

tion regard would be gratefully received.

The Wesleyan Missionary Society is doing a great work in promoting the best interests of our fallen world. Upon its evangelistic efforts God has graciously smiled; contributions, such as the one we this record, show that members of other churches take a lively interest in their conscience and prosperity. We are highly gratified that the pages of the *Wesleyan* have given us an opportunity of circulating widely through the Provinces the excellent speech of the Rev. Mr. Arthur, which is so admirably calculated to exert a beneficial influence on the minds of all who read it without prejudice. We shall be happy to the medium of conveying to the Wesleyan Missionary Society the continued subscriptions which our Christian friend has so nobly promised. The amount at present forwarded shall be duly acknowledged in the next Provincial Report; and perhaps before its issue our correspondent may feel disposed to entrust us, in confidence, with his name, and place of residence, and we will see that a copy of the District Report, and one of the Society's large Reports, shall be duly forwarded.

#### EDUCATION.

We may gather from the protracted debates of the House of Assembly on the Bill of *Common School Education*, the importance which the country attaches to this subject. To the "collective wisdom" of this Branch of the Legislature, in bringing forward and maturing a well-digested and efficient system of education, such as will meet the wants, and gratify the wishes, of the population of the Province, all eyes have been eagerly directed. The Bill as originally introduced, has, we understand, undergone important modifications, but to what extent we are not at present prepared to say. On Tuesday last the eleventh section was under consideration in Committee of the whole House. Hon. J. W. Johnston moved an amendment which met with the approval of members, by which the Commissioners would be legally empowered, by the express words of the Act, to afford important relief or assistance to Schools located in sparsely settled and poor districts. It was thought by members of the Government, that the clause already provided for such cases; but to prevent all misapprehension as to its meaning, and the power of Commissioners in the premises, it was deemed advisable to place the matter beyond doubt. This provision we consider only reasonable and just. The amendment, if any, have strong claims on the liberality of the House to place within the reach of their families the means of instruction, at least in the rudimentary branches of learning, to which, without Legislative aid, they could not attain. After passing through a sifting ordeal, we hope the Common School Education Bill will give satisfaction to the country at large. From a statement made by the Hon. Provincial Secretary, we understood, that a special Board of Commissioners would be appointed for the City of Halifax, and that, with others that might be considered entitled to Legislative aid, the present existing schools which have been receiving grants under the expiring law, would still be recognized as claimants on the educational funds set apart for the City. This also we deem a wise arrangement, calculated to meet the wishes of a large number of the constituency.

#### THE TEMPERANCE HALL AND BALLS.

A *Fancy Ball* was advertised to take place in the new Temperance Hall, but this measure has been prohibited by the friends

of Temperance. One of our city Editors advises temperance "gentlemen" to be "cautious how they interfere with the Ladies and their amusements," and hints at the disastrous effects which would result to the Temperance cause were "their support to be withdrawn." On the other hand we would caution the Managers of the "Hall" not to trifle with the conscientious scruples of that part of the religious public who have taken so lively an interest in the cause of Temperance. Once open the Hall for "Fancy Balls" and theatrical representations, and hundreds of Christian persons would feel themselves compelled to withdraw their support to the edifice in question. The decision of the "gentlemen," we believe, was just, or, to say the least, the most prudent.

#### Wesleyan Missionaries.

Another change has, we understand, taken place with regard to the Wesleyan Ministers in Bermuda. The Rev. J. Aldis, who was to succeed Rev. J. B. Brownell at St. George's, goes to England, and a Minister will be sent from England to take that circuit. The Rev. W. Ritchie proceeds hence to Nevis instead of Turks Islands. The Rev. J. B. Brownell, as originally intended comes to Hamilton.—*Bermuda Royal Gazette.*

#### PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS.

(Selected chiefly from the City Papers.)  
HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

THURSDAY, Feb'y 7.

#### Petitions Presented.

By Mr. Card from Michael Cody, a Mail Carrier.  
By Mr. Dimmock for an extension of the Mail route to Newport landing.  
By Mr. McKenna from coloured people of Port Latour, for a school.  
Also from people of Shelburne to suspend restriction as regards fish barrels.  
By Mr. Croelman from Middle Stewiacke for a Bill to authorize the sale of an old Meeting House, to build a new one.  
By Mr. Earnst from inhabitants of Campdown, Port Medway and Board Cove, praying to open a new section of road which would shorten the distance seven miles, from Leonard's Cove to Campdown.  
By Mr. Killam from the inhabitants of Yarmouth, praying that the line of telegraph should be extended to that town. He remarked that the people were entitled to consideration on account of the large quantity of Shipping owned in Yarmouth and the intermediate towns.  
By Mr. Freeman from Jabez Morton of Middlefield, Queens County, praying remuneration for services rendered a person, not an inhabitant of that County who had fallen into a Saw Mill, and had both legs ground off.  
The amendment to withdraw the petition was carried.  
Mr. McKeagney introduced a Bill to incorporate two divisions of the Sons of Temperance in the Township of Sydney, leave granted.  
Mr. McKeagney asked leave to introduce a Petition from James Munro praying remuneration for running a boat between South Sydney and the Bar—leave granted. Also a Petition from James P. Ward, praying remuneration for services performed for the Board of Health, received. Also a Petition from Mr. McKenzie of Sydney, Teacher of a School; referred to the Committee on Education.  
Dr. Brown presented a petition from the inhabitants of Horton, praying aid to establish an African School.  
Mr. Beckwith said that much time was lost by those who take the lead in the business not attending when the House opened—he thought they should always be here.  
Hon. Provincial Secretary said that it would be unfair to press the School Act forward in the absence of the leader of the opposition.

#### Currency.

Mr. Henry said that as there was nothing before the house he should take the liberty of introducing the subject of our currency to its notice. While in Nova Scotia the British shilling was worth 1s 3d, in New Brunswick it was worth less, in Newfoundland it was worth only 11d and in Prince Edward Island 12d. There was no doubt that these differences were a great inconvenience to travellers, who were left to the mercy of the banks and other money changing parties. He thought that a committee could with advantage con-

sider the subject, by conference with the other colonies, and he moved for a committee for that purpose.

After a few words from the Hon. Provincial Secretary and Mr. Young, the committee was appointed.—Messrs. Henry, Young, Killam, Taylor, and Mignowitz.

#### Education Bill.

The house went into committee and passed down to the 22th clause of the Education Bill.

#### Free Church Academy.

The Hon Attorney General presented a petition from the Lay Association of the Free Church, in favour of the Caledonian Academy—referred to the committee on Education. The house adjourned till 12 on Friday.

FRIDAY, Feb'y 8.

#### Petitions.

Mr. Dickie presented a petition from the inhabitants of Amherst, praying that the horse Norfolk might be sent there during the ensuing summer.

Hon G. R. Young presented a petition to the same effect in behalf of Pictou.

Mr. Beckwith said if the horse was sold, there would be no need of these applications. Mr. Hall argued in favour of the strong claims of Cumberland, and against the sale of the horse.

Mr. Dickie also presented some petitions which were referred to committee on navigation securities.

Dr. Brown presented a petition from a deaf and dumb lad, and moved it to be referred to a special committee.

Hon. Attorney General supported the claims of the petition, and mentioned the case of one of the most amiable young creatures that was ever born in Nova Scotia, but born deaf and dumb, having almost recovered her faculties in an institution in Harvard, Massachusetts.

The petition was referred to the Hon. Attorney General, Dr. Brown, and Mr. McDonald.

Hon. G. R. Young presented petitions from James J. McKenzie and others, and from James Cramer, for aid to the great road in Pictou—laid on the table.

Also a Petition for a section of road from New Glasgow to Antigonish.

Also—some other road petitions.

Mr. Hall rose for the purpose of introducing a Bill to provide for the erection of a Court House and Jail at Kentville; explained that the bill of last year had not given power enough—referred to Messrs. Dickie, Croelman, and Mott.

Mr. Hall also introduced a bill to regulate the supervisors of public land—referred to the same committee.

Mr. Hall also presented a petition praying for a return of duties on a factory and Mills destroyed by Fire. Mr. Hall went into an elaborate explanation of the loss sustained by the petitioner, and moved the petition to be referred to a select committee.

Hon. G. R. Young and Mr. Killam opposed the petition—it was another case of charity.

Mr. Henry thought it a fair case for a committee to consider.

Mr. Young replied.

Mr. Beckwith supported the claims of the petitioner.

The petition was referred to Messrs. Uniacke, Wier, Fulton, Young, and Henry.

#### Paradise Academy.

Hon. Provincial Secretary by command of His Excellency laid on the table sundry papers relating to the division of the School money in Annapolis.

The papers were read, among others, a petition in favor of Paradise Academy.

The Petitions were referred to the Committee on Education.

SATURDAY, Feb'y 9.

#### Petitions.

Mr. Bourneuf presented a petition from Henry James Southson, of Weymouth, for aid to an Oat Mill.

Mr. Beckwith presented a petition, asking aid to a Breakwater at Howe's Harbour.

Mr. Fulton presented a petition from Joe Dotten; referred to the Committee on the Post Office. Also, several Road petitions—one of which was from Wallace, relative to a sum not being granted for a new Road petitioned for last session.

Hon. Attorney General presented a petition from the Ladies managing the Infant School, Halifax.

Hon. Mr. Johnston presented a road petition from Annapolis.

All the above petitions were referred to the proper standing Committees.

#### Juries.

Mr. Fulton asked leave to introduce a Bill entitled an act for the regulation of Juries—leave granted and the Bill read a first time.

#### Expiring Laws.

Mr. Blackadar, Chairman of the Com-

mittee on expiring laws, reported fifty Bills, but recommended that as none of them would expire until the end of the next Session, the house at present take no action respecting them, as in case of their doing so the Statute Book would be encumbered with a variety of Acts which would, under the operation of the Commission revising our Laws, require at the ensuing session to be repealed. The Report was received and adopted.

#### Abstracts of Revenue.

Hon. Provincial Secretary by command of his Excellency, laid on the table several papers which he stated had been prepared by the Financial Secretary. First a statement of the gross amount of Excise duties collected in the various parts of the province for the several quarters of the year ending 31st December, 1849; also, a condensed statement of the same shewing the gross amount of duty collected in the whole year; also, a statement of the amounts collected on each dutiable article imported during the year.

#### Estimates—Supply.

Hon. Provincial Secretary, also laid on the table the estimates for the present year, and moved that the supplies be granted. The motion passed, and Monday was made the order of the day for going into Committee of Supply.

#### Petitions.

MONDAY, Feb'y 11th, 1850.

Mr. Hall presented a petition from Mr. Harris, of Kentville, asking for a return of duties paid on the importation of a horse, which was referred to the Committee on Trade and Manufactures.

Hon. Provincial Secretary said, he observed in one of the morning papers, a statement that the papers he had presented on Saturday were prepared in the Provincial Secretary's Office—he wished to say that they were prepared in the Financial Secretary's Office.

Mr. Wier presented a petition from N. P. Martin of Londonderry; referred to a select Committee, composed of Messrs. Hall, Bent and Dickie.

Hon. Provincial Secretary by command, laid on the table a Despatch from Earl Grey, conveying the Queen's confirmation to an act passed by the Legislature, touching harbours, &c.

Mr. McDonald presented a petition, which was referred to the Committee on Navigation Securities. Also, a petition from the inhabitants of a portion of the County of Guysborough, touching the opening of various sections of the new lines of main Post Road.

Mr. McDonald presented a petition, asking for a survey of the Country round White Head, with a view of making that place the terminus of the Railway to Quebec.

Mr. Marshall thought the survey should take place, if there was a probability of obtaining a shorter and cheaper line. The story of the tunnel would be found untrue if such a survey were to take place.

The Petition was laid on the table.

#### Quarantine.

Mr. Harrington presented a petition from Dr. Madden, of Aribat, asking a remuneration for duties imposed upon him under the present Quarantine regulations.

The petition was referred to the committee.

Mr. Martell presented a petition from the merchants, ship owners, and others of Isle Madame, praying for the abolishment of the Quarantine laws—referred to the committee.

Mr. Robinson presented a petition from Mr. Dawson of Pictou, referred to the committee on trade and manufactures.

Mr. Killam presented a petition from the inhabitants of Yarmouth—touching the collection of sea manure; which after some discussion was referred to a select committee, composed of Messrs. Hall, Killam, and Marshall.

Mr. Marshall presented a petition from Jno. Fox, of Guysborough, asking remuneration for visiting the straits of Canso and vaccinating a number of poor persons there—referred to the committee on that subject. Also a petition from Dr. McGilguz of Guysborough, asking remuneration for a sum of money, paid the Health officers of Halifax; also for a sum paid for the use of a schooner on board of which persons infected with small pox were placed, after having been taken from his vessel—the two sums amounting with other charge to £47—referred to the committee on vaccination.

Mr. Mignowitz presented a petition from Geo. Mitchell praying that a set of hay scales be set up at Chester, received with leave to bring in a bill.

Mr. Munro presented a petition from the inhabitants of Bay St. Lawrence, in the County of Cape Breton, asking a sum of money to open a Road to Cape North. Also, a petition from the inhabitants of Middle River, asking a sum of money to repair a Bridge. Also, a petition from Donald McDonald of St. Anns, praying aid to send his son, a deaf and dumb boy, to an Asylum in the U. States—referred to the Committee on that subject. Also, a petition from the inhabitants of Grand and Little Narrows, praying that in the event of the division of the County

of Cape Breton taking place, these settlements be continued a part of the County of Cape Breton. Also, a petition from the inhabitants of the Mire and Cataline Settlements, asking a special grant to assist in the erection of two draw bridges over the Mire River.—Also a petition touching the Sydney Academy; referred to the Committee on Education.

Mr. McDonald presented a petition from Jas. Alexander, and others, of St. Mary's River, asking for a new road.

Mr. Fraser presented a petition from John Atkins of Falmouth, praying a return of duties paid on beef and pork imported—and reshipped as ship stores; referred to the committee on trade and manufactures.

Mr. Freeman, as Chairman of the Committee to whom was referred the act to incorporate the Yarmouth Wharf Company, reported certain amendments.

The Bill, as amended, was read a second time and referred to Committee of the whole house.

Hon. Provincial Secretary presented a petition from the Rev. R. F. Uniacke in favour of a School—referred to Committee on Education.

#### The Militia.

Mr. Dickie asked for some information on the state of the Militia Law.

Hon. Provincial Secretary was aware that an idea had got abroad that the Militia was in a disorganized state. The Government had not been able to overtake this subject yet, but he hoped they would before the next Session.

Hon. L. O'C. Doyle presented a petition from people of Queen's County, against the present restrictions of licences, which rendered it impossible for persons coming from the country to get accommodation to sleep at night, and stable their horses and cattle.

Mr. Henry said, that it was for the house to consider whether the Sessions and Grand Juries had not in some cases exceeded the Law, by passing a general resolution that no liquor should be sold.

Mr. Harrington thought the Province should not have any interest adverse to any portion of the people, and in the present state of improvement, the progress of morality—the march of temperance in this country, it would be a most unwise step to interfere with the decision of any Grand Jury that desired to enforce those principles.

The hon. Provincial Secretary suggested that the whole subject could more properly be discussed in Committee of Ways and Means.

The house went into Committee and passed a Bill to authorize the sale of the Presbyterian meeting house at Middle Seewiacke; to prevent the landing of Felons; to incorporate the Carpenter's Society of Halifax—for the appointment of Trustees for the Common in Dartmouth—to incorporate the Temperance Hall Company at Maitland—to repeal part of an act relating to the Commissioners of Streets, and make it apply to Antigonish; a Bill relating to vaccination, and a bill to incorporate the Queen's Water Company of Yarmouth.

The Committee rose and the Bills passed to be read a third time.

Hon. Provincial Secretary presented a petition touching the duty on Wine—referred to the Committee on Trade; he also laid on the table certain papers in connection with the Sydney Academy—referred to Committee on Education.

Hon. Attorney General presented petitions on Education, Vaccination, &c.—referred to the Committee on those subjects. Also, from Mr. Butt, master of the Barbara Ann, referred to the Emigration Committee. Also, a Road petition.

Hon. Attorney General asked leave to introduce a Bill for settling the title of land in the Island of Cape Breton—leave was granted, and the Bill read a first time.

Mr. Fulton presented a petition from Mr. Oxley and others, of Cumberland, asking for a New Road at Shenomias—accompanied by a subscription list amounting to £85—which he trusted would receive favourable attention of the House.

TUESDAY, Feb'y 12.

#### Petitions.

Hon. Provincial Secretary presented the accounts of the Indian Commissioner—Accounts of expenditures for Schools and Educational Returns; all of which were referred to the proper Committees.

Mr. Harrington presented a petition from the merchants, fishermen, and others, praying that the Fish Inspection Law might be repealed; received and laid on the table. Also a petition touching the St. Peter's Canal—received and laid on the table.

#### Temperance.

Hon. G. R. Young presented a petition from the Sons of Temperance in the County of Pictou with 1309 signatures attached. It set out the use of spirituous liquors as unchristian, and recommended that the fees of licenses ought to be increased, and the funds derived be set apart as a fund to the building of a Lunatic Asylum.

The hon. Mr. Johnston said he considered the suggestions most valuable, and he was about to present a petition of a similar purport. The following committees were then named—Messrs. Johnston, Hall, Beckwith, Campbell and Martell

(Continued on last page.)