haps, the more interest in this subject because the Lazaretto was situated in his own County, and he was, therefore, well acquainted with its working. Although it cost the Province some $3,000 a year, more accommodation was needed and a better building should be put up. He hoped this matter would be pressed to a successful issue and that a law requiring compulsory occupation of the institution, by Lepers, would be enforced. This was necessary in view of the peculiar nature of the disease.

He thought the Speech of His Honor should have contained a Statement showing how our finances stood, in order that members might, at as early a day as possible in the session, be well informed on the subject, but he supposed the Government felt that the Opposition would be on the alert to get the information. The Speech was remarkable for its barrenness of material, although it was long in words. He thought reference should have been made to the Immigration claim, which, it appeared, the Government had dropped. He hoped that papers giving the House full information on all matters affecting the interests of the Province would be brought down early in the session, and that the Government would not, as it did in previous sessions, delay information asked for until within a few hours of prorogation.

Hon. Provincial Secretary took the floor and moved the adjournment of the debate, he having the floor.

FRIDAY, March 1.

During routine this morning there was some discussion brought up by Mr. Willis over the record, as it appeared in the Journals, of the change made yesterday in the wording of certain paragraphs in the Address, which resulted in no alteration of the record, it appearing that the changes made would be shown on comparison of the Address, as originally moved with that passed, with amendments made by consent of the House.

Mr. Marshall introduced a Bill to authorize J. E. Whittaker, trustee, to convey a certain lot of land in St. John, with Petition of the heirs in favor thereof.

ST. JOHN LAW SOCIETY.

Hon. Attorney General introduced a Bill to incorporate the St. John Law Society. He explained its provisions briefly, as contained in the announcement of the measure already made in the St. John papers, showing that it provides, among other things, that it shall be a condition of the privilege of practice by Lawyers in St. John that they shall be members of the proposed Society, and pay the annual fee of ten dollars, which is to be devoted to the maintenance of the Society's Law Library in that City, a thing which, especially since the late fire, had become a pressing necessity to the profession there. The Bill was accompanied by a Petition of Wm. Jack, Q. C., D. S. Kerr, Q. C., J. J. Kaye, Q. C., S. R. Thomson, Q. C., and others in its favor.

Mr. Burns gave notice of an address for a full and detailed Statement of the Liabilities and the Assets of the Province, and of every Department of the Government up to the 26th February last, showing, also, in detail, the state of the Accounts of every Department, with any Bank, Agent or person with whom they have financial transactions, also the Cash Balances on hand in every Department on the same date.

Mr. Smith introduced a Bill to amend the Landlord and Tenant Act.

Mr. McLeod introduced a Bill to amend the Act relating to Elections to the Assembly.

The Order of the Day being called at 12 o'clock——

Hon. Provincial Secretary, after some pleasantries in reference to Mr. Willis' loss of "thunder" by the St. John fire, explained the position of the Government in regard to the Resolution directing them to take steps for bringing the question of the powers of this Legislature, in the withholding of Liquor Licenses, before the Supreme Court of Canada. After stating the circumstances, as already stated by the Attorney General, he said that no actual case could be presented in the Courts of the Province until after the first of May, 1877, when the local Acts came into operation, the actual time being Trinity term, and, therefore, no judgment could be moved up to the Appeal Court until June, but the Ontario case was then on and as it was believed to involve the settlement of the question which Mr. Rogers' Resolution was intended to reach, it was proper for this Government to await its determination. If this Government had been misled in reference to it, so was the Dominion Government, who entertained the belief that the question which New Brunswick sought to have settled was involved in it.

He was surprised that Mr. Willis should take the ground that this Province was unduly contending for special privileges in the Penitentiary matter. Under the terms of the Union due regard was had to the existing state of the laws relating to Penitentiaries, and the contention of this Government was against the disturbing of the privilege secured to New Brunswick under those terms. It was a matter affecting the Provincial exchequer, and one in reference to which the Provincial Government had a right to contend against the encroachments of the Dominion Government.

He also went quite fully into the Eastern Extension claim, showing, in addition to the facts stated yesterday by Mr. Swim, that the Road was taken over by the Dominion Government at the rate of $24,000 per mile, that being the alleged or estimated cost of similar portions of the Intercolonial, as stated by the Dominion Government, which had threatened to build another road alongside it as a part of the Intercolonial, unless the Government of New Brunswick accepted its proposition for a transfer within sixty days. The road had cost the Province $150,000 more than the gross sum offered, but the Province had no choice, hence its acceptance, in view of the alternative of receiving nothing and having the road left on its hands. Subsequently, in 1874, however, the Provincial Government learned that the portions of the Intercolonial, which had formed the basis of calculation of the value of the Eastern Extension, and which were even of inferior character, had cost from 25 to 33 per cent, more than was represented, and about one-eighth more than the Eastern Extension. The matter was therefore again opened up, and the just claim of the Province in the matter pressed. The reason why this claim was not pressed before was that the Government was seeking the continuation of the Special Dominion Subsidy of $63,000 which lapsed on 1st July last, and they thought it best not to disturb the negotiations in that matter by mixing up with it other claims, which might not be prejudiced by allowing them to remain in partial abeyance.

He believed that great good would result from the late visit to Ottawa of the Government Delegation, which was delayed until the meeting of Parliament in order that the New Brunswick members of the Senate and House of Commons might be found together in order to have the claims of the Province placed before them, and that their sympathy and cooperation might be secured. Most of these members of Parliament gave attentive audience to the delegates, and promised to use their good offices to secure the rights of the Province in the matter placed before them. It was in deference to their judgment and counsel, that some other claims referred to were not pressed, as it was thought best not to deal with too many matters at the same time.

The Western Extension claim of $300,000 was allowed to stand over for the present, because it was thought that if it were pressed similar claims held by other Provinces would have to be opened up, and if all were liquidated New Brunswick would be placed in no better position than she now occupies, so far as material gain would be concerned. In these matters the Delegates followed the judgment of our Provincial members of the Commons and the Senate.

He did not think Mr. Burns had any right to complain of delay on the part of the Government in submitting the financial statement asked in previous sessions, as such papers were promptly and profusely furnished when called for. Hon. members would realize, also, that it was not usual for financial statements to be brought down in the Speech; but he could promise that such statements would be furnished quite as early as usual in the session and when examined, it would be found that as liberal provision as heretofore was made for the various services and interests of the country.

Mr. Johnston said he was glad the Government appeared to wake to a better interest in Agricultural affairs, and he hoped they would be disposed to give justice to all the people of the Province in this important matter. He was gratified, yesterday, when hearing the mover of the Address, Mr. Swim, refer to the progress made in France in the science of Agriculture, and when he showed the fostering interest which the Government of that country manifested in Agriculturists. It showed the capabilities of that people for the developement of the most important of all the branches of national industry, and it ought to suggest to this Government the propriety of complying with the Resolution moved in last winter's session, which sought to secure the publication of the Agricultural Report in the French Language. The French had shown the English how to cheapen labor, and if fair opportunities were given to them they would soon show that they possessed capabilities for advancement far beyond those for which they usually received credit.

Mr. O'Leary said he was gratified to learn from the Provincial Secretary that the finances of the Province were in such fine condition, and that being so he hoped the Government would now go on with the public works to which they were committed and were, on their own showing, prevented from prosecuting before, because the finances were not in good condition. He thought the Albert, Grand Southern, and other important Railways should have been the subject of mention in the Speech, as the House would like to know, officially what had been done for the money which the Province had spent and was spending in those costly works.

He thought that the Government, while properly paying much attention to the Farmers, seemed to care little for other classes equally deserving. They made no mention of the Fishermen and other toilers whose welfare and condition should be the subject of their solicitude.

He believed the Government was right in securing more varied representation at the School Boards, and he presumed it was their intention to make those bodies as denominational as possible. This would lead to more liberality of treatment, resulting from broader views and more liberal sentiments, which must exist among larger and more varied bodies. He hoped more power would be placed in the hands of the Boards to prevent the control of Schools from being centralized, as it is now, for there was too much Board of Education, Chief Superintendent and Inspector to secure the most satisfactory results to the people, who were the most largely concerned.

Mr. Covert said he was sorry that the Government would not explain why no reference was made in the Speech to the Railways in progress in the Province. In Ontario, Quebec and Nova Scotia, where such Provincial Works were going on they were always the subject of such reference. It was the Government's old policy of keeping the House in the dark. The $10,000 claim on Immigration account was justly due, and ought to be paid without delay by the Dominion Government. If these things were allowed to lie over they would become an old story, and it would be more difficult to obtain a satisfactory settlement of them. If the members of the Commons from this Province could be induced to take hold of claims in earnest he had no doubt they could soon bring such influences to bear as would enforce a just settlement. The Penitentiary matter could be settled in the same way, and there would be no further need of delegations.

Mr. Rogers recapitulated the circumstances connected with the Resolution which he had moved two years ago, and the House had affirmed, in reference to testing the power of this Legislature in the restriction of Liquor Licenses, and said he thought the Government had not done all they might have done towards reaching a satisfactory result in the matter. The Ontario case referred to in the Speech was one relating to Distillers' Licenses, and not Tavern Licenses, so it was not the kind of case contemplated by him at the time he moved his resolution. He expressed the hope that something definite on the subject would be given in the measure promised in the Dominion Parliament.

At the suggestion of Mr. Swim, the sixth paragraph of the Address which read, "We agree with your Honor that it is desirable that the School Boards in Cities and Incorporated Towns should be enlarged with a view to more varied representation on such Boards," was changed so as to read, "We will attentively consider whether it is desirable that the School Boards in Cities" etc.

Mr. Covert said that was the second time the Government had backed down from positions taken by them in the Address, and he believed the country would give the Opposition credit for thus forcing the Government to realise their proper position. He thought the Provincial Secretary was quite astray when he took him and other members to task for saying Statements called for were not laid on the table until late in the session. He had referred to a Financial Statement asked for two sessions ago, which was not laid on the table until the closing day of the session.

Mr. Burns said the Provincial Secretary had referred to him as charging that the Financial Statements were delayed last session, but the hon. gentleman was in error, for he did not mention the Financial Statements, but said he hoped the Government would be more prompt than heretofore in bringing down Papers asked for. At that time he had in his mind a resolution moved by him last session on 26th February for papers connected with lands obtained from the New Brunswick Railway Company for Settlement purposes, etc., and which were not brought down until 15th March, while the prorogation took place on the 16th. On 21st February he moved for papers connected with Lumber seized for Trespass in Carleton County and these were not brought down until the 15th March, and on 19th February Mr. Tweedie moved for certain papers which were not brought down at all. It was, therefore, not in order for the Provincial Secretary to put on virtuous indignation when reminded of his sins of omission in this connection.

The seventh paragraph of the address being read, Mr. Davidson said he would like to see it so changed as to express the disappointment of the House that it had been necessary for the New Brunswick Government to again apply for the settlement of the Eastern Extension claim. He was afraid these claims, like the Indian's gun, would "cost more than they came to." He thought none of our claims should have been kept back, but that all should have been fairly and openly pressed. It seemed some of them were kept in abeyance for the purpose of having them form the subject of Delegations every year.

Mr. Marshall said he felt that the Eastern Extension Claim was a righteous one, the payment of which the people of Canada would endorse. The St. John Penitentiary claim was, however, one which seemed to him even more important, for it involved a prospective expenditure every year which, if capitalized, would represent not $300,000 but nearer $400,000. He therefore cordially endorsed the ninth paragraph of the Address, which related to the Penitentiary, believing it to be but the echo of the spirit and meaning of the British North America Act, and of the understanding of the Quebec Conference on Confederation. The Penitentiary laws of the several Provinces were entirely different in some of their provisions, and at Confederation express provisions were made in the Act by which the rights of the Province were preserved intact so far as the care of its Penitentiary prisoners were concerned, and if it had not been for the idea of economy in the maintenance of Penitentiaries which suggested the Central Prison for the Maritime Provinces the system of caring for the criminals of New Brunswick would have remained as it was prior to the Union. The Minister of Justice found that it was necessary to secure legislation to more clearly define the law relating to convicts in Ontario and Quebec, so that criminals sentenced for terms under two years might be incarcerated in central prisons, yet while making these strict provisions he carefully guarded the well understood arrangement with respect to Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, i.e., that prisoners sentenced with hard labor, without reference to the term of their imprisonment, should be cared for in the Penitentiaries at Dominion expense.

He quoted largely from the Report of the Committee on St. John Penitentiary submitted last year, and said that when the Delegation of St. John Sessions appointed in January, 1871, visited Ottawa and presented the claims of the City and County of St. John, as well as the other Counties of the Province, that convicts sentenced with hard labor should be cared for at the expense of the Dominion, the Government of the day unhesitatingly realized the reasonableness of their contentions, and stated to them that provided the said delegation would at once procure from the Sessions plenary powers to negotiate and close the matter, the Government would, at once, make an Order in Council to the effect that when the contemplated Central Penitentiary for the Maritime Provinces about to be erected was completed, they would hand over to the Sessions of St. John and the other Counties of the Province, the institution known as the St. John Penitentiary, with its extensive grounds and equipment, as a full indemnity for the liability of the Province of New Brunswick to the City and County of St. John at the time of Union, which in terms of the B.N.A. Act had been assumed by the Dominion of Canada. The Delegation telegraphed the offer to St. John and received an unfavorable reply, and on their return a general meeting of Sessions was called to receive their Report, when he (Mr. Marshall) while recognizing the able manner in which the Delegation had discharged their duties, claimed that to accept the offer in lieu of the bond and mortgage which the Province held would be to accept a huge elephant entailing an annual cost for maintenance and management exceeding $20,000 a year, and that would be a growing charge. The proposition thus made was voted down almost unanimously. Subsequently he (Mr. Marshall) and Sheriff Harding visited Ottawa as a Delegation in connection with this same matter, when Mr. Fournier, then Minister of Justice, made the same offer as the above—an attempted injustice originated by the late Government and continued by the present one. The Blue Books valued the buildings at $110,000 and the land connected therewith at $250 an acre, but it would not bring more than $10,000 if sold to-day, for the establishment was antediluvian in all respects, and if the Province were obliged to care for its short term prisoners it would be the cheaper and better policy to erect entirely new buildings. He hoped every possible means would be taken to inform the people of the Province in reference to this important matter which involved much greater interests than was generally realized.

Mr. Ryan (Gloucester) said he was glad that the Government had brought the matter of the Tracadie Lazaretto so prominently forward and it might not be amiss, as he represented the County in which the institution was located, for him to state a few facts concerning it. The effort to place the charge of the Lazaretto where it belonged—in the hands of the Dominion Government—was a very proper one for the reason that it now costs the Provincial Government some $3,000 and the proposed change would also secure improved management which would benefit the unfortunate class who found homes within its walls. The introduction of the disease was shrouded in mystery although there were several legends connected with its advent in Gloucester. After it first appeared many years ago it spread to a considerable extent necessitating the erection of an Hospital which it was hoped would wipe out the disease. The Hospital was under the charge of a Doctor who lived some 60 miles away and the Patients, consequently suffered from neglect, as the Doctor visited them but two or three times a year. This deterred outside lepers from seeking an asylum in the Institution, and contributed to the maintenance of the disease in the community, until it threatened to destroy the people of that locality.

At a subsequent date, when the Bishop of Chatham visited the place, he suggested a remedy for the neglect of the poor creatures within it, which was that the care of the lepers should be placed in the hands of the Sisters of the *Hotel Dieu*, Montreal, and this being followed up ladies of that Institution took charge. When they went there the patients numbered about thirty; now there were thirteen.

Hon. Provincial Secretary here explained that the number had increased since Mr. Ryan's visit to sixteen inside the Lazaretto and four outside.

Mr. Ryan said the building was too small for the requirements of its inmates, while it was old and uncomfortable. If a new and large building were provided and more comfortable quarters ensured, all the lepers would come in, and he therefore hoped this Government would lose no time in pressing the matter upon the attention of the Dominion Government.

Going back to the paragraph of the Address relating to the Liquor License matter he said no time should be lost in settling that vexed question. Municipal Councils were at a loss to know how to proceed in cases where they desired to withhold Licenses from improper persons, because it was claimed such witholding was a violation of law.

The eleventh paragraph being moved—

Mr. Pickard said he would like to see it amended on the grounds stated by him yesterday. He observed that, at least, one paper in the Province had been impressed as he was with the possible construction of the paragraph, and as the Trade depression was general and not confined to the Dominion alone, it would be better that the neutrality of this Government in Dominion politics should be as clearly preserved as possible.

Hon. Attorney General said that there was, of course, no intention on the part of the Government to give aid to either party, as such in Dominion politics, and in view of the construction that had been put on the wording of the paragraph he would suggest that "other countries" be substituted for "the Dominion." The paragraph was so amended, and it then passed.

Mr. Elder complimented the mover of the Address (Mr. Swim), on the good taste, ability and research displayed in his speech. He also complimented the members of the Opposition on the fact that their speeches were free from those extreme statements and violent and unjust attacks which had on other occasions emanated from them. The Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Covert) had indeed worked himself up to a high pitch of indignation over the alleged high-handed and oppressive acts of the Government. His friend's feelings were unique. The people of the country were not aware that such a Government held the reins. The people of the country did not know that the iron entered into their souls in consequence of the acts of a tyrannical Government. The yoke of the Government was so light it might more properly be compared to silken fetters than to iron bands. He trusted for the sake of his friend's peace of mind that his language was stronger than his feelings. With the exception of those extreme statements from Mr. Covert, and excepting also the fact that there was a want of agreement and harmony among the Opposition on the chief questions of public policy, he was willing to bear testimony to the fact that they sustained their constitutional position in a very proper manner. They had suggested some slight amendments in the Address, some of them due to the subtle legal mind of his friend on his left (Mr. Davidson), and these had been very properly accepted. Upon the whole, the Opposition were doing their work so well that he hoped they might long continue thus to serve the House and country.

He had referred to the want of harmony among the members of the Opposition, and he might illustrate the point. Two or three of their most prominent men opposed the enlargement of the Schools Boards in Cities and Towns. The member for Kent (Mr. O'Leary) approved of that enlargement. Some of them approved of the Government of the day pressing all the claims of New Brunswick against the Dominion Government. Others of them would leave some of these claims, such as that relating to the Penitentiary, a matter of the greatest moment, to the Dominion Government alone or to our representatives in the Parliament of Canada. Such was not the proper course, and the Government were to be congratulated on the source which they had decided to adopt.

The proposed enlargement of the School Boards in cities and towns was a proper measure. The School Act now found general acceptance. The great benefits which it was fitted to confer were now being as freely admitted as they were formerly persistently denied. Large numbers of our fellow subjects, who formerly stood aloof from the Common Schools were now disposed to avail themselves of their advantages. Under these circumstances it was proper that the representation at the School Boards should be larger and more varied It was true that there were evils attendant upon large executive bodies. It was, however, also true that there were difficulties in the way of removing existing Trustees to make room for the more varied representation now required, though there were advantages in having all interests represented as far as possible at those boards. He had not heard that any pressure had been brought to bear upon the Government in order to bring about this result, but the measure was wise and just; it would help to place the school system of the country on a broad and catholic basis. In introducing such a measure the Government had anticipated the public wants, and were entitled to credit for so doing.

Another point on which there was some difference of opinion in the House was the proposal to suggest an amendment in the Criminal Law, so that a prisoner might be permitted, if he so desired, to give evidence in his own case. There were two questions raised in regard to the proposed measure. It was asked, is it right and proper for this House to crave amendments in a law which can only be dealt with by another constitutional body? It was also asked are the proposed amendments safe and wise? The latter question would, no doubt, be fully answered when the proposed Address came up for consideration. As to the former topic, he would say that as the Local Governments were charged with the administration of the Criminal Law, and had thereby the best and most intimate opportunities of observing how it worked, it seemed very reasonable that if their experience suggested improvements, they should indicate these in the proper quarter. If the Attorney General of the Local Administration became convinced that it would be in the interests of justice, that is of the people, that certain changes should be made, he should not fold his arms, and adopting a *laissez faire* policy, say "it is true the changes are needed but let others see to them." Individuals, and, more especially, responsible public officers, should seize every opportunity of doing good to their fellows for while the duration of the human race might be long, and while history might deal with vast epochs, the life of an individual man was short and uncertain, and the period within which he might be able to serve his generation very limited. He should, therefore, seize every opportunity that offered of advancing the common interests. It had been said that the Minister of Justice, through his Deputies in the Provinces, had ample means of being informed on such matters, to say nothing of his immediate relation to the Parliament of Canada. But those who took that ground seemed to forget that the duties of the Deputies of the Minister of Justice were chiefly of a civil character, and that except in regard to Departmental or International matters they seldom had occasion to deal with the administration of the Criminal Law. As to the Parliament of Canada, a bill now before it showed that the want of legislation analagous to that recommended by the Attorney General was felt in other quarters. Since the Speech had been framed Mr. Dymond, a member of the House of Commons, had introduced a Bill designed to permit Criminals charged with common assault to testify on their own behalf. The introduction of the proposed Bill conceded the principle of the proposed measure. It was one that he thought the members of the legal profession would be likely to approve. He had frequently heard barristers in defending Criminals denounce the injustice of the law that imposed silence on the unfortunate prisoner in the dock. He had heard those eloquent pleaders declare that the mouth of their client was cruelly sealed by an unjust law, and that but for such law the prisoner would open his mouth and confound and confront the perjured witnesses who plotted his ruin. No one who was acquainted with the leading members of the bar would for a moment suppose that in thus denouncing the Law, they were making use of a mere professional stratagem. Their appeals were no doubt based on convictions of right—those appeals seemed to show that the experience of Counsel was in favor of amending the law in the way proposed.

In common with the members of Gloucester, he expressed gratification that the Government, had taken action in reference to the Lazaretto at Tracadie, with a view of having that institution placed under the care of the Dominion Government, to which it properly belonged, being of the nature of internal quarantine. The proposed course, right in itself, had perhaps been anew suggested to the Government by the visit which the hon. Provincial Secretary and other members of the Government and the Legislature had made to that institution in the summer. He (Mr. E.) was one of the visitors on that occasion and had been much impressed with the sad spectacle which the inmates of that institution presented. The lepers did not enter with any hope of being cured. All that could be done for them was to ameliorate the sufferings of a brief existence. They soon passed away from this life, leaving their vacant places to be supplied by others.—The origin of the disease, like the orgin of evil, was involved in mystery, a mystery which several scientific inquirers were trying to dispel. Whether the disease was first brought from the sea, according to one tradition, or had a different origin, according to the statement of others, the fact remained that it existed, and that if the lepers were permitted to live with their families, the disease would be perpetuated and extended, and the sufferings of the victims increased. The institution was one of which the Dominion Government, in the interest of all the Provinces, ought to be glad to assume the care.

In whatever way the care of these poor creatures came to devolve on the Sisters of Charity, the idea was a happy one, a wise and benign provision for ministering to the suffering. But what labor the work of the Sisters involved! What days and nights of watching! What self-sacrifice, what labors were demanded! These the Sisters cheerfully gave to the work. There were several of them engaged in it. Some of them were engaged in religious exercises at the time the visit was made, but the head of the institution showed them through it and explained its working. The appearance of that lady they could not forget. She had the radiant face which tradition assigns to angelic beings and a woman's smile. She appeared to be the impersonation of gentleness and compassion. The Sisters ministered to the spiritual as well as the temporal necessities of their patients, but he would like to see the facilities for doing so enlarged. He would like to see them accommodated in a warmer and better building. He would like to see the general education of the patients attended to, so that they might be able to avail themselves of such recreation as could be derived from books, in order to break the monotony of their daily life.

The Dominion Government could best accomplish these results, and if they did so, they would have the further satisfaction of releasing funds which, when thus set free, could be applied to the amelioration of the condition of another class of sufferers, who claimed our most tender commiseration. He referred to those whose reasons had been affected by the shocks of life, and the conflicts of civilization, and whose mental maladies made them at once helpless and dangerous. We needed increased and improved accommodation for this class of our fellow-creatures, and should hail any addition that could be made to the funds appropriated to that purpose.

In the course of the debate exception had been taken to the fact that some claims which had formerly been included in the assets of this Province had not apparently been pressed by the late delegation. His friend from the North (Mr. Davidson) was clearly not a diplomat, or he would not, after the explanations offered, have blamed the Government for not pressing their claim for $300,000 stock in Western Extension.

Mr. Davidson explained that he rather directed the attention of the House to the commission than blamed the Government. He thought the claim for the stock had been thereby virtually given up.

Mr. Elder said that he had understood Mr. Davidson to say that the fact that other similar claims for Stock might be made, was no reason why the Government should not have pressed our claim for the $300,000 Stock invested in Western Extension. He now understood him differently and only as blaming the Government for not pressing the claim for $10,000 spent by this Government for Immigration, in accordance with an arrangement made with the Dominion Government of the day.—Mr. Elder went on to argue that if, as was the case, the members of the Senate and House of Commons who co-operated with the Delegates, thought it more judicious not to press that claim, at that time, it was right and politic to be guided by their opinion. The Provincial Secretary might well say to them that he adhered to his judgment as to the undoubted justice of the claim, but that in order to gain their co-operation, he would drop so much "extra luggage" for the present, reserving to himself the right to take it up on another occasion.

The paragraph in the Speech on the subject of Agriculture was one that he highly approved of. He was pleased also to notice that the Secretary for Agriculture had placed on their tables copies of a book (Allan on American Cattle) whose circulation was fitted to do much good. He almost wondered that a subject which had been handled with so much sympathy and skill by the mover of the address, (Mr. Swim), had not, in the debate, received more attention from the leading members of the Opposition. He felt, in view of the cycles of commercial depression the country was periodically exposed to; in view of the uncertainties of mercantile and professional life, that Agriculture opened up a path to comfort, to high mental and moral improvement, and to independence, and should be encouraged by all legitimate means. The condition of many of our Farmers, and the extent of their deposits in our Savings Banks and other institutions proved that Agriculture could be pursued to advantage in this country. It was a subject which presented a wide field for study, and we should seek to promote that study. It was interesting to note the desire now manifested to discover the relations between Soils and manures; to find out the best kind of Stock for the Dairy and for Beef, the best and most economic modes of feeding Stock, and kindred problems. It was interesting to mark the renewed interest taken in the growth of such Cereals as Wheat, when it was found safe to plant it, and it was worthy of consideration whether we ought not to seek to induce many Farmers to grow more Roots than they now do and feed them to Stock, thus returning them in part to the soil, instead of sending them to outside markets. He was glad that he had been favored with an invitation to be present at a meeting of the Farmer's League, recently held at Sackville, and that he was able to attend that invitation. When present at that meeting he had heard such an exchange of sentiment on Agricultural matters as was extremely interesting and profitable. The discussions engaged in and which ought to be greatly extended, were highly creditable to the farmers. Such meetings were capable of being made so useful that he could wish to see some of the meetings of that House turned into an informal conference on agriculture, in which those who had, most information on the subject would give all possible information as to the state of farming in their respective localities, for the benefit of all the members of the House and in order that the information might be sent to the country. The facts brought out at Sackville seemed to show that our Agriculture is making steady progress. If it did not grow as rapidly as the green-house plants which could not withstand our inclement skies, its growth might be compared to that of the oak, which the more it was storm stricken cast its roots the deeper into the earth, and became at once a durable and valuable wood, and an emblem of national solidity and national strength.

One of the closing paragraphs in the Speech made the gratifying announcement that a Statement of the Accounts up to the time of the meeting of the Legislature would shortly be placed before them. Such a statement in the Speech was creditable to the Government, whose readiness to impart information on that subject ought to lead members of the Opposition to see how unjust and how unwise it was to be ever and anon sending abroad representations as to the state of the Provincial Finances, which were calculated to cause the depreciation of our debentures and otherwise to injure our credit. It was insinuated by these statements that there was some concealment; some chasm unfilled in the information supplied; some missing link; some deception. Such was not the case. The Finances stood exactly as they had been represented, and they were such as were sufficient to meet the necessities of the public service. But it was retorted by some that if such were the case, then the pleas formerly presented for "Better Terms" could not have been proper representations of our case. This was an unfair criticism. We asked the continuance of the Subsidy of $63,000, on grounds that we deemed just; we asked it because the continuance of that Subsidy would have enabled the Government of the day to do more than they can now do towards the developement of the material interests of the country. The refusal of the subsidy merely imposed on the Government the task which private individuals have so often to undertake, that of "cutting their coats according to their cloth," and this he was glad to say was being done and the credit of the country sustained. In concluding the few remarks that he had addressed to the House, Mr. Elder was glad to be able to congratulate the House and the country on the comparatively fair, harmonious and agreeable debate which had arisen on the Address.

Mr. McLeod said he was much interested in listening to the last speaker, and especially gratified with his utterances on the subject of Agriculture. He had been pleased also with the personal interest manifested in the meetings of the Farmer's League by that gentleman, and the attention which had deen devoted by his paper to the subject, and he hoped that interest would continue, as it could not but benefit the farmers of the Province, and tend to increase the attractiveness and add to the influence of the Farmer's Societies.

He was glad to see the announcement of the Provincial exhibition in the Speech and hoped to see the Stock purchased by the Province brought together at it, for he had not seen the stock since the sale, and when he did so he hoped to find that it was better than represented from various sources. He hoped the location of the Exhibition would be judiciously made, with a due regard for the varied interests involved. He was wedded to no place in particular, but of course, preferred Kings County.

Hon. Mr. Kelly said he thought Northumberland's claims were strongest.

Mr. McLeod said even if that were decided upon he would agree. He was sorry the question of the Liquor Licenses had not yet been settled, as it was a disputed point which caused considerable agitation at times in various localities of the Province. He thought the Government was remiss in their duty when they neglected to carry out the instructions which they received from the House in that matter. Other subjects which had been gone over might be referred to by him, but as he would be but repeating what others had said he would not prolong the debate.

Mr. Burns said that he had no desire to embarrass the Government in anything they might undertake with a view of rendering (even at this late date) the administration of the School Law more acceptable to that class of people who, from conscientious motives, had been obliged to hold themselves aloof from its operations. It would have been well had the Government, three or four years ago, entered upon the work of liberalizing the Administration of the Law and allaying the heart burnings and opposition caused by the right interpretation of a measure, the main principle of which so many were still opposed. If this were the object the Government had in view, he thought it might be attained as well by effecting such changes in the complexion of the present Boards as by enlarging the number of their members. What he had said in his former speech was merely attacking the principle of enlargement of the Boards, for the opposition side of the House had not been taken into the confidence of the Government in reference to its intentions as it appeared the hon. gentleman from St. John (Mr. Elder) had. He was now to understand that gentleman as giving utterance, in an unofficial way, to the policy of the Government, and it was an evidence that the contentions of those who opposed the law on account of its non-sectarian character were right. He was, therefore, glad that justice, so long delayed, was coming, even tardily at last. He thanked Mr. Elder for the kindly and touching allusions he had made to those good ladies who devoted their lives to the care of the sick and unfortunate, and the education of their own denomination. He was grateful for those allusions, and returned thanks both for himself, the ladies, and the people he so largely represented.

He thought the Government were deserving of little thanks for their Statement of Finances to date, as they were directed to furnish such Statement by Resolution of last session. Little credit was due to them, also, in connexion with the excellent state of the exchequer, to which allusion had been made by the Secretary. They came into power with a large surplus, and, though during their administration large accessions had been made to the revenue of the Province, the surplus was reduced to small proportions, even on their own showing. They had even during a remarkable period of depression, when those engaged in the Lumber Trade were struggling for a bare existence, imposed the Stumpage Tax, a step they would surely not have taken unless compelled to by their financial difficulties.

Mr. Tweedie said he endorsed what Mr. Burns said concerning the course of the Government in imposing the Stumpage Tax on the already depressed timber interests of the Province, which was our staple industry, and it was one of the greatest mistakes of their administration, necessitated by reckless management in other respects. He thought the Government had scarcely treated his hon. colleague, Mr. Swim, right, for after they had induced him to move the Address and make a fine speech thereon, they forced him to go into opposition and move two amendments to his own Resolutions.

He thought it was time the talk about the Opposition sending abroad statements calculated to injure the credit of the Province was discontinued. Mr. Elder would have the country believe that the Opposition were very much to blame in that connection, although he now seemed to go around the circle of members smoothing the ruffled brow of each like Moses as he was departing from the top of Nebo. The Government had not only held back papers and information on the affairs of the Province which had been moved for, but in some cases they had entirely neglected to bring them down. This was absolutely indefensible. It would be remembered, too, that when the Government submitted a Statement of its Finances, which contained serious discrepancies when compared with the Report of the People's Bank and a Committee of Investigation was moved for, the Government by mere force of numbers refused to afford the House the means of clearing up the suspicions which were attached to them. If these suspicions went abroad and had a bad effect in the country the Government and not the Opposition were to blame. It was through the efforts of the Opposition that the Government were obliged to come down with some satisfactory financial statements and the country knew it. The country would hold the Government responsible for raising the Stumpage Tax, this year, with the trade depression still bearing down upon the Lumbering interests, and if the revenue was good and the finances sufficient neither that course nor the imposing of additional duties on poor people who are engaged in obtaining bark would have been necessary.

The Address then passed, followed by the usual Resolutions.

Messrs. Swim, Murchie, and McQueen were appointed a Committee to present the Address to the Lieut. Governor.

Mr. Austin presented a petition to change the name of the corporation of Marsh Bridge Baptist Chapel, St. John.

The Report of the Public Accounts, Report of the Crown Lands Department and Schedule of Provincial Expenditure were placed on the Table, and the House adjourned.

SATURDAY, March 2.

After Routine

The Bill to authorize J. E. Whittaker, of St. John, to convey certain land, was referred to a Select Committee, consisting of Messrs. Marshall, Barker, Murchie, Crawford, and Ryan.

Hon. Provincial Secretary presented a Report, prepared, pursuant to Resolution of the 28th February, 1877, by Mr. Speaker, on Rules for the guidance of the House. The Report was received, and ordered to lie on the table for the action of the House.

Mr. Butler gave notice of a motion for Statements and papers relating to the Financial Condition of Nova Scotia, which may have been placed before this Government by the late Delegation from that Province, together with other Papers and Documents relating to the condition of the Maritime Provinces which may be in possession of the Government.

Mr. Covert, pursuant to notice, moved a Resolution for an Address for Statements, Papers, Reports, etc., connected with the St. Martin's and Upham Railway; also a similar Resolution respecting School Books, etc.

Hon. Attorney General said these would be all brought down without an Address.

Motion withdrawn.

On motion of Mr. Marshall the usual power was given the Select Committee to bring before them persons and papers in connection with the Whittaker Bill.

Hon. Mr. Crawford introduced a Bill to reduce the Fees in Courts of Probate.

Mr. Johnson gave notice of enquiry relating to Trespass on Settlement Lands in Kent.

Adjourned.

MARCH 4.

After routine.

Mr. Swim from the Committee appointed to present the Address to His Honor the Lieut-Governor reported His Honor's acknowledgment thereof.

Mr. Philips introduced a Bill to limit the jurisdiction of County Courts in actions on contracts.

Mr. Tweedie presented a petition in favor of the Chatham Fire Assessment Bill.

In reply to an enquiry by Mr. Marshall as to whether it was the intention of the Government, and if so when, to supplement the Consolidated Statutes with the unrepealed Statutes, Hon. Mr. Stevenson said the matter was under consideration of the Government.

In answer to Mr. Smith's enquiry as to whether the Act reducing County Court fees was in the Consolidated Statutes and if not, why, Hon. Mr. Stevenson said the Hon. Attorney General would reply when in his place.

On Mr. Butler's motion for papers, etc., in connection with the Grand Southern Railway, and Mr. Davidson's motion respecting statement of expenses paid or due on account of the Consolidation of the Statutes, the information asked was promised by the Government without the formality of an address.

The Chief Commissioner laid the Public Works Report on the table.

Recess.

AFTER RECESS.

Mr. Willis, pursuant to notice, moved for statements and papers relating to the works in progress in the Province, the state of the accounts of the several departments and of the Province to the 26th February last.

Hon. Provincial Secretary said these would be brought down without an address; the motion was withdrawn.

In reply to Mr. Smith's enquiry of this morning the Hon. Attorney General said that a bill, introduced by Mr. Smith in 1875, repealing certain attorneys' fees in the County Court, was passed. These fees, however, were established by an Act of 1868. In the process of consolidating the Statutes, the fees under the provisions of the bill of 1868, which Mr. Smith's Act repealed, were eliminated, hence it was not necessary to place that Act in the consolidation.

Mr. Marshall introduced a bill to define the northern side line of Queen square, St. John, with the petition from the Mayor and members of the City Council and others in favor thereof.

Mr. Marshall, from the committee on the bill to authorize J. E. Whittaker, trustee of the late Charles Whittaker, to convey lands on the south side of King street, held in trust for the children of the former, reported in favor thereof, and committed said bill, Mr. Austin in the chair. The mover explained that a valuable building had been erected since the great fire, to replace an old wooden one formerly on the property. The heirs had not sufficient means to build, and, as their interests would be materially advanced by doing so, $11,000 were obtained by way of loan by the trustees from Simeon Jones, banker, and put into the new building which was worth $17,000. This bill was to authorize the trustee to convey the property to Simeon Jones to secure his mortgage interest. After a brief discussion in perfecting the measure so as to protect all the interests involved, it was agreed to.

Mr. Covert gave notice of a motion for the report of papers connected with the John Glasier claim, formerly reported upon by Messrs. Harding and Dawson.

Hon. Mr. McQueen laid the report on Agriculture on the table.

Hon. Mr. McQueen introduced a bill to amend chapter 59, of the Consolidated Statutes of Parish Courts.

Mr. Smith introduced a bill to reduce the fees of attorneys in actions brought in the County Courts in certain cases.

The House then adjourned.

MARCH 5.

Hon. Mr. Kelly committed permissive bill to authorize assessment of $2,000 on fire district of Chatham, for fire purposes, Mr. Willis in the chair. After explanations by mover and Mr. Tweedie, Bill was agreed to.

Mr. Davidson endeavored to present following Petitions: Hon. Wm. Muirhead, J. B. Snowball, and 350 others, for a Bridge over the South West Miramichi, Derby. Petition of Wm. Whelan, John M'Laggan, and 144 others for a Bridge over Renous River, and Petition of T. W. Crocker, David Crocker, Patrick Casey, and 150 others, in favor of opening Road from Barnaby River to Chatham Junction, all of which were ruled out as involving charge upon the revenues.

Hon. Chief Commissioner said all the above matters were under consideration by the Department.

Mr. Davidson gave notice of motion for full and detailed statement of Stumpage collected in Northumberland, Gloucester, and Restigouche, since imposition of Stumpage duty, showing amount collected each year in each County for each description of lumber, names and amounts paid to each one each year. Also detailed statement of expense incurred in collecting Stumpage in each County in each year.

Mr. Jones gave notice of enquiry whether Government intends to distribute Consolidated Statutes to Parish Court Commissioners, Justices of Peace and other officials free of charge.

Mr. Johnson moved a Resolution for a statement showing present occupancy of Lots 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67 in the Parishes of Acadieville and Carleton, Kent. Also statement showing to whom these lots were granted, and if licences to cut lumber on these have been issued, and if so, to whom, and on what conditions. Also correspondence had with any one in reference to said lots. Mr. Johnson complained that these lots were settled under the Free Grants Act by certain persons whom he named, and that after they had proceeded to fulfil the conditions of settlement, the Government advertised in the *Gazette* to sell right to cut lumber off them; that lumber in large quantities had been cut off the lots to the loss and discouragement of the people. Such a violation of the rights of the settlers was never before known, the people never knew the advertisement was in the *Gazette*, and great advantage was taken of them in the matter.

Hon. Surveyor General said the hon. gentleman was entirely in error, as the lots referred to were not under license, it was not intended they should be under license, nor was any one authorized to cut lumber upon them. The interests of the settlers were most zealously guarded by the Department.

Mr. O'Leary said that when complaints were made by the settlers in reference to lumber being cut off their lots, he applied to the Surveyor General to protect the poor people, and he was glad to be able to say that the Surveyor General had acted promptly in the settler's behalf, and had taken steps to protect their interests against trespassers. No Licenses had been given by the Department to cut Lumber on those Lands.

Mr. Johnson said Mr. O'Leary ought to resent the action of the Surveyor General who, when $500 were to be expended to open a road in Kent, a man was sent from Frederdericton to take charge of the work. That was a great compliment to members from Kent.

The motion passed, and Messrs. Johnson, Covert and Crawford were appointed Committee to prepare and present the address for the papers.

Mr. Burns, pursuant to notice, moved for full financial statements, and said his object in doing so was to ascertain the exact financial condition of the Province, and set at rest the disputed points on the subject between the Government and the Opposition.

Hon. Provincial Secretary said the information would be furnished without an address, and motion was withdrawn.

(*Special to the Advance.*)

FREDERICTON, March 6.

Mr. Davidson introduced, to-day, with petition, a Bill to authorize the Trustees of School District No. 2, Newcastle, to sell and convey certain Lands.

Mr. Tweedie introduced a Bill to incorporate Chatham Driving Park Association, with petition of Robert Bain and forty four others in favor of the same.

Mr. O'Leary also introduced a Bill to abolish property qualification of Candidates for House of Assembly.

Dominion Rifle Association.

The Dominion Rifle Association met at Ottawa on February 27th. The annual report shews the team for 1878 has been selected as follows:—1 from Ontario, 5 from Quebec, 12 from New Brunswick, and 2 from Nova Scotia. It recommends that selection should be made from a definite number of competitors nominated by respective Provincial Associations, and whose necessary expenses to and from Ottawa should be paid by this Association and from such other qualified competitors as may desire to enter the competition at their own expense. The competition at the ranges should extend over a greater number of days, so that changes in light and weather on each competitor might be fully known.

After paying all accounts there was a balance of $965.45 to the credit of the Association, against which there were liabilities amounting to $543.

The President informed the Association that the Government had recognized it on its merits, and he was authorized by the Minister of Militia to say their wants would be met. Canada would be able to compete for the Queen's Cup this year, and if there was an International match two Canadians should be admitted to the English team.

Col. Peters nominated Mr. Gzowski as President, paying him a high compliment for liberality and ability.

Senator Botsford seconded the motion. It was carried unanimously.

On motion of Senator Botsford, seconded by Mr. Casey, M. P., a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Jones for the interest he had taken in the Association, and for his presence at the annual meeting. Carried with cheers.

Mr. Jones said he felt it to be the duty of the government to encourage such associations as these, and as head of the Militia Department, expressed himself willing to do all in his power.

Among the Vice-Presidents are the following:—New Brunswick—Lieut.-Colonel Hon. A. E. Botsford, Sackville; Quebec—Lieut.-Col. C. J. Brydges, Montreal; Nova Scotia—Lieut.-Col. A, K. Mackinlay, Halifax; Prince Edward Island—Lieut.-Col. Hon. T. H. Haviland.

The Dominion Alliance.—A despatch dated Ottawa Feb. 22nd says at a public meeting under the auspices of the Dominion Alliance, the following resolutions were adopted:—"That this meeting rejoices in the knowledge of the fact that at the present time a great and increasing interest is being manifested in the cause of Temperance, evinced by the passage in local legislatures of restrictive legislation, the adoption in many counties and municipalities of the Temperance Act of 1854, as well as the wide-spread movement in favor of personal abstinence, and desires to express gratitude to Almighty God for his blessing having rested upon the efforts of the various laborers, and to supplicate a continuance of the same. That this meeting, whilst expressing its approval of every means tending to restrict the sale of intoxicating liquors, does hereby also declare its conviction that they will not meet the necessities of the Dominion; and further rejoices to know that legislation in the right direction will be inaugurated during the present session of the Dominion Parliament. That this meeting cordially approves of the proposal of the Executive to raise the sum of $100,000 in five annual payments, and expresses the hope that strenuous efforts will be made at once by the friends of the Alliance to provide the necessary funds."

BUSINESS NOTICE.

The "Miramichi Advance" is published at Chatham, Miramichi, N. B., every Thursday morning in time for despatch by the earliest mails of that day.

It is sent to any address in Canada, the United States or Great Britain (Postage prepaid by the Publisher) for $1.50 a year, or 75 cts. for 6 months—the money, in all cases, to accompany the order for the paper.

Advertisements are placed under classified headings.

Advertisements, other than yearly or by the season, are inserted at *eight cents* per line nonpareil, (or eighty cents per inch) for 1st insertion, and *three cents* per line (or thirty-six cents per inch) for each continuation.

Yearly, or season, advertisements are taken at the rate of *Five Dollars* an inch per year. The matter in space secured by the year, or season, may be changed under arrangement made therefor with the Publisher.

The "Miramichi Advance" having its large circulation distributed principally in the Counties of Kent, Northumberland, Gloucester and Restigouche (New Brunswick), and in Bonaventure and Gaspe (Quebec), among communities engaged in Lumbering, Fishing and Agricultural pursuits, offers superior inducements to advertisers. Address

Editor "Miramichi Advance," Chatham, N. B.

Correspondents who wish to communicate directly with the editor of the Advance will, during the Legislative Session, address him at Fredericton.

Miramichi Advance.

CHATHAM, THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 1878.

Held Over.—We hold over, for the present, extracts in connection with "That Public Document."

Legislative Debates.—We give considerable space to the full official report of the legislative debates, and will continue to do so throughout the session.

The Quebec Ministry was dismissed on Saturday last as the Lieut. Governor declined to sign their railway bill. Mr. Joly has been entrusted with the formation of a new ministry.

We perceive that, during the consideration of the address in the Legislature at Fredericton, an alteration was made, by consent, in the reference to trade depression to which we directed attention last week. If the Advance were as egotistical as a certain St. John daily, we would claim that we had achieved a victory in the matter. It was Mr. Pickard and ourselves who did the business, however.

The Dominion Parliament.—The proceedings in the Dominion Parliament during the week, present few important points. There has been considerable skirmishing and wordy battles between members. The debate on the budget, and others on some minor matters, in which the Premier has answered all comers, have occupied the time of the House. This week, on account of limited space, we have had to forego our usual summary, but will hereafter give the Dominion Parliament its proper share of attention.

The Eastern Question.

The latest despatches inform us that the opinion is expressed in English official circles that the Eastern Question will be settled to the satisfaction of England and the other powers. It is even rumoured that the British fleet will be recalled. On the afternoon of the 4th inst., it was announced in the English Parliament that information of the signing of the treaty of peace between Turkey and Russia had been received.—Lord Derby in the House of Lords stated that he could only say that the terms did not include the cession of the Turkish fleet, that the indemnity was reduced to £12,000,000 sterling, and that Egyptian tribute was not affected. From the foregoing it will be seen that the Czar has receded from his demands which he made on Turkey, affecting British interests, and if he continues in this amiable spirit, peace may be assured.

TOILET ARTICLES

AT

J. PALLEN & SON'S.

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Yardley's Toilet Powder.
Hair Vigor, Hair Restorer.
Hair Dye, Hair Oils.
Fancy Puff Boxes & Puffs.
Hair, Clothes, Flesh, Hand, Tooth & Nail Brushes.
Shaving Soap and Brushes,
Tooth Powder, Paste and Sozodont,
Rondeletia, Lavander, Eau de Cologne,
Musk, Jockey Club, Florida Water
and other Perfumes,
Glycerine, Honey, Windsor,
Rose, Castile, Tar, Carbolic
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COPPER & IRON PUMPS,

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Barrels and half Barrels of good FALL HERRING and DRIED CODFISH selling low for cash.

F. J. LETSON.
Water Street.

Chatham, Dec. 12, 1877.

TO LET.

From first May next, the Dwelling House at present occupied by A. R. Ramsay. A good well of water on the premises. Apply to—

F. J. LETSON.

Chatham, 20th Feb., 1878.

TEA MEETING.

The Ladies of St. Peter's Church, (Anglican) Derby, having decided to hold a TEA MEETING and FANCY SALE in the ensuing season, for the purpose of procuring funds for the completion of the Parsonage, have, in the meantime, formed a Society for the promotion of that object, and hereby respectfully solicit assistance. Contributions will be received by the subscribers or the Rector, and the smallest tokens of interest in the work accepted with thanks.

Mrs. Wm. Hartt, Pres.
Miss Annie Betts, V.-Pres.
Mrs. W. T. Crocker, Sec.
Mrs. Henry Betts.
Miss Saunders.
Committee of Solicitation.

Derby, Jan. 17, 1878.