who had dismissed Sheriff Vail at his request. He charged the Government with acting on the spoils principle, instancing the displacement of the Clerks of the Peace and County Court in York, and Mr. Black and of Mr. Balloch, Clerk of the Peace, in Madawaska, who he said had not opposed the Government. He spoke in warm praise of the Governor General, heartily endorsing Mr. Stockton's observations. Concluding, he said he hoped that the deliberations of the House would be carried on in a kindly spirit, and produce a beneficent effect upon the Province.

The Attorney General replied to Mr. Wetmore, and Mr. McAdam spoke briefly.

Mr. Adams who followed, said it was the duty of the Gpposition to expose the sins of the Government, who he charged were not honest in their policy in reference to the Legislative Council and had deceived the House and the country. He objected to the policy of rushing through the business. The Opposition intended to deal out the same treatment to the Government as the Government when on the other side of the House, had dealt out to the administration. He spoke of the resolutions moved by the Attorney General when in opposition as the platform of his party and charged him with violating nearly every one of them, with rolling up the public debt and with failing to introduce the reforms which he claimed were necessary. He charged the Chief Superintendent with attacking the late Government at a meeting in Chatham.

Mr. Blair—Did you hear him.

Mr. Adams—No! but Mr. Inspector Cox, whom you dismissed, did.

Mr. Ritchie—He was not dismissed.

Mr. Adams—You forced him out.

Mr. Blair—State what Mr. Crocket said.

Mr. Adams—I shall not now now, but he arraigned the policy of the late Government.

Mr. Adams then spoke of the timber regulations, which he said placed the lands of the country in the hands of a few individuals. He thought the license question should be appealed to the Privy Council. He said that the Government had nothing to do with getting the Eastern extension claims settled. In the matter of settling the country, the best course was to try and keep the people at home. He concluded by a compliment to the mover of the address.

Mr. Blair in a half hearted way, defended the Superintendent of Fredericton from Mr. Adams' attack, and the address passed the same evening, without further discussion.

LEGISLATIVE NOTES.

The Provincial Secretary on Saturday submitted the estimates of expenditure for 1885, controlled by the House as follows:—

Administration of Justice—	
Equity Chambers, St. John.....	$150
Revote balance grant, 1884.....	75
Judges' Chambers and Law Library, St. John..	300
Revote balance grnt, 1884.....	150
Agricultural—	
Stock Farm.....	7,000
Blind Asylum, Halafax.....	720
Contingences—	
Legislation and Public Departments	14,500
Deaf and Dumb Institutions.....	2,000
Education—	
School Houses, poor districts.....	1,500
Protection of Fisheries, exhibition and immigration.....	3,750
Free Grants Act.....	5,000
Interest on temporary loans.....	3,000
Legislature—	
Librarian, $500; insurance on Library, $60; purchase of books, $1,000.....	1,560
Officers and messengers of Legislature.....	3,020
Lunatic Asylum.....	40,000
Natural History Society.....	250
Public Hospital.....	2,000
Public Printing, ordinary.....	11,000
Reprinting Consolidated Statutes...	2,500
Hand-book of Province.....	1,500
Public Works—	
General roads and bridges.....	95,000
Steam navigation	5,300
Buildings.....	13,000
Balance due Board of Works on 31st December, 1884.....	4,536
Miscellaneous expenses of Departments	2,850
Bye Roads.....	70,000
Rifle Association.....	300
Surveys and Railway Inspection	2,500
Refunds Crown Lands.....	300
Unforseen Expenses.....	3,000
Total	$290,461

Mr. Wetmore has introduced a Lien Bill.

The Assembly adjourned yesterday afternoon till to-morrow, many of the members desiring to attend the Hon. Mr. Burpee's funeral.

Our special artist commences in this issue, a series of pen pictures of prominent members of the Legislature, starting with the Attorney General.

IN THE ASSEMBLY.

Pen Portraits of Prominent Politicians.

(By our special artist.)

In looking over a representative body like the Assembly, one can always find food for serious thought, and there is much to excite wonder, curiosity, and sometimes admiration. It is a serious responsibility, and thoughtful men must feel it, to know that the Government of our Province for the time, is in the hands of a majority, who think the sum of their duties is confined in one idea, viz., "To support the Government." This do, and thou shalt live politically. Be flunkeys! sycophants!! flatterers!!! nauseate the leader if you will, with fulsome adulation, and you are sure of the crumbs. When an office of emolument is vacant, the slimiest lickplate is the one to get the position, and thus we are coming to a time, when our whole body of public servants, will be the outcome of such demoralization, and it must tell on the future *morale* of officials.

Independence is getting rare. It was amusing on a recent occasion when the juvenile member from Charlotte arose and condemned a certain expenditure, but at the same time asserted, "I must vote for it, I am in favor of Blair's Government." The poor political dwarf could not see that he was like Dogberry, saying "write me down an ass."

In scanning the House, one cannot help being struck with the appearance of the Leader of the Government. Of fine physique, stately tread, and commanding appearance, his frosty curls seem rather premature for a man of his years. There is a sort of supercilious curl of the lip, and a general bull-dog expression of countenance, which distracts from what otherwise is a fine specimen of nature's handiwork. Mr. Blair's methods are peculiar in some respects. Admittedly a good speaker, having an abundant flow of language, his power as a parliamentary debater is undisputed, and were he a little more genial, or less bitter towards an opponent, he would be more popular. But despite his softening manner, and apparent desire to treat the other side fairly, he shows an utter lack of courtesy, frequently refusing the most reasonable requests. He forces his measures relentlessly through the House, and has even stated that there is no such thing as "political courtesy," a strange assertion from a parliamentary leader. He is autocratic and unyielding, and judging by his course, perfectly indifferent as to the opinions of friend or foe. It is an open secret, that members of his Council chafe under his rule, and it argues little for their manhood to permit themselves to be ignored, as is too frequently the case when Mr. Blair wills it.

His intellectual superiority over his colleagues at the Council Board, added to his Cromwellian disposition, makes it an easy matter to shape the policy of the Government; and judging by past history, it is safe to predict a short political career for such a leader in these days of Constitutional Government. He might flourish in Russia, or in the Soudan, but surely not in fair New Brunswick.

You will probably hear again from

THE GALLERY.

The London *News* says it is contemplated to open the River Gambia, in Western Africa, to the trade of all nations. The river hitherto has been open only to English and partially French trade.

January, 1885

John J. Weddall,

DEALER IN

FIRST-CLASS

DRY GOODS!

desires to thank his many friend, for the generous support given him during the past year, and to assure them, that every effort will be made to make his establishment even more popular in the future, than in the past.

THE SEASON'S

REMNANTS!

ARE NOW BEING OFFERED

At Half Price.

Sweeping Reductions have been made in all

Winter Goods.

The Reductions are made for *this month only.*

JOHN J. WEDDALL.

☞ Agent for McCalls' Celebrated New York Bazaar Fashions.

Fredericton, Jan. 7, 1885.

F. B. EDGECOMBE

IS NOW SHEWING

New Corsets,

in all the popular makes, including

MADAME DEAN'S

Spinal Supporting Corset,

FOR

LADIES AND MISSES!

These Corsets are specially constructed with two curved springs, so as to fit exactly on and support the Shoulder Blades, and another spring to support the Spine, both made of the very finest tempered clock spring, thus creating a complete support for the Spine, sure to prevent or cure Back-Ache, Spinal Irritation, Round Shoulders, Stooping Habits, Rheumatism, Weakness, Neverous or General Debility, Pains in the Hip, Back or Limbs, Diseases of the Spine, Heart, Kidneys or Liver, Falling Inflammation or Ulceration and allied diseases. They supply a covering for the open space, and thereby protect the spine from cold and give a smoothness of fit to the back of the dress, making them a valuable and most necessary Corset for general wear, and of the greatest benefit to Children and Young Ladies attending school.

They support the Spine, relieve the muscle of the back, brace the shoulders in a natural and easy manner, imparting graceful carriage to the wearer without discomfort, expanding the chest, thereby giving full action to the lungs, and health and comfort to the body. Take the place of the *ordinary Corset* in every respect, and are made of fine Coutil, in the best manner. They are highly recommended by the leading Modistes, the fashionable Dressmakers, and the most eminent Physicians in the United States and Europe.

Price: Ladies, $3.00; Misses, $2.00

FRED. B. EDGECOMBE,

Agent for Fredericton, N. B.

STOCK TAKING!

JANUARY, 1885

Tennant, Davies & Co.

Would beg to intimate to their friends and general public, that preparatory to taking stock they will sell the balance of their

Wool Goods,

FURS

SHAWLS, MANTLES

and several other lines of winter goods, at Great Reductions in prices, TO CLEAR.

They would also take the opportunity to thank their friends and patrons for the very liberal support given them in the past, and it shall be their constant endeavor to merit even a more generous one in the future.

TENNANT, DAVIES & CO.,

Queen Street, Fredericton.

Directly