

Mr Huntington followed the Speaker. When he moved the former Resolution, he did not think that there would be in the Treasury more than £6,000 he would state if his amendment was carried he would then move that £4,000 more should be applied to the extinction of the public debt. He spoke at some length, but in too low a tone to be intelligible in the Gallery.

Mr Stewart supported his former views, and expressed himself favourable to the system of division by Counties. It was the only one which would satisfy the Counties. With respect to Cape Breton, he thought the House had always shown a disposition to treat it liberally, and conceived that they were animated by the same feelings at present. He alluded to the Provincial debt, and accounted for its increase by the loss of £40,000, which had occurred by the collision between the Houses on the Brandy question, and by the depressing effect in our trade, of the visitation of the Cholera, and other unfortunate circumstances over which we had no control. He thought Halifax owed more to the other Counties than it was inclined to acknowledge, and that if it was confined to its own fresh fish and lobsters for a little while, it would feel more sensible than at present its obligations to the inland Counties for the comforts of life.

Mr Howe said that from the feelings of good humour displayed on the present occasion, it was evident that this part of the discussion was not the apple of discord. That, he supposed, would come when the division was made. He had paid great attention to the observations that had fallen from the learned Speaker. He always listened to him with pleasure, and the extensive knowledge and long experience of the learned gentleman, always entitled his remarks to respect. He agreed with him to a certain extent. He thought that much of the debt was chargeable upon our excessive liberality; but he also differed from him a little. The people did not complain that these vast sums of money were spent on the Roads and Bridges, but they complained that so much had been squandered in other unnecessary and useless expenditures.

He proceeded to remark, at considerable length, upon the Salaries of Custom House Establishment, and estimating the expenses necessary to keep that department in effective operation, to be about £7,000, he calculated the savings which might be effected in ten years, by reducing the expenses to that amount, at £30,000. Then, if the Excise were abolished, as it will might be, there would be a saving in the same period of £14,000 more. Then, by abolishing the offices of two of the Inferior Court Judges, and making a little additional advance to the salaries of those that were left, to cover their increased travelling expenses, there would be a saving of about £700 which in the period of ten years, could make £7,000 more. He adverted to the Court of Chancery, and thought that a large saving might be effected there. If the Court, as had been done in the United States, were abolished, there would be a saving in ten years of another £6,000. —And finally, by the abolition of the ridiculous farce of the militia, which was such a tax at once upon the time and the treasury of the Province, another important sum might be obtained to swell the amount of saving that a rigid economy might effect. He concluded by stating that if the amendment of Mr Huntington were lost or withdrawn, he would substitute one for £8,000 in its place; as he thought, that the Country could perhaps afford that amount—and he did not think, that it would be judicious to exceed it. He did not wish to withhold from the Road and Bridge service the available Revenues of the Country—but thought it was better to be out of debt, and would be contented to apply whatever sums could be saved to the gradual extinction of ours.

Mr B. Smith said that there appeared to be a difference in the opinion of Honourable Members with regard to the state of the Province, and two sums had been named for the road service during the present year. He was altogether averse to borrowing money or running in debt for any purpose whatever, and yet he was persuaded that if the house would be justified in borrowing money at all, it would be for the road service. It has been asserted, said Mr S., that the population is so dense in the County of Hants that they need no road money, and strangers would be led to believe that the people in that Country had hardly room to crowd along the streets, but I can assure you, Mr Chairman, that it is not exactly the case, and I can only say, that if there is any part of the Province where the roads are in a worse state than in some districts of that County, they are in a deplorable state indeed; but I can tell you, Sir, that I am acquainted with settlements in the County of Hants, where the people have no road at all, but are obliged to clamber along the shores over rocks and ice, and very often at the risk of their lives, and for want of a road being opened the distance of six or seven miles, have been obliged to travel round a distance of more than forty miles; but we are told that there has been money

enough spent in making alterations in some parts of that County, to have paved the road with dollars, but I would ask that hon. gentleman if no alterations have been made in the Eastern road, has it not been found necessary to change almost the whole line of the Eastern road, and can any hon. member at present ride the distance of about five or ten miles on any of the great roads, without seeing where alterations have been made or are necessary to be made. This is a natural consequence, as the people become more enlightened and better acquainted with the art of road making, they will still be finding better lines upon which to carry their roads, it is the case in Counties longer settled than Nova Scotia—is it not the case in the United States, and also in England and all other Counties. But I am of opinion that if we can save only one half of those sums pointed out by the hon. member from the County of Halifax, we shall be enabled not only to give the larger sum for the road service, but pay something towards the debt of the Province, and there appears to me to be a few other items not yet mentioned that can be spared; I mean those sums given to the Stage Coaches and the steam Boats, and some other Ferries and Packers that have been supported long enough by the Province. I shall vote in favour of the larger sum.

Mr Smith was followed by Mr W. Young, Mr Bell, Mr Goudge, and others, but we have already occupied so much of our space on this subject that we cannot, as we would like to do, go into the speeches of these Gentlemen. Towards the conclusion of the debates, which continued till nearly dark, Mr Huntington's amendment was lost by a majority of 8. The original Resolutions being then put, it was carried by the same majority—after which, the House adjourned.

Extracts from the Journals of the House.

February 18.—An engrossed Bill to continue the Act concerning the Inferior Courts of Common Pleas, within this Province, was read a third time.

Resolved, That the Bill do pass, and that the title be, An Act to continue the Act concerning the Inferior Court of Common Pleas, within this Province.

February 22.—A Petition of Donald Henderson, of Cape John, in the County of Pictou, was presented by Mr G. Smith, and read, praying that he may be encouraged in the manufacture of Whiskey!

Ordered, That the Petition do lie on the table.
A Petition of David Crichton and James Crichton, of Pictou, Merchants, was presented by Mr W. Young and read, praying that an Act may be passed to authorise the Assessment of the Township of Pictou, to pay the amount due them for advances formerly made for the support of the Poor in that Township.

Ordered, That the Petition be referred to Messrs W. Young, G. Smith, and H. Hatton, to examine and report thereon to the House, by Bill or otherwise.

A Petition of the Committee of the Bar Society, in Halifax, was presented by Mr Stewart and read, praying a return of Duties paid by them, upon certain Law Books, imported from the United States of America, for the use of the Library; and also, that measures may be taken for removing the restrictions upon the importation from the United States of reprints of British Works of Literature.

Ordered, That the Petition be referred to Messrs Howe, Bell, Morton, Dewolf, and Miller, to examine and report upon to the House.

Saturday, Feb 25.—Mr G. Smith, from the Committee appointed on the 9th, to consider and report upon the pay of Members, and of a mode of enforcing their regular attendance—reported that the Committee are of opinion, that the allowance to Members should be Twelve Shillings and Six Pence per Day, for their actual attendance; provided no Member shall be entitled to receive more than £40 in any one Session, besides his traveling charges, as heretofore,—provided also, that such allowance shall be subject to the usual guards for enforcing attendance.

On motion, resolved, that the Report be agreed to.
Resolved, That it is the opinion of this House, that the sum of Twelve Shillings and Six Pence per day, be paid to each and every of the Members of the House of Assembly, for their attendance in General Assembly for the present Session, to be paid on certificate of the Speaker; also, the travelling charges as heretofore. No Member to receive pay for more than 64 days' attendance.

Ordered, That the Clerk do carry the Resolution to the Council, and desire their concurrence.

A Message from the Council by Mr Halliburton:
Mr Speaker,

The Council have agreed to the Bill, entitled, An Act to authorise the appointment of Sheriffs for the several Counties of Juste au Corps, Pictou, Colchester, and Richmond, with amendments; to which amendments they desire the concurrence of this Honourable House. And then the Messenger withdrew.

March 3.—Among others, the two following Bills have passed the House and Council, and obtained His Excellency's assent:

A Bill, entitled, An Act to authorise the appointment of Sheriffs for the several Counties of Juste au Corps, Pictou, Colchester, and Richmond.

A Bill, entitled, An Act to continue the Act concerning the Inferior Courts of Common Pleas, within this Province.

Mr Howe moved that the House do come to a Resolution,—which he read; and, being seconded, Mr Umacko moved an amendment, which, being seconded and put, it was lost. Mr Huntington then moved, as an amendment of the said or partially proposed Resolution, to leave out all the words thereof except the first word "Resolved," and in place of the words so left out, to substitute the following after the said word "Resolved," that the evils arising from the structure of His Majesty's Council, and the disposition evinced by some of its Members to protect their own interests and emoluments at the expense of the public, are heightened and rendered more injurious by the practice still adhered to by that Body, of shutting out the people from their deliberations; this practice they still maintain, although it is opposed to that of the House of Lords in England, and that of the Legislative Councils of Lower Canada, New Brunswick and Newfoundland; and notwithstanding the murmurs and complaints of the people for a long series of years, and the representations and remonstrances of this House of Assembly.

This Amendment being seconded and put, and the House dividing thereon, there appeared, for the amendment, 25; against it, 18.

For the Amendment.—Messrs. Chipman, Doyle, Annand, DesBarres, G. Smith, Morton, Upham, Huntington, W. Young, Lewis, Dewolf, J. Young, Benjamin, Heldsworth, McDonald, B. Smith, Howe, McLellan, Forrester, McDougall, Clements, Kavanagh, D'Entremont, Spearwater, Goudge.

Against the Amendment.—Messrs J. Sargent, W. Sargent, Hatton, Taylor, Allison, Stewart, Holland, Bell, Thorne, Elder, Umacko, Holmes, Heckman, Miller, Wilkins, Rudolf, Fairbanks, Dodd.

Mr Howe then moved that the House do come to the following Resolution, viz:

Resolved, that as a remedy for these grievances, His Majesty be implored to take such steps, either by granting an Elective Legislative Council, or by such other re-construction of the local Government as will ensure responsibility to the Commons, and confer upon the People of this Province, what they value above all other possessions, the blessings of the British Constitution: which being seconded,

Mr Stewart moved an amendment, which, being seconded and debated, was put, and passed in the negative.

The Resolution as originally proposed was then put from the Chair, and the House dividing thereon, there appeared, for the Resolution, twenty-six; against it, sixteen.

For the Resolution.—Messrs W. Young, McDougall, Allison, Chipman, Upham, D'Entremont, G. Smith, Benjamin, McLellan, McDonald, Annand, Dewolf, Clements, Howe, W. Sargent, Umacko, Lewis, Forrester, B. Smith, Spearwater, Holland, Bell, Thorne, Holdsworth, Kavanagh, Doyle, Huntington.

Against the Resolution.—Messrs Taylor, Hatton, Elder, J. Sargent, Morton, Holmes, Wilkins, Goudge, Miller, Hackman, Rudolf, J. Young, Fairbanks, Des Barres, Stewart, Dodd.

T M B B B .

WEDNESDAY MORNING, MARCH 15, 1857

THE FRIDAY PACKET.—Our London news are to the 3d ult. but our columns are so occupied at present with our own affairs, that we have only space for a notice of the leading particulars which they furnish.

Parliament was opened on the 2d February, by Commission.

A Railway from London to Bristol, is about to be undertaken. The distance is 117 1-2 miles.—Estimated cost £2,500,000.

Influenza prevailed in London, Edinburgh, Paris and many other cities and towns of the old world, and in many places has proved as fatal as the Cholera did some years ago.

The French Chambers had determined on a system of non-intervention in the affairs of Spain.—The state of the armies in the Peninsula remained nearly the same as at last advices.

Thomas Alexander Fraser, Esq. of Lovat, is advanced to the Peerage, with the title of Baron Lovat.