

not decided, as the vessel was condemned for having also been engaged in illicit trade.

Mr. DODD explained the manner in which American Fishermen surrounded the shores of Cape Breton. It was not to be expected that much aid would be had from the poor settlers along the coast, because they had an interest in selling their fish and purchasing supplies free of duty. It was the general Merchant who was compelled to suffer loss.

Mr. UNIACKE said that he had offered in the Bill a great bounty to the Seizing Officer—by simplifying the process by which the condemnation should be made, and ensuring to him one portion of the value. Formerly the expenses were great—the proceedings tardy—and the party making a seizure, was not sure what he would get, or whether he would realize anything. He believed there was a disposition on the part of the British Government to allow us to have a Provincial Vessel, similar to the protection of the Fisheries. Formerly when a vessel or two were taken for breach of Convention, the Americans raised a clamour, which had probably reached the ear of Government, and it appeared to him that since then but little zeal or activity had been displayed by Officers on the Station. Although there are a number of cutters and small vessels included in the West India and North American Command, they are seldom seen here at all. So careless were the American Fishermen last season, that they actually followed the schools of fish into the harbours—breaking them up—and preventing them from going into the Sains.

Mr. DEWOLF said that complaints having been made of the number of American fishermen in the Bay of Fundy, some of them were seized by the men of war last summer—but nothing was done with them. They were merely warned not to come there again—but they got new registers, and were back on the same ground in a few days.

Mr. HOMER stated the manner in which they frequented the Western Harbours for the purpose of procuring bait. He also referred to the statement made to him by a young fellow who had gone round to the Gulf in an American vessel on a fishing voyage, to prove the extent of depredation committed.

Mr. DOYLE only regretted that what the members were now stating on all sides of the house they had not said a few days ago in their address to the Governor. His Excellency had congratulated them on the flourishing state of the Fisheries—where he got his information he could not tell, but he certainly regretted that, after responding to that part of the Speech, they would now be compelled to tell the Governor that our Fisheries were in a wretched condition. When the Chieftaco was employed she did no good. As to the Cruizers that were sent into the Gulf, they spent half their time in Pictou Harbour, and were only useful to take the honourable members from that quarter and their friends on fishing excursions. There were at one time this summer 90 American vessels in one harbour on the North shores of Cape Breton—ostensibly procuring wood and water—when in fact there was very little of either within 90 miles of the place. It was quite a common thing for the P. E. Island officers to come over to Cape Breton to collect their light duties from American vessels; he denied that our fisheries had been prosperous the past season—a good deal of Fish had been exported from Halifax, but the bulk of it had come from Gaspé and Newfoundland; and regretted that in now proceeding upon this Bill they were about to give the lie to themselves, and retract the opinion expressed in their answer to the Governor.

Mr. BELL remarked upon the injurious character of the Convention. In signing it, the Commissioners had given away our natural rights. And as even what was left to us, was continually violated with impunity, without any effective interference from the British Government, it was high time that we began to protect ourselves. What we wanted were a few small armed vessels that could be actively employed, and would do the duty. To him it appeared that there were very few officers of the Navy that would zealously perform this service; he did not blame them—it was perhaps natural enough for them to prefer ease and pleasure—and that they should try to get over a troublesome duty as easily as they could. But if we had a few persons engaged in this business, who, from being natives of the Province, had an interest in its welfare—who knew where the evils lay, and could promptly apply a remedy—these would be better than any Admirals, Captains or Midshipmen. After some further conversation, the Bill was referred to a select Committee, consisting of Messrs. Uniacke, Homer, Johnston, Smith, Wilkins, Dodd, and Doyle.

**Judges' Fees.**

Mr. MORTON presented a Petition on the subject of Agriculture, which was laid on the table. Also, another, praying for the abolition of the Judges' Fees, a copy of which we subjoin, for the examination and imitation of the country at large:

To His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Nova Scotia, the honorable His Majesty's Council, the Speaker and members of the House of Assembly.

We the Subscribers, Inhabitants of said Province, having long viewed with dissatisfaction the distress occasioned to the most necessitous part of His Majesty's subjects in this Province, by the fees taken by the Chief Justice and the Judges of the Supreme Court (which, in accordance with the report of those gentlemen, amounts to upwards of a Thousand Pounds per annum) without being sanctioned by the laws of this Province. And taking into consideration the ample Salaries the Chief Justice and Judges of the Supreme Court annually receive; and being of opinion that the taking such fees is improper and unconstitutional, and attended with many evil consequences; do most anxiously but humbly request that you will, if it cannot be otherwise effected) forward an address to our beloved Sovereign, praying that such improper and illegal fees may no longer be continued, and that His Majesty's loyal subjects of this Province may be subject to no other or greater taxes than are laid upon them by the laws and statutes of the said Province; and your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

Mr. DOYLE was anxious that a day should be named for the consideration of this subject. During the recess he had had sundry discussions with members of the Bar, and others upon it, and as they had failed to convince him of the legality or propriety of the exactions, he was desirous that members should come prepared to examine and dispose of the question. The learned member from Cumberland he believed had prepared himself to defend them—but if, as this petition stated, and he believed, they were illegal and unconstitutional, it was quite time they were abolished. Mr. Morton had made no motion, because he had reason to believe that other petitions would be sent in on the same subject—but if no other member took the matter in hand, he should of course make a motion to try the sense of the House.

Mr. YOUNG introduced a Bill to divide the County of Sydney and increase its Representation.

Mr. LAWSON referred to the Treasurer's Account Current, and showed that there was a balance in the Treasury of £6956 11 6. Mr. Young was not aware that there was so large a balance in the chest, and thought it should have been applied under the existing Act to extinguish a part of the Funded Debt. The Speaker explained that nearly £4000 had been paid in within a very short time. He glanced over the Account, and showed that there were several large sums—£2000 to the Cornwallis Bridge—and others, that were now paid and would not have to be met again. Messrs. Wilkins, Dewolf and Shey asked and obtained leave to go home, on business connected with the Windsor Bridge.

**Tuesday, February 26.**

Several Petitions were presented in favour of continuing the Grant to the Eastern Stage Coach Company, which were referred to a Select Committee.

Mr. W. H. ROACH moved for a Return exhibiting the amount of Spirituous liquors introduced into and consumed in this Province during the last ten years.

He alluded to the formation of the Temperance Societies, and wished to ascertain whether there had not been a gradual decrease in the consumption of ardent spirits and wines, in order that the advantage of these Societies should be tested by facts. Mr. Lawson explained that such a return could not be furnished—because as one year ran into another—and was affected by the amounts of drawback, bonds outstanding, &c.; it was impossible to ascertain the consumption of any particular year. All that could be had, Mr. Roach might furnish himself with consulting the tables in the Journals. Mr. Doyle wished to know for what purpose the information was required. It was usual for a member in moving for returns, to state what motion he intended to ground upon them. The motion was lost 13 to 10.

Mr. ARCHIBALD introduced a Bill for reducing the law expenses in Causes where Confessions of Judgment were given. Mr. Bell presented a Petition from Sarah Irwin, praying some compensation for the loss sustained, by the Commissioners of Streets half burning her house.

Mr. UNIACKE presented a Bill to consolidate and amend the laws relating to offences against the person. Several improvements had, he said, been introduced into the Criminal laws of England, which he was desirous should be embodied in our own. The Bill was received and read a first time.

**HALIFAX, Feb. 3.**

**MECHANICS INSTITUTE.**—If any thing were wanting to prove the estimation in which this Society is now held throughout the Province, it would be found in the sacrifices which men

—the most eminent for science and literature—make to give it the aid of their talents, and the protection of their countenance and support. On Tuesday Evening, Dr. McCULLOCH, who had come all the way from Pictou for the purpose, gave a very able and interesting Lecture on Chemical Affinities, illustrated by a great number of brilliant and happy experiments. We never saw the Room so crowded indeed so crammed, for with all the care taken to provide extra seats nearly one hundred persons were compelled to stand, and there could not have been less than 400 in the room; 40 or 50 had to return home, being unable to effect an entrance. We have no time to speak of the Lecture—nor are remarks necessary, addressed to a people, among whom the Doctor's talents are so well known and so highly appreciated. It is sufficient to say that it was chaste and unpretending—calculated to do good by conveying instruction, and exciting a taste for his favourite science. Many of the experiments were very beautiful. We have understood that Dr. McCulloch contemplates paying a visit to St. John, New Brunswick, during the Academic vacation, for the purpose of giving a short course of Lectures in that city. That he will experience the most liberal encouragement from our public-spirited neighbours we have not a doubt—and shall be happy to hear that the taste for such exhibitions which some gentlemen are endeavouring to excite there, has been fostered by the Doctor's visit; and that ere long we shall have to remark the regular Meetings of a Mechanic's Institute, in science and utility rivaling our own.—*Novascotian.*

**JUST PUBLISHED,**

And for Sale by the Subscriber, Price 6d.  
THE NOVA-SCOTIA SONGSTER,  
being a selection of Scotch, English, Irish, Love, Naval and Comic Songs. JAS. DAWSON.  
Pictou, February 10, 1836.

**For Sale.**

**AN Excellent Lot of LAND** situate on the Road leading from the Middle to the East River of Pictou, adjoining the Lands of Alexander Horn. For Terms, which will be made liberal, please apply to

**JOHN MCKENZIE.**

West River, Pictou, 8th Feb., 1836.

**SEEDS,**

Growth of 1835.

The Subscriber has received his usual supply of Garden, Field, and Flower SEEDS, among which are 1500 lbs. of American red clover seed, 20 bush. timothy seed, dwarf and pole peas and beans, &c. Feb'y 1836. JAMES DAWSON.

Those disposed to cultivate red clover for the seed, are informed that J. D. will give 10d per lb for any quantity they can raise, if it be well cleaned. J. D. has for sale, a few barrels American AP-PLES, of superior quality.

**ON CONSIGNMENT.**

**6 CASKS Herbert's Liquid and Paste SHOE BLACKING**—cheap for Cash. Apply to the Subscriber. JAS. DAWSON.  
Pictou, 16th September, 1835

**FINAL NOTICE.**

**ALL** persons indebted to the Estate of the late WILLIAM MORTIMER, Esq., will please to take notice that unless they make immediate payment to the subscriber, legal proceedings will be instituted against them without distinction.

Nov. 4. MARTIN J. WILKINS. if

**TO LET.**

Entry Immediately.

**THE** Premises lately occupied by Mr. J. Romano as a SHOP and DWELLING. For particulars apply at this Office. if Pictou, July 10, 1835.