

THE CONCEPTION-BAY MAN.

[FROM THE ROYAL GAZETTE.]

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

FRIDAY, Feb. 2.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at 3 o'clock.

Dr WINTER presented a petition from William Christian, of Old Perlican, and the subject of Education; also, from John March, at same place on subject of Roads.

The petitions were then ordered to lie on the table.

Committee of the Whole on the Address—Mr. Benning in the Chair.

Upon motion of Mr. CASEY the address was committed.

After some time the committee rose and reported the Address with amendments, when it was ordered to be engrossed and read the third time to-morrow.

Some notices of motions having been given, the House then adjourned to to-morrow, at three o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, February 3.

The Speaker took the Chair at three o'clock. Hon. Colonial Secretary said, he had a message from His Excellency the Governor, the members having risen uncovered, the Colonial Secretary, by command of His Excellency, handed in the following documents:

A Message, transmitting to the House certain despatches from the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

A copy of a letter from Mr. Labouchere, relative to the admission of Hanseatic goods duty free.

A despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, relative to the proposed admission of Hanseatic goods duty free.

A letter from Mr. Labouchere, enclosing remarks made by the Lords of the Committee for Trade upon two Acts of the Newfoundland Legislature for granting to Her Majesty certain duties on goods, &c. &c.

A message from His Excellency the Governor transmitting to the House a certain despatch from Sir Houston Stewart, vice-admiral and commander-in-chief on the station.

Mr. Warren asked leave to present a petition from Michael Fennell, of Bonavista, on the subject of his salary.

Ordered to lie on the table. Mr. Warren asked leave to present a petition from Peter Ward, and others, of Bonavista, relative to roads. It was ordered to lie on the table.

ORDER OF THE DAY.

On motion of Mr. Casey, the Address in reply to His Excellency's Speech, as amended, was then read a third time and passed, and ordered to be engrossed.

Mr. Hoyle, pursuant to notice, asked leave to bring in a bill to regulate the practice on the probate side of the Supreme Court; also, a bill to regulate the practice on the equity side of the Supreme Court; both bills were read first time, second reading on Tuesday.

Mr. Hogsett, pursuant to notice, asked leave to bring in a bill for the establishment of a Light House on Cape St. Mary's; read first time, second reading that day fortnight.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary, in answer to a question of which the Hon. member for St. John's Mr. Parsons, had given notice, in reference to the clearing the Gut of Quidi Vidi, said that provisions would be made for the purpose in the estimates.

The House then adjourned to to-morrow, Thursday, at 3 o'clock.

THURSDAY, February 4.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at 3 o'clock.

The SPEAKER informed the House that His Excellency the Governor would receive the House with the Address in reply to His Excellency's speech, on to-morrow at half-past 12 o'clock.

Dr. WINTER gave notice that on to-morrow he would ask the Hon. Colonial Secretary to lay before the House copies of the following Despatches.

1.—From the Right Hon. Secretary of State for the Colonies to His Excellency Governor Darling, of Aug. 3rd, 1855, No. 6, with Governor Darling's reply in full.

2.—From Governor Darling to the Secretary for the Colonies, July 27, and reply thereto in full.

3.—Copies of Correspondence referred to in Despatch No. 60, 29th Sept., 1855, between Governor Darling and British Minister at Washington.

4.—From Governor Darling of 2nd April, 1856, to Secretary for the Colonies.

5.—Also, that he would ask the Receiver General for a detailed statement of balance unnecessary for new account, amounting to £1320 16s. 0d. in the Financial Secretary's statement of 1856.

Mr. ELLIS gave notice that on to-morrow he would ask the Hon. Colonial Secretary for copies of evidence taken in reference to the mill-ponds of C. F. Bennett, Esq. at River Head; also, that on this day week he would ask for leave to bring in a bill to increase the number of Representatives for Twillingate and Fogo.

The House then adjourned until to-morrow at half-past 12 o'clock.

FRIDAY, February 5.

Mr. SPEAKER and the whole House met to-day at half-past twelve o'clock, and proceeded to Government House to present the address to His Excellency the Governor. Upon their return the Speaker read the reply of His Excellency, when the House adjourned to Monday at 3 o'clock.

[FROM THE MORNING POST.]

THE despatch received at our Telegraphic and General News Agency yesterday, states that the Royal Mail Steamer *Patricia* had arrived at New York on the previous evening.

The English dates received by her are to the 23d January, being one week later than those we were previously in possession of.

The news from India, though not important, is said to be of a favorable character.

Lord Elgin had allowed the Chinese ten days to consider his ultimatum.

The Duke of Devonshire is dead. It has been ascertained that one hundred and fifty persons were injured in the attempt to assassinate Napoleon.

The French Minister has requested the British Government to expel certain suspicious refugees.

The principal topic with which the English papers are occupied is that of the approaching nuptials of the Princess Royal.

THE CONCEPTION BAY MAN.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1858.

WE copy from the Gazette to-day a synopsis of proceedings of the Assembly, and shall continue to do so for the information of our distant readers. We also subjoin by way of specimen a speech of each of the leaders on both sides of the House, upon the subject of law reform, only interesting as showing the different conclusions upon the same subject which Lawyers themselves may arrive at.

HON. ATTORNEY GENERAL said he wished to make a few observations as the hon. and learned member for Fortune Bay had arranged the Administration, and charged them with not having moved before then upon the subject of Law Reform. The Administration had not been indolent in the matter; they had brought in and perfected, since their accession to power, several practical and generally beneficial law reforms. Had they not reformed the jury system in a manner which would put an end forever to picked juries, and enable both poor and rich to look with confidence for justice? Was not the change in the Law of Insolvency a reform of some importance? Then was it nothing to have established the fishermen's charter which secured to them the payment of their wages? In the case of a late insolvency, eight fishermen with large families, who had been shamen at the Labrador, and whose fish had gone into the insolvent's stores, had been saved from starvation by the operation of the Bill which he, (the Attorney General) had had the honor of bringing in; these were some of the practical law reforms of the Administration, and in the case to which he (the Attorney General) had referred, the hon. and learned member for Fortune Bay when it had been submitted to him, had acknowledged that the fishermen were entitled to a preference for the value of their labor. Had not the Law of Evidence been reformed so as to allow parties to give evidence in their own causes? These were reforms which had appeared necessary and beneficial in other countries, and they had been introduced here by the Administration for the benefit of the people of this. These were no sham reforms, they were realities, and were enough to refute the imputations of the hon. and learned member for Fortune Bay. The hon. and learned gentleman and hon. and learned member for Trinity had been asked to co-operate upon the commission appointed by the Administration; and he (the Attorney General) therefore thought it did not become the hon. and learned gentleman to reproach the government with intending to make a sham, while he saw their determination and desire to effect a substantial reform of the law, not only in the procedure but in the organization of the Courts. He (the Attorney General) hoped that hon. gentlemen at both sides would unite to perfect a useful and sound measure when it should come before the House, and he agreed with the hon. Colonial Secretary that the bill of the hon. and learned member for Fortune Bay might be referred to the committee on the general measure. The combined wisdom of both sides would, he hoped, produce such a measure of law reform as would conduce to an improvement in the administration of justice. He would not oppose the second reading of the bill.

Mr. HOYLES said he was glad to find that the administration were endeavoring to vindicate their conduct, and to show that they had in some degree come up to their professions, but if any benefit had resulted from the legislation of the House during the present administration, it had been owing to the constant driving of the opposition. Hon. gentlemen of the administration claimed credit for their industry—yes, the industry of the thimble-rig; the industry to help themselves and promote their own interests; but what he charged them with was a want of industry respecting the interest of the public. The first thing which the administration should do for the public was to give a fair representation to the country in that House. They said they had done something—a miserable boast. The hon. and learned Attorney General had given an enunciation of the law reforms which had been effected by the present administration—first came the Jury Bill, a miserable failure, and as worthless a piece of legislation as had ever been perpetrated; it was contemptible in the eyes of every person acquainted with the administration of justice; it brought a collection of worthless fellows into the jury box, with whom the hon. and learned Attorney General could have his own way. The Jury Bill of the administration, so boasted of, had been the subject of the ridicule and censure of the bench. (Hon. Colonial Secretary said he had not heard of one appeal from their verdicts.) There had been many, one had been set aside that day. The Insolvency Bill was another absurd piece of Legislation; and when it came before the House some sessions ago, he (Mr. Hoyle) took much pains to point out how it might have been amended, and had implored the House not to pass it in its then state; but all he said had been disregarded, his opinions on the matter had not been even reported; not a day now passed that its insufficiency was not felt.

The hon. and learned Attorney General had said that some men had lately been secured the payment of their wages, owing to the prior claim which the act gave them. The hon. and learned Attorney General was entirely mistaken; the Trustees were not influenced by the provisions of the Insolvency Bill, as it had no reference to the case; but the Trustees had determined that all persons having claims for wages or shares of voyage should be paid in full—but that was not in consequence of the Insolvency Act, as if the men had to depend upon that, they would have to go without a farthing. The hon. Colonial Secretary had said that he (Mr. Hoyle) had accepted from the administration the appointment of Delegate to England on the subject of the Convention. He had accepted it from the country, or from the House which represented the country, and he had been unanimously appointed, and was proud of it because it expressed a degree of confidence in him which he hoped he should always merit.

The Rec. General has paraded his Financial statement before the country, and taken, on the part of the Ministry, no little credit for the accumulation of an unprecedented amount of revenue. One misstatement we sincerely regret viz that no additional taxation has been enforced by our Responsible, but that the increase since they obtained power is wholly attributable to the increase of trade. We admit that it is principally owing to the latter cause, but must still aver that if the trifling duty upon American provisions was suffered to remain, instead of the amount being more than realised upon other articles, taxation would not be so severely felt as it is at this time. But waiving this point how much of the 118,000 has been placed against £160,000 Debt of the colony? £2000 only, and the remainder will we suppose be expended as before, with the exception of a small increase for Roads and Education, the same corruption in the House, the same jobbing out of it, the same extravagance, are to be practised, unless the opposition succeeds in forcing the Ministry and its Supporters, to be more considerate honest and faithful.

It would be worth something to know the precise amount of the £36,000 surplus which shall fall to the various outposts of the Island, by the time the Colleges and Seminaries in St. John's are provided for small will be the increase for education. Of the Road appropriation alone they may receive something like a reasonable proportion. The sums of money to be voted to the Capital for various purposes are enormous, when we reflect that outport Representatives with the exception of six members, constitute the Assembly, we are astonished that the revenue is permitted to be expended almost solely on objects exclusively beneficial to the Capital. This state of things could never exist, but that a majority of those members are purchased with a price and durst not disobey the orders of their directors, three of whom are members for St. John's and consequently are not so much to blame in this particular as those who nominally represent the much wronged and neglected outports.

The Fishermen of St. John's are seeking aid for the erection of an Asylum. It is right they should have this assistance, and no less right that the inhabitants of these districts should be equally cared for. Let our Representatives at their peril support another partial vote for the capital, all we ask is a fair equivalent for our poor. Let justice be fairly meted out according to population and the wants of the people, and let the House be purged of its venality by the removal of place-men, and the 'Conception-Bay Man' will avail himself of every opportunity to support the truly Liberal Cause.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE CONCEPTION BAY MAN.)

Sir, I observe that the Editors of the Express and the Newfoundlander are jointly and severally of opinion that the time has arrived when Steam Communication between St. John's and the various out harbours of this uncivilized Colony, should be established, I further learn that we are residing on the peninsula termed Avalon, are connected with the main part of the Island by a narrow Isthmus only four miles across, and still further that the Island is generally indented by large and deep Bays which would render it impossible to construct roads for the scattered population.

Now Sir I wish to enquire if it is the intention of these Steam projectors that the boats should regularly circumnavigate these Bays and what period of time would be allowed for such cruises. If it is only intended that the boats should merely touch at principal stations, near the entrance of the said Bays, then I humbly conceive the purpose of civilization will be but partially effected, as by far the largest portion of the Inhabitants reside near the heads of the same Bays. A little discussion on these points would oblige AN OLD TRAVELLER.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE C. B. MAN.)

Sir, I have been too busy lately to polish my verses as the subjects deserve, your readers will excuse this when I assure them that the diving system is lessening.

SONGS OF THE SESSION.

No. 3. ANTICIPATIONS, AND HALLUCINATIONS.

AIR.—Old Cronies we strive to forget.

1st. Minister. Solo

I will be Governor yet—
The old Folk in 'the Island' expect it;
A noble example I've set,
No adventurer e'er should neglect it;
Responsible Government brought
Many good things to my party,
And Governors elective, tis' thought,
Will complete what is working so hearty.

2nd. Minister.

When home politicians are sent
I'll be the member exported
As sure as my name is John—
Being best of the batch, well assorted;
When British Colonies enter
Into the Scheme, all will send one,
But not a political Kanter
Like me will be speered at in London.

Ambro type.

I will be Premier—and then
Phil. L.—shant have his own way,
For daring to transfer to G—
Is confidence—doubting a S—
Two thousand a-year will be all
Shall be his, with the coals and the
candles,
And precipitate shall be his fall,
Our paper so gloriously mangles.

Ge. Ho Neddy.

The Receiver's the Berth to my taste
When the time comes I'll have eat, or
know why,
So much money is going to waste,
That bye and bye we'll have the go by;
It is "patent" there must be a change
When Rulers Imperial shall twig us,
And he will be safe at whose range
Extends o'er abundance of figures.

Hog in frame.

I'll be a Judge very soon,
Phil's Brother may be the Chief Justice,
I and H— will keep him in tune
By swearing his learning is lustrous
I should have been Judge before H—
But Phil says 'tis best not to quarrel
United, we'll put out that Reynard
Who first seized the Judicial Laurel

Schoolmaster abroad.

I'll make an excellent Sec.
My hand has been well tried already,
Faith it was a capital spec
When I Palaver'd Ambro and Neddy,
I'll be kind tho' to Joseph and Arze,
If privilege they do not euerach on
Tho' fallen—they better shall fare,
Because I oft' dined with their Coachmen.

House Keeper Surveyor Purveyor &c.

We are very well off as we are
Tis had to be too avaricious,
And going with betters to war
May lead to a move expeditious,
We'll say little, will vote as we're told
And watch for the mendicant pickings
Like poultry, and not be so bold,
As to count before hatching, our chickens

Museum and Menagerie Building No 1
Kent Street St. John's, Feb. 9th 1858.

Shipping

Feb. 10—Greyhound
Days.

Feb. 16—Triumph

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