

NOVA-SCOTIA.

PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT.

From the Novascotian.

THURSDAY, FEB. 18.

Opening of the Ports—Foreign Trade.

The order of the day having been moved, the debate on this subject was resumed, in which Messrs. Stewart, Uniacke, Doyle, Bell, Smith and others took a part; when the amendment was put and negatived, after which the original motion was carried 21 to 10.

The Road System—Governor's Message.

The order of the day for considering the Governor's Message on the subject of a change in the mode of expending Road Monies, having been repeatedly postponed, was taken up to-day.

Mr. UNIACKE, who briefly adverted to the character of the present system—touching on its prominent defects—and concluded by moving the following Resolution:

Resolved that all sums of money, appropriated for maintaining the main Post Roads and Bridges thereon, shall be placed at the disposal of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, and be expended under his superintendence and direction, on some well advised system of tender and contract.

The motion was opposed by Messrs. Roach and Huntingdon, the latter moving as an amendment, the following Resolutions:

Resolved, That having taken the Message into their serious and deliberate consideration, this Committee are of opinion that, although the present system may be defective, as are all systems for the expenditure of public monies, yet, that it is, considering the small sum available for the Road Service, and the extent and number of roads to be kept in repair therewith, less liable to objection than any which has been submitted to the House or has occurred to this Committee.

Therefore resolved, That the Committee deem it inexpedient that any alteration should be made in the method of applying the Road Service in the present Session.

The discussion of this question occupied the house part of Wednesday and the whole of this day, when the House decided, by a large majority to adhere to the old system.

Much of Monday and Tuesday was occupied with a discussion of the Chief Justice's Fees. Bills for abolishing them having been, the last and present Session, introduced in the Council, the House declared yesterday that their extinction was improper and unconstitutional, and appointed a Committee to prepare an Address to His Majesty on the subject.

From the Times.

FRIDAY.—The amendments sent yesterday to the House from the Council, to the Bill, entitled, an Act to declare the value of certain coins current in this Province, and to provide a legal tender for the payment of debts, were read, and thereupon, on motion of Mr. Young, it was resolved that the said amendments be not agreed to by the House. Mr. Uniacke then moved that a conference by committee be desired with H. M. Council, on the subject of the Bill to regulate the Currency. The arguments adduced in favour of this procedure were, that if nothing convincing could be said on either side to support their particular views, yet each might be induced to yield a little and thus a measure might be passed which would be beneficial—on the other side it was contended that it would be derogatory to the House to enter into such a conference, that they had already so far yielded to the Council as to send up a Currency Bill, after the sterling bill had been rejected, and that this came down with amendments which were neither more or less than the former bill sent up by the Council—and, that therefore, this persistence on the part of the Council, shows they are determined to abide by their own opinions, and would never amalgamate with this House. The House decided, and there appeared for the conference, 12, against it, 22. *Ordered*, That the Clerk do carry the Bill and amendments back to the Council, and acquaint them that this house have not agreed to said amendments.

On the motion of Mr. DOYLE, *resolved*, that a Committee be appointed to search the Journals of the Council, and report to the House the proceedings of the Council in regard to the Bills of this Session concerning the Currency. Messrs Doyle, Young and Uniacke were named a committee for that purpose.

Mr. COCHRAN, pursuant to leave given, presented a Bill to amend the Act to direct and ascertain the mode of Assessing County and District Rates, and for other purposes—read a second time. A petition of Mr. Wm. Kennedy and others, Inhabitants of Anna-

polis, was presented by Mr. W. H. Roach, praying that Barristers and attorneys may not in future be exempted from Militia duty—laid on the table.

The House in Committee to consider of Supplies to be granted to His Majesty. On voting the annual sum for the Treasurer.

Mr. STEWART said he rose not for the purpose of opposing the motion, but it appeared in the Journals as the salary was £600, when in reality it was only £500—and £100 for the Clerk. He would like it better if it were expressed as formerly. Mr. Stewart intended to make a motion at some future time, that the situations of Treasurer and Collector of Impost and Excise should be amalgamated. It was the plan in New Brunswick, and their consolidation would give a handsome salary to the incumbent, and save something to the Province. If allowed, he intended to bring in a bill for the purpose, but not to operate the life of the present incumbent. Mr. Young said these two offices cost the Province £1430—double the sum these services cost New Brunswick. In New Brunswick they were more economical than we had been with these two offices, which were filled by one individual at a salary of £700. The Treasurer was the worst paid officer in this colony, taxing the expenses of his office, clerks, coats, stationary, &c. he did not get more than £400. These observations were thrown out for members to digest, that they might be prepared on the subject at the period when it might be brought forward. Mr. Uniacke was of opinion that it were better to transfer the Impost and Excise Department to the Custom House—he saw no reason why the same officer should not collect all the duties, and pay them into the Treasury—he would allow present incumbents to hold their situations during life, and after turn these duties over to the Customs. After observations from some other members the vote passed.

It was also resolved, on motion of Mr. HUNTINGDON, that £10,000 be granted for the Service of the Roads and Bridges.

The House in Committee of Ways and Means.

Mr. DEBLOIS introduced a Scale or table of duties, simplifying the former tariff, and several of the articles enumerated were considered.

SATURDAY.—House in Committee of Ways and Means.

On further consideration of the table of duties the Committee divided on the admission of Foreign Flour duty free, when there appeared for retaining the duty 12, against it 16.

A message was received from H. M. Council, stating that that body had agreed to the Passengers bill, with amendments.

Mr. UNIACKE moved that a Committee be appointed to revise and consolidate the laws relative to fires—be referred to the law of last Session, which he was certain did not give satisfaction—Messrs. Uniacke, Deblois, Bell, Lawson, and Doyle were named a Committee for that purpose.

Mr. STEWART reported from the Committee to whom was referred the bill for the more easy foreclosures of mortgages, that several clauses had been added to the bill—bill recommitted to Committee of the whole House.

Mr. BELL, after leave had been given, presented a petition numerously signed by the most respectable merchants, and other persons in Halifax, from the Eastern Stage Coach Company, setting forth the great advantages the Province had derived from that conveyance, and hoping the Legislature and would not be withheld from that useful undertaking. *Ordered* that the petition do lie on the table, to be considered with others on the same subject.

The Message from the Council relating to the Passenger bill, being then considered, Mr. SPEAKER said he thought favourably of the propositions—they were indeed better than their own bill—but it being a money act, they could not be taken as amendments to the Bill, and the proper course for the House to pursue was, to reject them altogether.—It was, however, competent to any member to embody them in the clauses of another Bill.

MONDAY.—A petition from Merigomisho, &c. against the Eastern Stage, was presented—referred to select committee.

On the report of the scale of duties brought forward by Mr. Deblois being read, several alterations with regard to the duties on foreign flour, beef and pork, were proposed by Mr. Lawson, and invariably lost. The object of the hon. gent. was, that these articles should bear a slight duty.

Mr. Morton reported from the Committee on the Judges Fees Bill, which had been rejected by the Council, and the Committee had recommended an Address to His Majesty on the subject.

C M E D E S S.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, MARCH 2, 1836.

By the January Packet, arrived at Halifax, we have received our files of British papers to the 6th of that month, and have given some extracts in this day's paper. The most pleasing intelligence they bring us, is the general prosperity which seems to pervade the Mother Country (Ireland excepted). Money is plenty, wages are good, and all classes well employed.

The following quotation from the speech of the French King, at the opening of the Chambers, will show on what footing that nation now stands, in relation to the United States. No doubt is now entertained, that an amicable adjustment of all their differences will be speedily effected.

"I regret that the treaty of July 4, 1831, with the United States of America, should not yet have received its complete execution. The King of Great Britain has offered to me and the United States his friendly mediation. I have accepted it; and you will share in my desire that this difference should terminate in a manner equally honourable to the two great nations."

Mr. WILLIAM RANKIN, Printer, of Charlotte-Town, has issued a Prospectus of a new weekly Newspaper, to be called the *P. E. Island Times*. Terms 15s per annum, half in advance.

LITERARY SOCIETY.—On Wednesday last, Mr. G. CHRISTIE read an Essay before the Society on LANGUAGE, and on Wednesday next Mr. A. P. ROSS will lecture on HYDROSTATICS.

TO OUR CORRESPONDENTS.—We have unavoidably deferred several Communications till our next.

We have this week had two articles handed to us as curiosities: the first from Mr. John McKay, of this Town, a twig of a Plum Tree, finely studded with the eggs of an insect. Upon examination, we find them to be the eggs of the Lacky Moth, which, although a very harmless insect itself, suggests to us the propriety of applying a lime wash to all fruit trees early in the Spring, as many more insects of a much more dangerous character, deposit their eggs in a similar manner on the bark of the trees, and as soon as the heat of spring arrives, they germinate and commit great ravages on the leaves, blossoms, and even fruit. The greatest marvel connected with the eggs of insects, when deposited in such circumstances in a country like Nova Scotia is, the fact of their remaining alive and uninjured, even in the severest winters, when the thermometer falls to 20 or 30 degrees below zero, yet such is the fact, and we often find the summer that succeeds the severest winter, the most prolific in insects. From Mr. Thomas Lowdon, three fine new potatoes, nearly as large as hens' eggs, and quite fit for the table. These were grown in his cellar, since he housed his crop last fall, and thus affords a lesson that even in Nova Scotia, the Epicure may have his palate gratified with a dish of new potatoes at any season of the year, and at small expense.

ARTICLES OF THE GREEN HILL FRIENDLY ECONOMICAL SOCIETY.

We the Inhabitants of Green Hill and others, taking into consideration the Oppressive and Expensive manner of settling disputes by law, have agreed to form ourselves into a Society, the design of which the following articles will more fully explain.

Article 1st. This Society shall be called the GREEN HILL FRIENDLY ECONOMICAL SOCIETY.

2d. The business of this Society shall be conducted by a committee of not less than five and not more than twelve, exclusive of President, Vice President, and Secretary, who shall all be considered ex-officio members of the Committee, the above officers shall all be chosen at the annual or semi-annual meetings of the society.

3d. The business of the President (or Vice President in his absence) shall be to deliver and hear addresses and to act as moderator at the meetings of the society or committee. The business of the Secretary, or his assistant, to record all things necessary to commit to writing. The duty of the committee will more fully appear by the following articles.