The Charlottetown Herald.

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The Charlottetown Herald

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R. E. MORAN J. M. SULLIVAN.

Calendar for May, 1894.

MOON'S CHANGES.

New Moon, 5th day, 10h. 29 0m. a. m, S.E
First Quarter, 12th day, 2h 8.8m a. m. E.
Full Moon, 19th day, 6h 33.6m. noon.
Last Quarter, 27th day, 5h 51 9m.p m, N.E

M	Day of Week	Sun rises	Sun Sets	The Moon's Rises	The Moon's Sets	High Water Ch'town
		h m	h m			
1	Tues	4 51	7 3	3 2	2 34	8 0
2	Wed	49	5	3 19	3 43	8 44
3	Thur	48	6	3 34	4 59	9 24
4	Fri	46	7	3 50	6 19	10 3
5	Sat	45	8	4 13	7 41	10 42
6	Sun	43	10	4 43	9 6	11 28
7	Mon	42	11	5 23	10 31	morn
8	Tues	40	12	6 22	11 41	0 11
9	Wed	39	13	7 32	morn	1 0
10	Thur	38	15	8 57	0 40	1 53
11	Fri	37	16	10 20	1 18	2 52
12	Sat	35	17	11 40	1 47	4 3
13	Sun	34	18	aft 56	2 10	5 20
14	Mon	33	19	2 12	2 28	6 33
15	Tues	32	20	3 23	2 43	7 35
16	Wed	31	22	4 24	3 0	8 24
17	Thur	30	23	5 45	3 17	9 5
18	Fri	29	24	6 57	3 36	9 44
19	Sat	27	25	8 6	3 58	10 22
20	Sun	26	26	9 11	4 27	10 58
21	Mon	25	27	10 10	5 5	11 35
22	Tues	24	29	10 59	5 51	aft 13
23	Wed	23	30	11 37	6 45	0 52
24	Thur	22	31	morn	7 47	1 32
25	Fri	22	32	0 7	8 53	2 15
26	Sat	21	33	0 30	10 1	3 1
27	Sun	20	34	0 46	11 9	3 56
28	Mon	20	35	1 6	aft 16	4 57
29	Tues	19	36	1 22	1 24	6 6
30	Wed	18	37	1 37	2 36	7 8
31	Thur	18	37	2 14	3 31	8 4

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Provincial Legislature.

MONDAY, May 7.

House met at 12.

Mr. H. C. Macdonald asked the Commissioner of Public Works if a petition had been received from the inhabitants of Vernon River and vicinity, asking that the road leading from Glencoe or Vernon River Road to the Georgetown Road be changed, and if so, what action the Government intend to take in the matter.

Hon. Mr. McLean said such a petition had been received and the matter would be carefully considered after the House rose.

House went into committee on matters relating to road scales, with Mr. Robinson in the chair. The report of the committee was adopted.

After recess, *Hon, Mr.* Peters moved the House into committee of the whole to consider the bill imposing a tax on casual traders commonly known as commercial travellers, with Mr. Robertson in the chair. The bill applies solely to non-residents. The annual tax is $15. The bill was reported agreed to, and the rule having been suspended it was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Arsenault moved that the bill amending the Act of Incorporation of the City of Charlottetown by exempting the Prince Edward Island Hospital and the Charlottetown Hospital from taxation be read a second time in committee, with Mr. Godkin in the chair.

Mr. Rogers (Alberton) objected to the bill being intrduced at this stage of the proceedings. It is all the more objectionable because another bill bearing the same title had already passed this session. *He* quoted May to show that it was out of order to introduce the bill now, and stated that in one instance the British Parliament had actually to be prorogued in order to introduce a bill on the same subject twice in the same year.

Mr. Shaw pointed out that the bill introduced a few days ago had an entirely different object from that of the present measure.

Hon. Mr. Gordon also contended that this bill had no bearing upon that previously passed, and made a strong plea for the exemption of the hospitals.

Mr. H. C. Macdonald thought that a measure of this kind should come from a member of the Government. He thought it was irregular, as it referred to taxation and interferred with the rights of the subject.

Hon. Mr. Peters suggested that consideration of the points raised be deferred until the evening session.

Mr. Shaw said there was no objection to this course if the Speaker desired it.

The Speaker said he would like time to consider before giving his decision.

The matter then stood over.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Peters, the Assessment Act, 1894, was amended by changing the amount of the discount on taxes paid before the 15th November from 2½ per cent, to 5 per cent.

The Income tax bill was read a third time and passed. The Assessment Act, 1894 was also read a third time and passed on a straight party vote.

The following committee was appointed to prepare the usual addess to His *Honor* the Lieutenant-Governor; Messrs, Prowse, H. C. McDonald, Arsenault.

Mr. Warburton presented the report of the Public Accounts Committee, which was received and read.

Hon. Mr. Peters presented a bill amending the act respecting peddlers which was ordered to be read a second time in committee this evening, the rule having been suspended for that purpose. He explained that the amendments proposed to be made provided that the license fee for peddlers should be reduced from $20 to $15, and a fee of $50 should be charged non resident peddlers, such as the Arabs.

House took recess at 6 o'clock.

After recess, the Speaker gave his decision on the points raised by Messrs. Rogers and H. C. Macdonald regarding the bill exempting the two city hospitals from taxation, deciding that the bill was in order.

Mr. Rogers moved that the decision of the Speaker be not sustained. The motion was not seconded.

The House then went into committee on the bill, with Mr. Godkin in the chair.

Mr. Arsenault explained the provisions of the bill, and dealt upon the great advantages the hospitals were to the community.

Hon. Messrs. Laird and Sinclair spoke against the passage of the bill on the ground that it had not been asked for by the people or the corporation of Charlottetown.

Mr. A J McDonald said he thought it was the privilege of this legislature to pass measures of this kind and referred to the great benefits these hospitals were to the people of province. He thought parliament would not be doing justice to the people if they did not pass the bill.

Mr. Rogers (Alberton) admitted that these hospitals were a great benefit to the community, but on the same plea, temperance societies, cheese factories, lobster factories, etc., might come in and ask for exemption. It would be very hard to draw a line of demarcation. He thought we had no right to lessen the revenues of the city in this way.

Mr. Bell thought that certain powers should be given the city corporation to exempt property of this character. The corporation had not asked us to alter the act as provided by the bill, and he thought it was a piece of impertinence to pass the bill in view of this fact. He thought that the proper course would be to give the corporation power to exempt the hospitals from taxation if they so desired. A provision to this effect inserted in the bill, would, he thought, remove all objections to its passage.

Mr. Shaw thought that the mover had complied with all the regulations governing the introduction of bills. He claimed that inasmuch as the people of the country contributed to the support of these institutions, the city corporation had no right to tax their benevolence. He thought parliament had a perfect right to see that the city corporation did not tax these institutions which were doing a noble work The Charlottetown Hospital was taxed $135 and the Prince Edward Island Hospital $40. The City Council gave each a donation of $75. As a result of this, one hospital was in pocket about $30, and the other was out about $60. He thought the fairest and best way would be to exempt both institutions, as asked for by the bill.

Hon. Mr. Farquharson did not think that the House had a right to compel the city to exempt these hospital. He well know that the Charlottetown Hospital was a credit to the Province. We all know the benefit of these institutions, but we are not supposed to know better than the representatives of the city what the city requires. They did not bring in the bill, and he knew they were not in sympathy with it. The fact of the hon. member from Egmont Bay bringing in this bill was a slight on the members for the city. Surely the people of Charlottetown could be trusted to make known their wants through their own members. The bill has not been asked for by petition or otherwise. Until the people speak, he thought the House had no right to proceed further in this matter. The question is not, whether it is right to exempt such institutions or not. Surely the city corporation are the best judges as to how they shall conduct their affairs. Under the circumstances, he thought it would be a high-handed proceeding for the House to deal with this matter.

Mr. Arsenault thought he had as much right to introduce the bill as any other member of the House. There was no petition against it from the council or the people The principle of the bill was a good one, and it should not be objected to.

Mr. Prowse said he could not see his way clear to vote for the bill as it was to take the power of exempting out of the hands of the City Council, and so far as he knew there was no petition asking that this be done. Personally, however, he was in favor of exempting the hospitals, as he was well aware they were doing a great deal of good.

Mr. Shaw scored *Mr.* Prowse for his conduct in reference to the bill before the House, pointing out that when the Assessment Act was up for consideration he did not hesitate to tax the farmers and exempt the people of the city. He again put in an eloquent plea for the exemption of the hospitals.

Mr. Prowse said that he did not vote against taxing the city. He considered that the city was sufficiently taxed by the income tax.

Mr. Shaw pointed out that the income tax applied to the country as well as to the city.

Hon. Mr. Farquharson said that the junior member for Charlottetown had done right in voting for taxes to raise a revenue. We are representing the Province and not the city of Charlottetown.

Mr. Arthur Peters referred to the great good done by the hospitals. He thought that if we had the right to exempt churches, etc., we had the power to exempt the hospitals. It seemed extraordinary however that the bill was brought in by an outsider, and was not petitioned for in any way. He thought it would be wrong not to exempt these institutions, and he would vote for such exemption heart and soul.

Mr. Rogers (Alberton) again renewed his objection to the bill. He held that this House had no right to pass the bill.

Mr A J McDonald rebuked Mr. Prowse for his conduct concerning the measure before the House. He thought it was a sorry spectacle to see a member stand up and in one breath express his sympathy with a measure, and in the next say he would not vote for it. He pointed out that there was not a Roman Catholic in the City Council, and under the circumstances, it did not seem strange to him that there was no petition from the council asking that the Charlottetown Hospital be exempt. He thought that a corporal's guard could not be found to oppose the exemption of the hospitals.

Mr McLaughlin thought the best thing that could be done was to exempt both hospitals. Perhaps if the City Council were given power to exempt both hospitals, they would not exercise that power.

Mr. Warburton did not think it was right to introduce religion into this discussion, and pointed out that the hospitals were sustained by persons of all creeds. He then reviewed the various arguments advanced for and against the measure, and said it seemed extraordinary that the exemption was not asked for by petition. Inasmuch as the bill was brought in over the heads of the corporation of Charlottetown and the people, he would have to vote against it.

Hon. Mr. Laird thought the matter should be discussed without religion, and distinctly repudiated any sectarian feeling in the present instance.

Hon Mr. Peters thought that as a matter of principle all exemptions were wrong, but expediency generally governed in such cases. He thought that if churches were to be exempted, hospitals should also be exempt. This bill, however, went further than the exemption of the hospitals in the case of the Charlottetown Hospital, as it exempted certain lands and premises connected therewith which were not used for hospital purposes. He could not therefore, vote for the bill on that account. If the bill were amended so as to make it apply to hospitals only, he would support it.

Mr. Arsenault explained that if it were necessary the whole of the Charlottetown Hospital premises would be used for hospital purposes.

The discussion was continued by Hon. Messrs. Peters, McLean, Sinclair, Arsenault, Rogers, (Alberton) McKinnon and Bell, the latter moving an amendment giving the City Council power to exempt the two hospitals mentioned in the bill and the land immediately connected therewith or any portion thereof.

Hon. Mr. Peters moved an amendment to the amendment as follows:

The 81st section of the Act of 51st Vic., Chap. 12, is hereby repealed and the following substituted therefor: "All churches, chapels or places of public worship actually used by any religious body or society for the purpose of divine worship, and for no other purpose; the Prince Edward Island Hospital (while used as a hospital), but only the buildings actually used as a hospital; the Charlottetown Hospital (while used as a hospital), but only the buildings actually used as an hospital, and also all property vested in the Crown, and also all buildings used as permanent educational establishments, and the land and premises immediately connected therewith shall be exempt from any taxation under the authority of this Act.

Mr. Shaw pointed out that the part of the hospital building which was said to be used as a boarding house was in reality used as a home for the sisters, and was therefore part and parcel of the hospital, and the two could not be separated.

Mr H C McDonald spoke against the manner in which the bill was brought in and thought it would be well to hasten slowly in the matter.

Hon. Mr. Gordon thought that the hospitals were even more deserving of exemption than the churches, and spoke feelingly of the work done by the hospitals. He was favorable to granting the exemption asked for by the bill.

The amendment to the amendment, moved by Hon. Mr. Peters, was then put and declared lost. Mr. Bell's amendment on being put was also declared lost.

The bill was then put and carried, the title being changed to "A Bill Exempting the Hospitals."

Mr. Bell moved that the report of the committee be now not adopted, but that the bill be referred back to the committee for the insertion of the amendment moved by him.

Mr. Rogers (Alberton) seconded the motion.

The amendment was declared lost on division.

Hon. Mr. Peters then moved that the bill be referred back to the committee for the insertion of the amendment he had previously moved in committee.

The amendment was then put and declared carried.

Committee was then resumed, the amendment carried, and the bill was reported agreed to with amendments.

House adjourned until 10 a. m. on Tuesday.

TUESDAY, May 8

House met at 10.45.

Mr. Shaw read a petition from Mrs. Andrew O'Connor, of Montague Brige, asking for compensation for the loss of her husband who was killed owing to the bad state of the roads near Montague Bridge. He also read the affidavits annexed to said petition, made by *Mrs.* O'Connor, and also a petition from the residents of Montague certifying to the truthfulness of said petitioner's statement, thus establishing *prima facie* evidence of the cases, and asked what action the Government intend taking in answer to said petition.

Mr. Peters replied that he did not intend taking any action in the matter.

Mr, J. E, McDonald asked the Commissioner of public works whether he has received a petition from *Wm.* R. Wood, Dundas, asking that a right of way from Cumberland Hill Road to Grand River, be closed, and what action the Government intend taking concerning it.

Hon. Mr. McLean said such a petition had been received and during recess the matter would be settled one way or the other.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald asked the Commissioner of Public Works to table a detailed statement showing the amount expended on the Ferry Wharf, Lot 14, during the year 1893, the amount let by tender, or by private contract, or by day's work, also the names of the parties who performed the work, and the amount paid each person.

Hon. *Mr.* McLean said that the statement asked for would be tabled as soon as possible.

The House went into committee on the bill respecting licensing of peddlers, Mr. Robertson in the chair.

The bill was discussed by Hon, Messrs. Peters, Gordon, Sinclair, Shaw, A, J, Macdonald, Arsenault, Rogers (Alberton), Prowse, McKinnon, Bell, Wise, McLaughlin and J, A. Macdonald, reported agreed to without amendment, and read a third time and passed.

Mr, Prowse submitted a copy of the draft address to His *Honor* the Lieutenant-Governor.

Hon. *Mr.* Peters moved that the bill exempting the hospital be read a third time.

Mr. Wise moved an amendment that the bill be read a third time this day three months. Mr. Rogers (Alberton) seconded the motion. The amendment was declared lost on the following division:

Ayes—Wise, Rogers (Alberton) Warburton, Laird, Sinclair, H. C. McDonald, Godkin.—7.

Nays—Peters, McLean, Farquharson, Rogers (Charlottetown) A. Peters, McLaughlin, Aitken, Gordon, Shaw, J. A. Macdonald, Arsenault, J. B. McDonald, Blanchard.—13.

The main motion carried and the bill was read a third time and passed.

At one o'clock recess was taken.

After recess Hon. Mr. Peters introduced a bill to authorise the Government to raise a temporary loan or loans not exceeding $100,000.00 in all and a rate of interest not exceeding 4 per cent. per annum. In moving that the rule be suspended and the House go into committee on the second reading of the bill, Hon. Mr. Peters explained that there was now a considerable sum owing to the banks in the shape of overdrafts, on which the Government had to pay a considerable rate of interest. This interest was generally higher than 4 per cent. It is not the intention to raise more money than the amount we owe. But a considerable sum is due the banks, and on this we have to pay 6 per cent. The Dominion Government borrows some millions of dollars through their saving banks and only pays 3½ per cent. There is no reason why we should not take advantage of some such scheme. If these savings banks can get large sums of money at low rates of interest, there is no reason why the Government should not do the same thing. The money lent to our Government is practically money loaned to the Dominion Government. We have to our credit at Ottawa a larger sum than all our debt or liabilities. Besides this, we have our Provincial assets. He did not issue debentures, because some period had to be specified for their redemption. Our expenditure will be less and revenue more in the future. Therefore it is well to pay off our debt, and we only ask enough to pay off the debt. The hundred thousand dollars will square us with the banks. We are now paying the banks 6 per cent. By the proposed arrangement we will only pay 4 per cent. Thus 2 p. c. on $100,000 is $2000 saved yearly and without increasing the debt. It will give the people more benefit than the savings banks because these only give 3½ p. c., and we will give 4 p. c. He knew as a matter of fact that the people were willing to invest their money with the Government. The people here were not favorable to long loans, and the bill provided for only a temporary loan.

Hon. Mr. Gordon agreed with the Attorney-General that if it was necessary to borrow money to pay off the debt of the Province, it would be better to borrow from our own people than from outsiders. But why has money to be borrowed? We have lived for nearly fifteen years without taxation. Yet within three years an avalanche of taxes has been imposed. But the people have a horror of debt, and we should pay what we owe. He regretted very much that we were placed in the sorry position we were in the eyes of the world, and hoped the Government would be able to raise the amount they anticipated. He moved the following amendment to the motion to go into committee on the bill:

"This House regrets the reckless extravagance and corruption of the Government in expending the public money, not for the legitimate services of the Province, but for the purpose of keeping themselves in power, which has occasioned the present large floating debt due by the Province, and desires to place on record its disapproval of the policy of borrowing money by means of loan, inasmuch as the system is sure to seriously injure our credit, and also to imperil our existence as a separate Province."

Mr. J. A Macdonald seconded the motion made by Hon. Mr. Gordon. He pointed out that the money to be obtained by the bill before the House would have to come out of the taxpayers of this Provice. He regretted exceedingly that the Province was in such a position. It was only last year that we were told that not a cent was owing the banks, and we are told now that we are $100,000 in debt. He charged that this sorry state of affairs was all owing to the reckless extravagance of the Government last year, particularly towards the end of the year during the election campaign. Money has been spent with a lavish hand to further the interests of the Government.

Hon. Mr. Peters here rose to a point of order, claiming that the amendment was not an amendment at all but a separate and distinct resolution, and was therefore out of order. He asked for the ruling of the Speaker on the point.

The Speaker ruled the amendment out of order.

Mr. Macdonald then continued his remarks, speaking to the motion to go into committee on the bill. He again referred to the lavish expenditures during the past year, and pointed to two or three bridges which were started in his district to secure votes against him. He regretted exceedingly that up to date no satisfactory explanation of the condition of our finances had been offered, and thought there should be some guarantee that the reckless extravagance should cease.

Mr. A. J. Macdonald thought that the measure before the House was something in the nature of a savings bank, but the bill did not provide the machinery to operate it. The probability is that if this bill is passed the Legislature would not meet again, as under it unlimited powers were given to the Executive Council. He had not sufficient confidence in the Executive to vote for the bill. The measure should have been introduced earlier so that it could have received the consideration its importance deserved.

Mr. Shaw thought it was wrong to bring the bill in at this stage of the proceedings, on the closing day of the session. It showed the corner in which the Government was placed. Not only does the bill provide that all past loans shall be legal as well as all future loans, but it also gives power for the borrowing of $100,000. In 1891 the Leader of the Government declared that our debentures would sell at par and ridiculed any other contention. But we find that the Government sold debentures at the close of 1891, their first year of power at 99 1-90, while in 1892 they sold them at 96, a loss of 4 p. c. nearly. We must give the Government credit for thus lowering our financial standing. He declared that over $7,000 had been lost by discounts to this Province "while grass grows and water runs." He censured the Government for not issuing a proper prospectus when putting their debentures on the market. If the Government were not in a tight place why were they under the necessity of coming here to make legal the overdrafts at the banks. The third section of the bill shows that the banks were apprehensive about these overdrafts, and had forced the Government to introduce this measure. In about one week after this House rises $10,000 will be added to the overdrafts at the banks.

Mr. Warburton claimed that if the papers suggested had been printed in connection with the sale of debentures it would have entailed an enormous expense. The paper to be used in connection would have to be unforgable, and would be very expensive. He did not think the Governments position was in any way humiliating.

Mr. H. C. Macdonald thought that the Government was acting wisely in passing this and he would support it.

The motion carried and the House went into committee with Mr. Robertson in the chair.

In reply to Mr. A. J. Macdonald, Hon. Mr. Peters said that the operating of the bill would not entail additional expense. The Government were not making provision for a new loan, but were merely making provision for paying the debts of the Province as we go along. There was no trouble with the banks.

Mr. Arsenault said he would not object to the bill under discussion if the debt to be paid had been contracted legitimately. This was not the case, however, and it was high time a stop were put to the reckless expenditures of the Government.

Mr McKinnon thought the bill a good business move, and it would meet with the approval of business men.

Hon. Mr. Peters again pointed out that the money raised was to be used for the purpose of paying over drafts, and alluded to the saving of 2 per cent that would be effected. It was simply a matter of business.

Hon. Mr. Farquharson thought the bill was a step in the right direction. There is no trouble with the banks today, and there never was.

The discussion was continued by Messrs Shaw, Bell and Gordon.

Hon. Mr. Peters in reply to Mr. Shaw, said that the security to depositors would be in the nature of a deposit receipt.

Hon Mr Gordon then submitted the amendment previously moved by him.

The chairman ruled the amendment out of order.

The speaker took the chair, and the chairman reported the bill agreed to.

Upon the motion that the report of the committee be adopted, Mr. Arsenault moved in amendment that the bill be read a third time this day three months.

The amendment was lost on a straight party vote, and the report of the committee was adopted.

The bill was then read a third time and passed.

House adjourned until 10 o'clock on Wednesday.

WEDNESDAY, May 9.

House met at 12.30, and after prayers and the reading of the Journals, took recess for one-half hour.

After recess came the closing ceremonies. Shortly before two o'clock His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor and suite arrived, and was received at the Provincial Building by a guard of honor. His *Honor* then proceeded to the Legislative Assembly, where he assented to the following bills:—

An Act to Incorporate the Winsloe Dairying Company.

An act to Incorporate the Murray Harbor South Dairying Company.

An act to amend the law relating to the Registering of Deeds and Instruments relating to the title of lands of this Province.

An Act to amend the law with regard to the fees to be charged by the Prothonotary of the Supreme Court.

An Act respecting Investigations after fires.

An Act respecting short forms of Indenture.

An Act to Incorporate the Wilmot Valley Hall Company.

An Act to Incorporate the Grand River Dairying Company.

An Act to Incorporate the Women's Christian Temperance Union of Charlottetown.

An Act to Incorporate the Trustees of Morell Hall.

Continued on 2nd page.

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