

THE LEGISLATURE

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Wednesday, 5th March.—The House went into Committee on a bill to authorize the extending of the Gaol limits in the County of St. John.

The House then went into Committee on a bill to repeal the Beer and Wine Licenses Act, 1844.

Mr. Gray's Bill to protect the Licensees of Mines and Timber was next committed, and the debate was renewed with considerable energy.

The House then went into Committee on a bill introduced by Mr. Crane, to make a slight alteration in the mode of granting Tavern Licenses.

There were some objections started to the bill, and it gave rise to Temperance Lectures from Messrs. Needham, (who moved as an amendment the abolition of all License Laws, which was seconded by Mr. Tilley),

Tilley, Steves, and English. After considerable debate, several bills, some jokes, and some angry ebullitions, the amendment was rejected by an overwhelming majority.

Thursday, March 6.

Ways and Means.

Pursuant to the order of the day, the House resolved itself into a Committee of Ways and Means for raising a Revenue.

Mr. Wilnot said this question had become one of the utmost importance; they were now called upon to decide upon the policy of the country should be—whether they should continue to carry on a ruinous trade, or whether they should impose such a tariff as would cause manufactures to flourish, and encourage home industry.

He then read a Report of the Committee of Ways and Means, which was adopted by the House.

Mr. Porter moved for leave to bring in a bill to repeal the 3rd section of the Act granting a bounty on the destruction of Beavers and Wolves in this Province.

AMENDMENT OF THE ST. JOHN CITY CHARTER.

The House resolved itself into Committee of the whole on a Bill to amend the Charter of the City of St. John; Mr. Hayward in the Chair.

case we were then encouraging labour in another country instead of our own.

In answer to those who asserted that protective duties upon such articles as we could manufacture among ourselves, he pointed to the manufactures increased duties on imports had, six years ago, caused a spring up in St. John.

He now came to another part of his subject. The question of political economy had commanded the attention of the ablest American Statesmen, by whom it had been closely investigated.

He then read an extract from an American Journal, showing the opinion of a distinguished individual upon this part of American history.

During the last fiscal year we imported foreign manufactures worth \$178,136,361; and we exported of domestic produce, foreign goods, and specie, \$10,208,720, leaving a balance against us of \$24,241,226.

These considerations, forced by the existing state of things upon the earnest attention of this Parliament, are submitted to the wisdom of Congress, in the belief that they present reasons of the most imperative character for a modification of the tariff.

Mr. Gray seconded the Resolution, which was passed unanimously, and followed by another to the effect that a Committee be appointed to inquire into the expediency of the proposed Resolution.

Mr. Crane then arose and said, that he had been absent from his place for a short time, when the House was in Committee on Ways and Means, and supposing that the debate would occupy the House for a longer time, he was not present when the resolution passed.

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for by this Bill, and the motives that actuated the Common Council in passing the Bill, and asking for these changes.

The House next into Committee on a Bill to authorize the raising of Provincial Debentures to the amount of £200,000 to aid the subscribers of Frederickton to rebuild the Bank District.

Mr. Gray then moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend the Charter of the City of St. John.

Mr. Needham explained, that he authorized the sale of certain City Lands on the eastern side of the harbour, by Trustees, Justices, and Common Council, no lot to be sold for less than £250, and other restrictions.

Mr. Gray moved an amendment to the effect that property qualification should not be done by the power classes, but by the ratepayers of the City.

Mr. Needham defended himself, maintaining his position, and replied to Mr. Gray, saying that he never intended the words "universal suffrage," and that the hon. member in attacking him for what he had said, was like the asses of old snuffing the east wind.

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