

Mr. Killam agreed that it was a question for the City and County authorities.

Hon. Attorney General was of opinion that the idea of the City and County of Halifax paying for the land required for the extension of the Railway was absurd.

Mr. Eason, Mr. Chambers, and others, made remarks at the close of which the papers were referred to Committees on Railways.

Hon. Attorney General introduced Bill for the better encouragement of Education—and expressed himself prepared to open the principles of the Bill on Tuesday next.

After a remark from Mr. Johnston, Bill was read a first time.

Editorial Miscellany.

WARLIKE PREPARATIONS—Great activity has been apparent in the Ordnance Department since the arrival of the last steamer, and the Citadel is being well supplied with powder and other warlike stores. A vessel has already arrived with Minie rifles, and a frigate is daily expected with ammunition, which report says, is to be transported overland via New Brunswick, to Quebec, accompanied by a strong escort. There appears to be no doubt that John Bull in these parts of his dominions, is putting his house in order, in anticipation of a hostile visit from brother Jona has, and will be fully prepared to reply to all civilities, that may be rendered upon so interesting an occasion.

It will be seen by the telegraphic dispatch of the *Baltic's* arrival at New York, that no news had been received of the missing steamer *Pacific*. But little hopes are now entertained of her safety.

We have learned with a good deal of surprise, that an extract from the *Provincial Gazette*, of the 9th Feb., published in Philadelphia, under the name of St. Paul, an example, and copied into that paper from the *Churchman*, and which we publish in the *Church Times* of the 23rd Feb., has caused some annoyance to the friends of one of our Clergy, and imputation of being designed to wound his feelings. Some persons have gone so far as to charge another Clergyman with having either written the article, or instigated its publication with an improper motive. We certainly do not think that quoting St. Paul as an example, could do any sort of mischief, and were quite innocent of sinister intention or design in transferring the extract; and any persons suspicious of any other party having had a share in this matter, can satisfy themselves if they please, by an inspection at our office of the paper from which it is copied, that it is just what we assume it to be and no more. Our only impression with reference to it was, that it conveyed a caution against clergymen hampering themselves with debt, and went to show that there was nothing derogatory in a clergyman adopting a secular profession, (as many are obliged to do,) if exercise he was unable to support his family. We have only heard since the article was published, of the facts upon which parties have seized to establish a mischievous coincidence, and in view of the whole matter we think it is a very trivial thing to make a fuss about, or for any party or person to feel the least annoyance at.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT!—An accident occurred at the Railway on Monday morning last, attended, we grieve to say, with very distressing circumstances. It appears that the Engineer, Mr. Elias Woodworth, left the terminus about 8 o'clock, taking with him one of the Scotch engines (the "St. Gaspar") and a platform or truck; the latter having upon it some fifteen or twenty labourers, provided with picks and shovels, for the purpose of clearing the track. A violent rain storm had raged during Sunday night, but the wind chopping round to North-west, on Monday morning, the rain changed to snow, and the rails became coated with ice and sleet.—The train proceeded carefully for a considerable distance, stopping occasionally, while the men removed the snow, but Mr. Woodworth, thinking any further precaution unnecessary, put on steam in the vicinity of the 3-Mile House, and dashed forward. The engine ran off the track by Letson's Yard, plunged over the embankment into the Basin, and crashing through the ice, submerged the unfortunate engineer in the freezing water.—Relief was speedily at hand, but the poor man, when taken out of the water, was found bruised and dead. A lad by the name of Corcoran, an assistant to the engineer, was also badly scalded and otherwise hurt. By a chance, so wonderful as to appear miraculous, the platform containing the labourers was left on the bank, and all escaped harm, with the exception of one man, who had his leg broken. Mr. Woodworth was much valued and respected as a man of ability and moral worth. He has left a widow and one child to mourn the sad results of a casualty which has thrown a gloom over the public mind.—*Athenaeum.*

The *Athenaeum*, of 5th inst., pays a graceful and deserved tribute to the memory of the late William Scott, Esq., of this city, who for many years filled the offices of Secretary to the Board of Agriculture, and Grand Scribe of the Grand Division, Sons of Temperance. The memory of the just is blessed.—*Chron.*

We perceive by the English papers, that Her Majesty amongst a number of others, has appointed to be an Ordinary Member of the Civil Division of the Third Class, or Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, the late Master of the Rolls of this Province, Alexander Stewart, Esquire.—*Colonist.*

THE LEGISLATURE.

The Assembly have been engaged since Thursday, Feb. 28, in discussing a vote of want of confidence moved by Dr. Topper, Member for Amherst, on a resolution to go into Committee for the purpose of taking up the Executive Council Bill. The discussion continued on this Resolution on Friday and Saturday, when the Hon. Attorney General made a lengthy speech, in which he undertook to define the principles of responsible government, neither openly recognizing nor denouncing the feature contended for by some of the administrative supporters, to wit—that the government should be conducted by or for a party. On Monday the debate was resumed, and Mr. Killam, with a view to introduce a legitimate subject for discussion, moved the following Resolution, in amendment of that of Dr. Topper, viz:

Whereas, on Saturday last, the Leader of the Government in this House made a formal exposition of the principles on which the present Government was conducted, and therein expressly declared he would neither announce nor denounce the principles that "to the victors belong the spoils."

Therefore Resolved, That this House recognizes the prerogative and power of the crown administered by the Provincial Government, yet feels bound to declare that Government is instituted for the general prosperity, and rejects the principle that in the administration of Government patronage, officers not Parliamentary nor connected with the necessary conduct of Government should be removed from office on account of their political opinions, or for the purpose of rewarding party adherents.

Also Resolved, That we believe that the true interpretation of Responsible Government means to carry out the well understood wishes of the people as expressed through their representatives.

The discussion continued day by day until Thursday evening. It was chiefly remarkable for the various views elicited from members upon the operation of what they styled Responsible Government—which on the part of the Ins was construed to mean a government entirely for their own exclusive benefit, so far as the spoils of office would enable them to indulge in such patriotic aspirations—and that all who differed with them were to be proscribed. This is more of the popular than the monarchical mode, altho' in neither is the principle affirmed, and instead, whether it be a fiction or no, the object of popular government is stated to be the happiness of the people. Mr. Hyde a United States citizen born and bred, but naturalized in this Province, very properly stated that the rigid adherence to the ultra party principle would produce civil war. Indeed we can conceive nothing more likely to make a people ferocious than such a system of proscription, as some of our party men have undertaken to institute, and we would not like to insure their lives if they persist in and carry it out in their legislative or governmental practice. These principles of proscription were combated by the opposition, with a good show of reason—urged to their legitimate conclusion they must demoralize the body politic, and tend to make venal politicians, who for the sake of office must sell their consciences, and become despicable; or they will produce in every change of government, only a greater incapacity, until corruption will pervade every department of the State, wherever party wins its way to office, and public virtue and honor will be superseded by knavery and trickery, and the cleverest scoundrel will be at the helm of affairs.

The division took place on Mr. Killam's amendment, when there appeared 21 for the amendment, against it 28—majority in favor of the Executive 7.

The Legislature never had a better opportunity than at the commencement of the present Session to initiate a system of government that should modify party resentments, by turning their whole attention to subjects of practical utility. We think it less owing to the disposition of the country generally, than to that of some of the members of assembly that this course has not been pursued—and we fear unless the country speak out on this topic, and oblige their representatives to look more to the public interests and less to their own, that they will repent their apathy in the run of these interests.

A paper explanatory of the resignation by the Hon. James McLeod of his seat in the Executive Council, was read in the House on Tuesday by Mr. McKeagney. The Hon. gentleman complained that having claims to the office of Financial Secretary they were not considered, and that his colleagues proceeded to advise measures without consulting him, and without his consent—in effect that he was in name only an Executive Councillor.

THE ACADIAN IRON MINES.—Some weeks ago a rumor prevailed to the effect that these Mines situated at Londonderry in the County Colchester, and which have been worked to a limited extent for some years past, were about to be purchased by the British Government. The growing scarcity of iron of a quality suitable for the manufacture of ordnance of the heaviest calibre, a quality of iron which could be furnished in abundance by the Acadian Mines, was given as the reason for the purchase; and the fact that the Attorney General of this Province had made a visit to the office of Records in Paris for the purpose of investigating the title under which the Mines are held, tended to create a belief in the truth of the rumor. It is now asserted by several of our Halifax contemporaries that the proprietors of these Mines have sold that valuable property to an English company for the sum of £40,000. If the Mines have fallen into the hands of practical men, the

transfer may prove of immense benefit to the Province. The quality of the product of these mines has been for some time known to manufacturers in Britain as superior to any English or Scotch iron. We observe that experiments are being made in the Royal Arsenal at Woolwich to test the resisting properties of this iron with a view to its use in the manufacture of ordnance of heavy calibre. Should these experiments prove satisfactory, of which there can be little doubt, there will probably be at once a demand for the "Acadian" iron for military as well as commercial purposes, which will not only cause the working on a large scale of the Mines at Londonderry, but also turn the attention of iron dealers to the whole of the vast deposits of Colchester and Pictou, of which the Acadian Mine forms but a small part.—*Eastern Chronicle.*

FOUR DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.

The American Steamship *Baltic* has arrived at New York. Liverpool dates to 20th.
Cotton unchanged. Small speculative demand.
Provision market inactive. Limited sales.
Broadstuffs—market all and sales limited.
Cottons quoted at 90 to 90½—Money market tight.
The new Loan is for Five Millions.
No news of interest. No account of Pacific.

D. O. S.

4th Rule of the Widows' and Orphans' Fund.
"Every Clergyman of the Church of England in the Diocese, wishing to avail himself of the benefits of this fund, shall, within six months from the 10th Oct. 1856, or within one year from taking orders, or from his admission into the Diocese, apply to the Sec'y for a Certificate of pension, and shall pay the annual sum or premium therefor, as hereafter mentioned."
The above limited time expires on the 10th of April, 1856.

5th Rule. "Any applicant after such period of time, shall only be permitted to receive such Certificate at the option of the Sub. Com., and upon such terms as they shall direct."

The premiums for 1856 on Certificates already issued, are due on the 1st. Jan'y, 1856. The last day on which such premiums can be received is Saturday, 9th Feb'y, 1856.

EDWIN GILPIN, Jr. Sec'y.

AN APPEAL ON BEHALF OF THE NATIONAL SCHOOL.

THE National School was established in the year 1816, and has been in efficient operation since that period. It has afforded gratuitous instruction to Hundreds of the children of the Poor, both boys and girls; and there are many, now occupying honourable and useful stations in life, who have received their education in no other School but this.

The ability and efficiency of the Teachers, in both departments, have been admitted by all, who have ever visited the Institution, or have been present at the Examinations held there.

There are now in daily attendance, at the Boys' School seventy-four free scholars, and sixty paid scholars; in the Girls' school, thirty free scholars, and forty paid scholars total—Two hundred and four.

Children of all denominations are received into the School, and although its religious instruction is conformable to the principles and usages of the Church of England, these are not forced upon the pupils against the wishes of their Parents or Guardians.

The Salaries of the teachers, and all other expenses, have been defrayed by means of voluntary subscriptions, aided by a small allowance from the Provincial Funds, and from the tuition fees: which last item, however, forms but a small amount, as the fees vary from five shillings, to twenty five shillings per annum, according to the ability of the parents or guardians to pay; and also from the circumstance, that the majority of the Children, are Free scholars.

The Building, which was erected by private subscription and a donation from the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, has become in a very dilapidated state, and will soon be unfit for use; and unless some strenuous exertions are made, to raise the necessary funds for its thorough repair, the School will have to be closed.

To avert this unhappy occurrence, an appeal is now made by the Provisional Committee to the public at large, and to the Parishioners of St. Paul's in particular, for pecuniary aid, on behalf of this useful and truly charitable Institution. An annual subscription of twenty shillings entitles the party giving it to nominate one free scholar; and an additional free scholar for every additional Twenty shillings subscribed. As a large sum would be required to repair the Building, the Committee intend to solicit donations and subscriptions, and also propose to hold a FAIR, about the first of August next, at Hillside, the property of the President of the Society, situated on the shores of the North West Arm, and trust that the Ladies, who are ever first in works of charity and benevolence, will kindly lend their valuable aid and assistance, in forwarding the object they have in view; This supported the Committee feel confident that the appeal now made will not be in vain, and that an Educational Institution of so much importance raised by the gratuitous subscriptions of others will not be allowed to fall through, from the apathy and indifference of the residents of the city, in the present day.

HENRY PRYOR, President.
JEREMIAH SALTER, Treasurer.
WILLIAM T. TOWNSEND,
WILLIAM METZLER,
JOHN SILVER, Secretary.
EDWARD J. LOANLY,
MAURICE MOFFATT.

Committee

Halifax, March, 8, 1856.