THE HERALD

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 1893

TOPICS OF THE DAY.

The estimates of expenditure of the Provincial Government, for the current year were tabled by Premier Peters on Monday last. They amount to $283,945.

On Tuesday evening of last week a largely attended political meeting was held at Fort-Augustus. Speeches were delivered by D. Ferguson, Esq., and several others, and at the close a resolution of want of confidence in the Government was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

The final supplementary estimates were submitted to the Dominion Parliament on Monday last by Hon. Mr. Foster. Prince Edward Island's share amounts to upwards of $32,000 and includes $20,000 for reconstruction of Souris breakwater; $1,000 for Sturgeon wharf; $4,000 for dredging at Cape Traverse; $6,000 for repairs to breakwater at Wood Islands; and $1,000 for the breakwater at North Rustico.

Once again we call the attention of our readers to the question of Overseers' certificates. The overseers for the ensuing year will be appointed in April, and any one who has performed his statute labor or paid his commutation money for the present year should see to it that he has his certificate before the old overseers go out of office. No one knows how soon they may be required, and the new Overseers will not have power to grant such. We trust this warning will be sufficient for our friends.

Seeing that their celebrated amalgamation-gerrymander—disfranchising bill of last session was not allowed to become law, the Government, this year, embodied these questions in three separate bills. Regarding the first of these, the amalgamation bill, we had something to say last week; the second refers to the gerrymander of King's County and is coming under consideration in the House. The outlines of the new Georgetown district are to be the same as contained in the bill of last year. The ostensible reason of the Government for introducing the bill is the equalization of the voters in the districts affected; but the real motive of the change is the hope of so crippling the second, third and fourth districts that they may return supporters of the Government. Of this bill we will have more to say later on.

The third and most iniquitous of the three bills in question is that which disfranchises the Dominion officials. The Liberals of former days, Coles and Whelan, and their co-workers devoted their talents, their energies and their very lives to the task of obtaining for the people of this Province the privileges of freemen and the right of manhood suffrage. But here is a Government that prostitutes the name "Liberal" by introducing the most illiberal measure ever submitted to the legislature of a civilized country, a bill to deprive a large number of our citizens of rights which every free man holds, or should hold almost as dear as his very life. Taxation without representation caused a mighty revolution on the North American continent a little over a century ago, and here, in this Province, on the outward rim of the nineteenth century, a Government arrogating to itself the title of "Liberal" dares to trample on the people's most sacred and most cherished rights and to revert to the despotism of more that a hundred years ago. All these Dominion officials are liable to be taxed for whatever purposes the Government may see fit; but henceforth they are to have no voice in deciding how these taxes are to be expended. No, no, their voice must no longer be heard in determining how their taxes shall be spent; for the "Liberal" Government of Prince Edward Island has decided they shall from this time forward be as dumb dogs, who dare not open their mouths. By slightly changing the words of a celebrated writer, regarding the French Revolution, may we not appropriately exclaim, "O liberalism, how much political iniquity is perpetrated in thy name!"

But what justification do the Leader of the Government and his colleagues advance for this high handed piece of political iniquity? None whatever. Were the Dominion Government Grit instead of Conservative, we would not hear of any such question as disfranchising the officials. Naturally enough, in view of the fact that the Conservatives have been so long in power at Ottawa, most of the officials in the Railway, Post Office, Customs and other departments of the Dominion Government Service here are Conservatives, and at an election for the Local Legislature would be likely to vote against the Grit candidates. In this they would only be exercising their privileges as free British subjects; but, in the hope of gaining a party advantage, Premier Peters has made up his mind they shall be deprived of the inalienable right of every British subject, and he takes credit to himself, as a Liberal (?) for doing so. There are, however, quite a number of these officials who are not Conservatives; who are, on the contrary, most rabid Grits. Not only that, but some of them have been, even on the eve of a Dominion election, parade their Gritism to such an extent that a Conservative having any occasion to transact official business with them was liable to be insulted. These men, not only voted against the Government from which they drew their support, but freely spoke against it, and otherwise showed their antagonism to it. Yet these men have not been interfered with by the Dominion Government. The Premier made a very long and labored speech in introducing this measure. He was evidently seeking to cover up his tracks in some way, but it was a vain endeavor, everyone listening to him could perceive the injustice of the measure. He pointed out that the Dominion officials were disfranchised in Ontario and Nova Scotia. Very true, and in both these Provinces they have been disfranchised by Grit Governments. He held up Premier Fielding, of Nova Scotia as a paragon of political sagacity. Well, Mr. Fielding has been in power in Nova Scotia, about nine years and he has succeeded in running the Province upwards of three million dollars in debt. In the last four years he increased the debt to the extent of $1,793,609, and his deficit for last year was $122,486.40. By disfranchising the Dominion officials, and running the Province irretrievably in debt for money with which to bribe the electors, he manages to keep in power. No wonder our Premier regards him as a model statesman, for he himself is rapidly following in his footsteps, by saddling a permanent debt on the Province, gerrymandering the districts and disfranchising the Dominion officials.

SESSIONAL NOTES.

Judging by the enthusiasm with which some members of the Government and some of their followers supported the bill for prohibiting the importation and sale of intoxicating drinks, they have strong convictions on the *putting down of liquor.*

"Miserable poltroon," "coward," etc., were some of the epithets hurled across the floor of the House by some members of the contending parties, during a heated debate on Wednesday afternoon last. This indicates a high degree of excitement on the part of the debaters; but does not by any means add to the dignity of the proceedings, and when coming from Ministers of the Crown is particularly disgusting.

Mr. Bentley has been chosen by the members of the Opposition as their Leader in the House. The choice is a good one. He has been a long time in the Legislature; was for several years a Minister of the Crown, and is consequently familiar with parliamentary procedure. While a strong and genuine Liberal-Conservative, Mr. Bentley is not extreme in his views, and may be depended upon to serve his party and his Province faithfully. We congratulate him on his promotion, and trust that it shall not be long till he and his followers will occupy honored places on the other side of the House.

The debate in committee, on the amalgamation bill exhibited the weakness of the Government's position, particularly on the two-third clause. The idea that one Legislature can bind a future Legislature is without precedent or warrant in any portion of the Empire. The Premier nor any of his colleagues did not undertake to deny this. Their only plea was that if the two-third clause was not legally binding, it was morally binding. It is quite plain that the clause was inserted as a sop to the Councillors. The quotation from Hansard, of Mr. L. H. Davies' words in the House of Commons, to the effect that the clause is not worth the paper it was written on, was not a palatable morsel for the Government to swallow.

It was rumored on Thursday that Mr. Bell was doing some vigorous kicking, and that there was danger of his getting outside the Government traces unless he had certain requests acceded to. As a consequence, when he rose to speak on the amalgamation bill, the members on the Government side looked very quizzical. His speech seems to have had something of the same effect upon them as if a wet blanket had been thrown over them. They sat in silence, hung their heads and looked inquiringly from one to another, as much as to say; "what is coming next?" Mr. Bell, doubtless, let the cat out of the bag, and exposed the true inwardness of the Government's position when he pointed out that the two-third clause could not be legally binding and that no Legislature could tie the hands or restrict the actions of a future Legislature. He quoted from the acts of union between England and Ireland, and England and Scotland, certain provisions, which were to be observed for all time; but which future parliaments unhesitatingly repealed when they thought proper to do so. Friday, however, Mr. Bell went back on his professions of the previous day, and placed himself on record as a faithful follower of the Leader of the Government. He got what he wanted, the order book contained a notice that the Premier intended to introduce a resolution, on which to found a bill for the establishment of a registry office in Prince County. This had the effect of strengthening Mr. Bell's wavering political faith and since then he pulls well in the Grit traces.

Mr. Shaw has, within the past week, dealt the Government and their supporters some hard blows, and his scourging of individual members has been thoroughly enjoyed by the throng of spectators. To the intense amusement of the House, he administered an unmerciful castigation to Mr. Hector C. McDonald, the junior member for Belfast. Amid roars of laughter, he described that prompous gentleman travelling to Washington, as a self-constituted delegate from this Province, for the purpose of discussing the question of annexation. Having arrived there he devoted considerable time to the arrangement of his toilet, and waxed his moustache to such an extent that it stood straight out, and it became necessary to have two doors opened for his admission, while ordinary mortals could enter by one. Another of Mr. Shaw's brilliant sallies was his account of Mr. Farquharson, the member for West River, on the occasion of the Donagh political meeting. He described that gentlemen, as the chosen henchman of the Leader of the Government to announce the tidings that Donagh was the rallying ground. But instead of the fiery cross, the symbol entrusted by the Scottish chieftains of old to their trusty heralds, he was strongly inclined to believe the Leader of the Government had chosen, as the emblem of cohesion, the mountain dew. He also pictured to the House how the Leader of the Government must have held up his hands in holy horror at the thought of men drinking liquor at Bedford Station on a day when he was running an election. It must have been the ever haunting reflections of this depravity of his fellow man said Mr. Shaw, that had driven the Leader of the Government to be such a friend and advocate of the temperance cause.

No stronger indication of popular indignation at the actions of the Government is required than that which was manifested in the House of Assembly last evening. It is safe to say that seldom has our Legislature been the scene of so much excitement. The House was in committee on the bill to disfranchise the Dominion officials, and the galleries and every inch of standing room were packed with spectators. Mr. Bell delivered himself of himself of one of his characteristic rodomontades, presumably for the special benefit of the ladies, who had doubtless been invited by members on the Government side of the House to witness the process by which the people's most cherished rights were to be ruthlessly swept away. It was in the vicinity of ten o'clock when he finished speaking. Then the excitement commenced. The pent up feelings of the spectators could no longer be controlled. There were loud calls for "Shaw," and despite the efforts of the chairman and the sergeant at arms, the chamber rang with cheer after cheer, as that gentleman rose to his feet. For the next hour the House was the scene of the wildest enthusiasm, as the member for New Perth, in the best speech of his life, excoriated the Government and held them up to public derision and execration for the manner in which they were depriving our people of the rights and privileges of British freemen. The applause was deafening, and again and again the chamber rang with cheers. The members on the Government side could not stand the fire, and fled to the ante rooms. The climax was reached when Mr. Shaw, pointing the finger of scorn at Mr. Bell said that gentleman would wear a crown when the ass would become the king of beasts.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

(Continued from first page.)

Hon. Mr. McLean referred to the partizan conduct of some of the men appointed under the present arrangement in allowing personation—in letting a man named Fred Peters personate the leader of the Government at either the Summerside polling booth or one near it.

Mr. Bell claimed that while the sheriffs as a rule were honorable men the conduct of some of the deputy returning officers was of the most partizan character. He thought it would be well to have the management of elections in the hands of the Government or some other power.

Mr. A. J. Macdonald thought the management of elections should be in the hands of some power other than the Government, and that the most competent men should be appointed returning officers. He thought it would be a great advantage to the people at large to confine the management of elections to the sheriff. With reference to the conduct of Sheriff McCormack, of King's County, referred to by the Leader of the Government, he thought it should not be brought up here, as the House of Commons had approved of the course in the Robertson election. He believed that Sheriff McCormack and his successors should conduct every election as fairly as any men could.

Hon. Mr. Sinclair said it was not contemplated to take the management of elections out of the hands of the sheriffs, only to provide that the writ be placed in the hands of the sheriffs or others whom the Lieutenant-Governor in Council might appoint. He did not see why there should be so much talk about taking the power out of the hands of the sheriffs, as, if the sheriffs were independent men, they would likely be retained as returning officers.

Mr. Shaw said that if the Government thought they could obtain a few more votes by taking the power out of the hands of the sheriffs, they would be unscrupulous enough to appoint bitter political partizans to the position of returning officers. The sheriffs were all good men and were highly respected. They had given satisfaction in the discharge of their duties as returning officers, and he saw no reason for the proposed change, excepting that the Government hoped to be able to gain a few more votes out of the transaction. He defended the conduct of Sheriff McCormack in the Robertson election case, and related the circumstances connected therewith.

Hon. Mr. McLean questioned the statement that the sheriffs of King's County had always acted in a fair manner at elections. If it is deemed advisable by the Government that the sheriff should continue to act as returning officer he would be retained in that capacity; if not some other qualified person would be chosen.

Mr. Bentley thought that the Government were taking a very wrong step in appointing others than the sheriffs returning officers.

Mr. Underhay said that the sheriffs were under heavy bonds for the right performance of all their duties, including the duties of all the officials under them. There was, consequently, a guarantee—apart from their official impartiality—that elections under their management would be conducted fairly. But if partizans are appointed returning officers it is certain that their acts will be partizan.

Dr. Jenkins contended that sheriffs should be the returning officers. The interests of the Province, he said, demand that we shall have less of partizan feeling. But the effect of the change about to be made by the Government will be to increase the evil of extreme partizanship.

Mr. Arsenault argued that if the power of appointing Returning Officers were vested in the Government, the Government would of necessity be compelled to appoint their partizans. There would be applications for the positions by men who control votes which the Government cannot refuse. It is said that even some of the Sheriffs nominated by the Judges are partizan. If so it is the more certain appointees of the Government will be partizan. The importance of having independent men as Returning Officers is easily seen. For instance, the Leader of the Government had voted against him on a mortgage. There was a scrutiny. The mortgage had not been in his possession the required time. Still he tried to persuade the Sheriff to allow it. But the Sheriff, as soon as he had found out the fact, said "No, Mr. Peters, your vote must be struck off." If a strong partizan of Mr. Peters had been there the decision would have been different. Innovation is now the cry of the Government. But instead of being for the good of the people, it is the reverse

The amendment was lost.

EVENING SESSION.

The House resumed its sitting in committee on the bill respecting the Legislature.

Mr. Shaw thought that clause 113, which deals with the disqualification of a candidate who has been found guilty of corrupt practices at elections, should go further and also provide for the disqualification of the unsuccessful candidate who may have been guilty of the same offence

Mr. Warburton said that to his mind the clause provided for both the successful and unsuccessful candidate. He then wandered away from the point in question and delving into the parity of Dominion elections charged the Conservative party with special prominence in this respect.

Mr. Rogers thought the section did not cover the ground for the condemnation of the unsuccessful candidate, which was unfair. Concerning the last speaker's remarks on the bribery in the Conservative party at the last general election, he would just refer him to one particular point. That was the record of the election courts after the contest. Nothing further was needed to prove in which party the bribery and corruption existed to the greater degree.

Hon. Mr. Peters thought the men who gained or attempted to gain his election by this means should be punished. But the matter of punishment in both cases was already provided for, and the clause was all right.

Mr. Shaw failed to see where the clause provided for the punishment of the unsuccessful candidate. The Government should insert such a clause, but he knew they would not. After the coming election there would be so many of them unsuccessful, and they would employ such unlawful means in order to be successful, that they would not have such a provision in the clause.

Hon. Mr. Gordon pointed out that the clause was tautological. He could not see wherein it provided for the punishment of the unsuccessful candidate.

Mr. Bell thought that the clause included both the successful and unsuccessful candidate.

The clause was then agreed to.

Mr. Rogers thought that clause 135 which said that the poll books should be given by the returning officer to all and every person who might demand them, upon the payment of the fee, under the penalty of a fine of $16, should be changed. It was too sweeping

Hon. Mr. Peters thought the clause was all right.

Mr. Bentley was surprised at the way things were now carried on in the House by the Government. The Attorney-General was not disposed to take suggestions from the Opposition. Everything he did was apparently perfect, and would admit of no change. Formerly it was customary to take suggestions from the Opposition, but the present Government would not do it.

The clause was agreed to, and progress reported.

Hon. Mr. Peters introduced a bill to enable the electors of the Province to record their votes upon the advisability of prohibiting the sale of intoxicants.

House adjourned.

THURSDAY, March 23.

House met at 12 45.

The Act to incorporate the Belfast Dairying Co. was read a third time and passed.

The leader of the government in answer to the question of Mr. Shaw to lay on the table a statement showing in detail the cost of importation of stock for the Stock Farm last year; the animals imported and the detailed expenses of agent, agents or employees making said purchases and the remuneration paid each per day, or otherwise and the number of days employed, said the statement would be made out and submitted, except that the smaller details would be given later on.

The leader of the government in answer to the question of Mr. Shaw for a statement relating to the sale of debentures of this province, said statement to contain the following particulars:—

1. Copy of advertisement offering the said debentures for sale
2. Copy of prospectus, if any, issued in connection with the said sale.
3. Copies of all tenders received for the purchase of said debentures.
4. Statement showing the number and amount of debentures sold by public tender and at what price.
5. Statement showing the number and amount of debentures sold by private contract and at what price and the date of sale.
6. Statement showing in detail the brokerage and all other expenses incurred in connection with the sale of said debentures—said that the advertisement would be given; that there was no prospectus issued; that he did not think that the tenders should be given as they concerned private parties, but he was agreeable if the other members of the government were; that four and five would be answered; and that there was no brokerage, but the expenses would be given.

In the afternoon the House went into committee on the bill providing for the plebiscite. A discussion arose as to whether or not women should be allowed to vote on the matter, which was participated in by Messrs Bentley, Peters, McKay, Underhay, McLellan, Richards, Rogers, Shaw, H. C. Macdonald, Gordon, Sinclair, Bell, Farquharson, Warburton and others.

The bill was agreed to without amendment.

The House then went into committee to further consider the bill respecting the Legislature.

On the clause providing a two-third vote in case of a future change in respect to the Legislature, Mr. Bentley (Leader of the Opposition) moved the following in amendment:

"No provisions of this bill shall affect the right of a majority of the members of the new Legislative Assembly to hereafter change the qualification of electors."

Messrs. Bentley, Rogers and Shaw all contended that the provision was worthless and denounced it as un-British and ridiculous to attempt to dictate to a future Legislature.

Mr. Bell admitted that the provision was worthless and un-British; but argued that it might have a deterrent effect upon the Legislatures of the future, until such time as sentiment had changed.

Mr. Peters pleaded that if it was no good it could do no harm. In his opinion it would have an effect morally, if not legally, placing upon future legislatures. At any rate the Legislative Council required it.

FRIDAY, March 24.

House met at 11.45.

The following batch of questions was asked, in answer to which all the necessary information was promised:

Mr. Shaw asked the Leader of the Government for a detailed statement showing the amount of matriculation fees paid to the Government or any person or persons; authorized by the Government to receive the same during the past year, the manner in which such fees were expended, the names of the person or persons to whom said expenditure was paid, and the amount paid to each person respectively.

He also asked the Commissioner of Public Works for a statement showing detail in the expenditure of $62.20 on Cardigan wharf during the year 1892, as shown by the report of the Commissioner of Public Works for last year; also, amount paid by the Government for the purchase of the road-making machine, to whom paid, the date of the payment and all the expenses connected with the purchase of said machine.

Mr. Rogers asked the C. P. W. for a copy of the tenders for supplying the ferry steamers with coal, the name of the tenderer accepted, the name of the person or persons who actually did supply coal to said ferry steamers during 1892, and where said coal was weighed, whether on the scales of the supplier or on the city scales; also, for a statement showing in detail the repairs to the Lunatic Asylum, Prince of Wales College, Law Courts, Normal School, Provincial Building, Government House and Stock Farm Buildings, respectively; the names of all parties making repairs, the amount paid to each workman per day or otherwise, the items charged to capital account and to ordinary expenditure, respectively, and the different amounts let by public sale or tender or private contract, separately; also for a statement showing in detail the expense of the repairs and fitting up of the steamer Bathurst during last year on the slip at Pictou or elsewhere, the names of the men employed, the time each was employed, wages paid each and amount paid for material and supplies for steamer, the name of each supplier and the amounts paid each, and the price paid for articles supplied and the articles furnished.

Mr. Bently asked the C. P. W. for a detailed statement showing the several items of expenditure contained in the sum of $2,157 56, as shown in the Public Works report for 1892 and charged to roads in King's, Queen's and Prince Counties; also the sum of $380 72 for inquisitions on new roads, and shown by the report of the Commissioner of Public Works to have been spent by supervisors the items by public competition or private contract, the nature of the work done, the different localities in which the work has been done, the names of the several persons to whom the several contracts were given, and the amount received by each person respectively, and the authority by which each contract was let and the date of each payment made; also for the expenses connected with the operation of the road-making machine and the wages paid men and horses; also the cost of inspecting certain contracts.

Mr. Sullivan asked the C. P. W. for a statment concerning the expenditures to Morell Bridge, and also a statement of receipts and expenditures for ferries on Morell River.

Mr. McKay asked C. P. W. for a statement showing in detail the name or names of the steamer or steamers employed by the Government or any department of the Government during the past year for running between Charlottetown, Orwell, East River, West River, Crapaud, Murray Harbor, Georgetown, Montague Bridge, Grand River, the names of the owners respectively, the amount paid and owing for the service of each steamer where respectively employed, and the time for which each steamer was employed; also a statement showing wages paid James Wisener, captain of one of the steamers.

Mr. Underhay asked C. P. W. what parts of the old road along the North Side, Lot 42, have been closed, or what portions thereof he has recommended to be closed; also, asked the Commissioner of Public Lands for a return showing the amount of public land on Lot 56 sold during the past year, the quantity sold to each person, and the price sold for.

Mr. Rogers asked Commissioner of Crown Lands for a detailed statement of the amount of refund on crown and public lands amounting to $982.50, for the year 1892, giving in detail the names of each person or persons who received the refund, the amounts paid to each respectively, and the purpose and cause for which refunds were given.

Mr. Shaw asked C. C. Lands for a statement of the Land office accounts and discounts there during 1892.

Mr. A. McLeod asked the C. P. W. for a statment showing in detail the nature of the work done on Tea Hill, Lot 49, during the years 1991 and 1892, the amount of work done by public tender and the amount done by private contract or days' work, the names of the men employed and the wages paid each person per day or otherwise, and the amount paid each person; also for a statment of the cost of the repairs to Acorn's Bridge.

Hon. Mr. McLean explained that the nature of the work at Tea Hill was taking out stone and filling the ruts, where necessary, with stone. The other information would be given.

Mr. Arsenault asked the leader of the government for a detailed statement showing the amounts due and the amounts for which the Government were not liable and not paid on the 31st December, 1892, contracted for during the last financial year in each department of the public service, showing the name of each contract, the name of each contractor, the amount of each contract, and the amount carried over and unpaid in each contract.

Hon. Mr. Peters said the question should have been asked the heads of the different departments and not himself. He could not say whether or not they should answer it.

Consideration of the bill respecting the Legislature was then resumed. The debate on the two-third clause in the measure was resumed. Messrs H. C. Macdonald, Cummiskey, Warburton, Richards, Sinclair, Farquharson and Montgomery defended the clause, while it was objected to by Messrs Shaw, Jenkins, Rogers, Bentley, A. J. Macdonald and Arsenault.

Mr. Bentley's amendment to the clause was then put and lost and the main motion passed.

At the evening session the bill was again under consideration in committee, and after some time the chairman reported it agreed to with amendment. It was moved that the report be received.

Mr. Bentley, Leader of the Opposition moved in amendment that the report of the committee be not received but that the bill be referred back to the committee to consider the following amendments:

That all after the word "members" in the third line of Section 29 be struck out.

That Section 30 be struck out and die agreed to.

That Section 31 be disagreed to, and the following substituted in lieu thereof, viz: The said members shall be elected by voters who will be entitled to vote at the election of a member for the House of Assembly under the provisions of the Statute Vic., Chap. 1, and in addition the following persons shall be entitled to vote for the election of said members, viz., *femme sole*, who being a British subject, 21 years of age and not subject to any legal disability, shall have the property qualification required by the Statute 53 Vic., Cap. 1, for male voters.

Strike out all section 33, and insert in lieu thereof the following; Every writ for the election of a member or members of the Assembly shall be addressed to the Sheriff of the County wherein the electoral district for which the writ is issued lies, who shall be the Returning Officer at the election.

That all in section 157 be struck out after the word "no," and the following inserted in lieu thereof: Provisions of this Bill shall effect the right of a majority of the members of the new Legislative Assembly from hereafter changing the qualification of electors.

The amendment was lost on the following division:

AYES—Bentley, Shaw, Prowse, A. J. Macdonald, Cow, Underhay, Gordon, H. C. Macdonald, McKay, Jenkins, A. Richard, Sullivan, Jenkins—9.

Nays—Peters, McLean, Sinclair, Farquharson, McMillan, Richards, Bell, Forbes, H. C. Macdonald, Warburton, Matheson, Montgomery, McWilliams, Cummiskey, Robertson—16.

The main motion was then carried.

The bill respecting the vote on prohibition, and an act to incorporate the Head St. Peter's Bay Dairying Co. were read a third time and passed.

Mr. Shaw introduced a bill to incorporate the New Perth Hall Co.

Hon. Mr. Peters submitted the following resolution:

Resolved, That this House resolve itself into a committee of the whole to take into consideration the expediency of introducing a bill to amend an Act passed in the 53rd year of Her present Majesty's reign, entitled an Act respecting the representation of the people, by dividing the County of King's for election purposes in such a way as to give the several electoral districts in that county a more equal number of voters than at present.

In moving the resolution the Leader of the Government complained that upon no other policy of the Government were they more misrepresented and maligned by the Opposition press than in the matter of readjusting King's County. He then proceeded to explain the measure for which the resolution paved the way, and remarked that the existing state of things was generally admitted to be unfair. The features of the proposed bill are the same as the suggestions made last year by the Legislative Council. Their suggestion was that three polls be taken and added to Georgetown to make a respectable constituency of it. This plan the Government had adopted. It was termed a gerrymander and said to be unfair, but no member of the Government was afraid to go before the people and discuss the measure. It was true that this matter was disgussed last year with closed doors, and all the government members thought it was right. It was a rule of the House to discuss it in this way. He heard nothing from one end of King's County to the other against what was attempted last year. Georgetown had only about 182 voters but sent two members to the House. He did not think it was right that it should send two men, when other districts in the Province with over 2,000 voters also send only two. The Government always thought this was wrong and was neither right nor just. Every voter in Georgetown was equal to ten voters in any other portion of the Island. The Liberal party did not bring the measure forward as a catch question. They had never been known to resort to a gerrymander in order to obtain a mean or unfair advantage! He would scorn to do such a thing!! He would ask any member of the Opposition if after carrying out in these districts what the Government proposed doing, there would not still be a fair fighting chance. It was their desire to make a fair distribution of seats in King's County and equalize the number of voters. The scheme of the government was to take from the three districts contiguous to Georgetown, viz: St. Peter's, Cardigan and Murray Harbor, a poll from each one and add them to Georgetown. He referred to the indignation meetings held to protest against this proposed measure, and characterized them of very little moment. It was a shame and an injustice that 182 voters should control districts having over 1000 voters. He was glad to now have the opportunity of discussing the matter. He had taken a great deal of trouble to find out the feelings of the people of King's County on the matter, and all except a few Tories approved of it.

Hon. Mr. McLean seconded the resolution and explained that it was only the object of the Government to give a fair and equal representation to the districts. He thought there was nothing in the arguments of the Opposition to show that the Government was trying to take an unfair advantage or to keep themselves in power. He believed it was a reasonable measure and had the approval of the people of the country.

Mr. Bentley, leader of the Opposition, said the boasting of the C. P. W. was like that of one who boasts for lack of action. The object of the change in King's County was not apparent. It would not lessen the number of members in the House or reduce the cost of legislation. The people of the county had not asked for it, not even the people in those large constituencies named by the leader of the Government. He could not see the object of the measure. Constituencies differed in size everywhere. The government advanced no arguments for the change, and he could see no necessity for it. Its object must be for something more than they said. Regarding the remark of the leader of the Government that the doors were closed by a rule, he said he would like to see these rules. But the leader of the Government could not produce them; they did not exist. The Speaker had ruled against closing the doors but the government overruled him. No arguments had been adduced by the government to show why such a measure should be passed. He supposed that before it was passed the Council would suggest some more such obnoxious clauses as disfigured last year's bill.

Mr Bell followed in advocacy of the proposed bill, and gave his reasons why he thought such a bill should become law.

Personal.

Robert Boston was elected Wednesday last to the House of Commons for South Middlesex, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of James Armstrong Liberal

Mr. Stanislaus Blanchard, of the law firm of Bayfield & Blanchard, has been appointed to the vacancy on the City School Board caused by the resignation of Mr. J. B. Macdonald.

Rev. John Catulle, C. SS. R., who for nearly nine years has been in charge of St. Ann's parish, Montreal, and who with the other Redemptorist fathers conducted a mission in this city a few years ago, has gone to Rome. His time as the Superior in Montreal of the Redemptorist Order expires on April 26th, but it is thought that he will be re-appointed. Father Catulle has received two months leave of absence. Before leaving Montreal he was presented with several addresses and a well lined purse. Father Strubbe accompanied him as far as New York.

OTTAWA.

OTTAWA, March, 25—The House sat for three hours this afternoon.

After routine the House went into supply, and Mr. Haggart made his annual statement with respect to the I. C. R. He claimed credit for reducing the staff of the road by 382 men and wages amounting to $156,000. This also meant a large saving in material, for when unnecessary men were employed there was waste. He did not believe that the train service was at all impaired. He did not think that much could be saved on the Prince Edward Island road, but he believed that the main line of the Intercolonial would pay expenses for the half year ending with end of December, 1892. The earnings of the Intercolonial Main Line were $1,595,047, and expenses $1,597,767, leaving a deficit of $2,720, while on the P. E. Island railway in the same month the earnings were $22,072 and the operating expenses $130,291. He claimed that the Government was operating the Intercolonial Railway at a lower cost per train mile than any road in Canada was operated, and were carrying freight and passengers at actual cost of conveyance on other roads. During the last six months of 1892 the total saving on the Government railway as compared with the corresponding months of 1891 was $318,000. He was confident that the Government roads could be operated without any deficit then than that on the P. E. Island Railway. He had confidence in Mr. Pottinger's management.

Mr. Perry complained that the concessions had been made on the Prince Edward Island Railway by reducing train service to the great inconvenience and loss of the public. There was, he contended, no more reason for helping and reducing railway service for subsidies, because there was no more cause pay for their own construction and operation. Stations had been closed with the view of pushing localities favoring against the Government. The rates charged on the P. E. Island Railway were excessive.

Not a shadow of a doubt

but that we are fair dealers in first class goods.

STANLEY BROS.,
Brown's Block.

Not a shadow of a doubt

but that we give every day Big bargains to satisfied customers.

STANLEY BROS.,
Brown's Block

We want to Save you money in all staple goods. Six cases of new goods—New Flannelettes, New Ginghams, New Tickings, New White Cottons New Grey Cottons.

STANLEY BROS,
Brown's Block.

Ring out the old! Ring in the New!

IN the season of 1892 we imported a carload of NO. 1 HARD RED FIFE WHEAT from the CANADIAN NORTHWEST in order to test its adaptability to our climate and soil. This wheat was sown by leading farmers in different parts of the Island who in response to our enquiries have reported results in writing, and some of these reports are printed in our seed catalogue. The success of the Northwest Wheat has been as surprising as it has been agreeable to us.

Not a Single Complaint has been Received.

In every case where our Northwest Fife was sown under same conditions with White Russian, it has out yielded that productive variety, has been as early or earlier in maturing, and immensely more valuable for milling purposes. Every farmer who grew it last year praises it and will sow it again, and will sow no other.

We are satisfied that this is the COMING WHEAT for this Province, and leading farmers and Millers agree with us. We have imported a good supply for this season direct from the Northwest, and are selling it at moderate rates. We are also supplying leading merchants in every important place of business in P. E. Island.

CAUTION:—We have the Genuine Article, it is selected for us by experts employed by the Canadian Pacific Railway, and the Wheat is inspected by the Government Inspector at Winnipeg, and grades No. 1 Extra (the certificates can be seen at our store) it is free from smut, is plump and heavy, and weighs 64 to 65 lbs to measured bushel. Be sure and ask for

CARTER'S NORTHWEST FIFE,

and see that every bag is marked in Red letters, "No. 1 Hard Red Fife Wheat from the Canadian Northwest." Samples and prices on application.

GEO. CARTER & CO.,
Grocers & Seedsmen, 136 Queen Street
Charlottetown, March 3, 1893

Trap Nails,
Rope,
Boat Nails,
Rosin,
Galv'd Iron,
Paints,
Paint Oils,
Very Cheap.

FENNELL & CHANDLER.

The Rush is to Goff Bros.

FOR BOOTS, Shoes Slippers, Rubbers Our celebrated make of solid leather Boots take the lead. We give low prices, latest styles, good fits, and have the best assortment. Also Trunks and Valises always on hand.

Shoemakers wanting upper sole leather, awls, bristles, pegs, shoe thread, knives, rasps, etc., would do well to buy from us.

GOFF BROS.

Extraordinary Announcement

Facts Worthy of Consideration.

I AM disposing of the balance of my fall supply of overcoatings, trimmings, tweeds and worsteds at remarkably low figures. I do not advertise prices; but an examination of the goods must convince anyone that no better bargains can be obtained in this city. The public are cordially invited to an inspection of the stock so as to satisfy themselves of the correctness of these statements.

A. J. MURPHY,
Dec. 7, 1892—tf. Merchant Tailor

A SIMPLE WAY TO HELP POOR CATHOLIC MISSIONS.

Save all cancelled postage stamps of every kind and country and send them to Mr. E. Rogal, Hammonton, New Jersey, U. S. Give at once your address, and you will receive with the necessary explanation a nice Rosary of Hammonton Missions.

Mar 15, 1893—3m.

Modern home of wood—the house painters.

A sample package of the Wonder-working K. D. C. the King of Dyspepsia Cures, mailed to any address. K. D. C. Company, New Glasgow, Nova Scotia.

When looking for Ready Made Clothing remember the Stanley Woolen Mills stock and assortment is the largest and cheapest in the city.

North British and Mercantile

FIRE AND LIFE

INSURANCE COMPANY

—OF—

EDINBURG AND LONDON

ESTABLISHED 1809.

Total Assets, 1891, - - $20,000,000.

FIRE RISKS every description of Property and Life Business on the most favorably terms.

This Company has been well and favorably known for its upward progress of losses in this Island during the past thirty years

FRED. W. RUBBLE, Agent
Stamper's Block, Upstairs, Victoria Row, Charlottetown, P.E.I.
Jan. 11, 1893—1y

"Let us assure," is the latest way of proposing.

Are you troubled with [illegible] heartburn, acidity? Take K. D. C., the King of Dyspepsia Cures. [illegible]