

selves to be superior marksmen to those in the other Provinces. There had been three Provincial contests, and in two out of those three, we had been the conquerors.

Hon Mr COLES said this subject appeared to raise a discussion every year. He had opposed the grant because he thought the country could not afford it. Since then, however, there had been a new Election, and those who advocated the grant had been returned, consequently, he did not consider it his duty now to oppose it, but he might object to any item of expenditure which he thought extravagant. If a military force was to be kept up he supposed a small grant must be given for that object.

Hon Mr HENSLEY said as there was a sum voted before, and this force was increasing, they would at least require as much as formerly. He would have much pleasure in supporting the grant.

Hon Mr LONGWORTH was happy to hear that hon. members were so unanimous. When the young men were coming forward and giving their time in the cause, surely this House might afford to vote a small sum for the expenses of drill. He had hoped that the hon member for Tignish would have waived his objections, particularly as his father had been a military man. He (Mr L.) had some opportunities of ascertaining public sentiment, and he believed that the grant in past years had been a popular vote.

Hon Mr THORNTON had voted for £300 the first year a grant was given, and last year he had voted against it altogether, because he did not see any benefit derived from it. When the country was so much in need of money for roads and bridges he could not support a grant to encourage the Volunteer movement.

After two or three others had briefly expressed their views on the subject, the motion for the usual grant of £400 was carried by a large majority.

Adjourned.

MONDAY, March 30.

After the usual business the Bill to incorporate the Minister and Trustees of the Presbyterian Church of St. Peter's Bay was, according to order, read a second and third time, and afterwards engrossed.

The Bill to incorporate the Minister and Trustees of the Presbyterian Church of Bay Fortune, was, according to order, read a second time, and after some time the Committee reported that they had gone through the Bill without amendment, and asked leave to sit again.

The Bill to alter and amend the Act for the preservation of the Alewives' Fisheries in this Island, was, according to order, read a second time.

The Bill was then committed to Committee of the whole House. Mr. Haslam in the chair.

Hon J. C. POPE explained the nature of the intended Act, which was to preserve the value of the fisheries—for they were of considerable value and much benefit to the Colony—which, unless this Act stepped in, would be entirely lost, owing to the fact of the reckless manner in which the fishery was at present carried on by those parties who had been employed under the present Act.

Hons Messrs Coles and Warburton and Mr Howlan, each briefly urged that, before this Act was allowed to pass, the fisheries should be first preserved.

Hon Mr DAVIES was equally zealous with the two hon gentlemen, and the gentleman who had last spoken. He (Mr D.) would be at all times ready and willing to protect fisheries; but, before he did so, power should be given to the Magistrates for that careful and proper supervision which the exigencies of the case required.

Mr HOWLAN—The Alewives were generally considered only good for bait; and the Magistrates would cost infinitely more than the bait.

Hon COL. SECRETARY—The best money that could be expended was Magisterial, if parties would but do their duty.

Hon J. C. POPE again briefly explained that this Act had no intention to destroy the Fisheries, but, on the contrary, to improve them.

Mr SINCLAIR thought the proposed Act a very useful one; the expenses proposed to be incurred were very small, and not too much to be incurred to prevent the destruction of fish; in fact, he thought it was a small sum well expended.

Mr MONTGOMERY expressed himself as strongly opposed to the provisions of the Act.

Hon COL. SECRETARY was of opinion that the Salmon fishers had been the greatest robbers and plunderers.

Mr CONROY could not support the Bill, because he thought the appointment of Inspectors of Alewives was unnecessary, and in addition would be somewhat expensive; the whole tendency of the measure pointed more to the destruction than to the preservation of fish. The present Inspectors were personal friends of his own, notwithstanding which, he felt bound to say that they had not done their duty.

Hon J. C. POPE was willing to take the statement of the last Speaker, (the hon member for Tignish,) he having a full knowledge upon the matter, and it was upon his statement that the Act now under consideration was founded.

Hon Mr Laird supported, and the Hon. J. Warburton opposed it.

The second reading, however, was carried, after a division.

On motion, the Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr Haslam reported that the Committee had gone through the Bill without making any amendment thereto; and the report was again read at the Clerk's table.

It was ordered that the said Bill be engrossed, and that the title be "An Act to alter and amend the Act for the preservation of the Alewives' Fisheries in this Island."

The Hon Col Gray, a member of Her Majesty's Executive Council, presented to the House the Report of the Superintendent of Public Works on the state of the Bridge on the Morell River.

Laid on the table. This report had been specially applied for.

The Hon J. Longworth, a member of Her Majesty's Executive Council, presented to the House the Report of the Visitor of Schools for the past year, as transmitted by the Board of Education, together with accompanying remarks of the Board.

It was ordered to be laid upon the table.

The Hon Mr Longworth said that the Report was generally favorable, and only deficient in some details of statistics required.

The report was then read by the Clerk.

Hon Mr COLES thought that there was a great deal too much writing in the report, and this he could only account for from the fact of his having been too deeply engaged, during the late election, in helping his political friends, in preference to attendance, in a proper manner, upon the duties of his salaried