

Sabbath labor in this department. Having a desire to satisfy the House he had commenced to carry out the suggestion. He also found a petition on file in the Department from a number of the inhabitants of Bathurst, in Gloucester, praying that measures be taken forthwith for the total discontinuance of Sabbath labor; and a like petition from W. O. Smith, Mayor, and three hundred others, of Saint John. These petitions and this resolution he found, and they were in accordance with his own feelings. He had looked into the mail contracts; and had found that it would take some time to make arrangements to stop mail carrying on Sundays. A change had been made with respect to the mails going westward from St. John, and he saw no difficulty in discontinuing all the mails in course of time. He would probably be able to complete his arrangements for that purpose by August. As a first step he had thought it desirable to stop Sunday delivery. He believed that this regulation was hailed with satisfaction throughout the country. He was glad that members had brought this question up, because it afforded an opportunity to show that it was the desire and determination of the Government to totally discontinue the Sunday labor. The petition from Fredericton, presented to-day, showed what the public opinion was. Had time been allowed the same opinion would have been expressed unanimously by the people throughout the Province. The amendment moved by Mr. McClellan fully sustained the course of the Government. His object in the new regulations had only been to carry out the request of the House. If the House was now of an opposite opinion he would be sorry for it, but of course he should yield to their decision. But he believed that there was no change in the House. He hoped that by August such arrangements would be completed as would enable the Government to discontinue the carrying of mails, and all other postal labor, on the Sabbath.

Mr. McMillan was for total discontinuance.

Mr. Wilmot was in favor of a cessation of labor as a general rule, but did not desire to see it carried to extremes.

Mr. Lewis would support the Postmaster General.

Mr. Gillmor had experienced no inconvenience yet from the new regulations.

Mr. McIntosh intended to vote against both amendment and original resolution. He thought it the duty of the Government to regulate the postal department without the interference of the House.

Mr. Hanington thought that the stopping of delivery was as far as the Postmaster General could go at first. The discontinuance of Sunday labor in the department could only be made step by step, as the public became acquainted with the working of his regulations and the service generally. He thought it the duty of the House to support the Postmaster General, and to urge him forward in the work.

Mr. DesBrisay was disposed to support the Postmaster General in a total discontinuance; but wanted the system carried out thoroughly. He read from the *Church Witness* to show that the recent change in St. John increased, and not diminished Sunday labor in the Post Office in that city. He complained grievously of the length of time taken in the transmission of the English mail from Halifax to St. John and to the North.

Mr. Tibbets wanted all the Sunday labor done away with.

Hon. Mr. Tilley thought that the "higher law," without any petitions or expression of opinion from the people, was a sufficient reason and justification for the total discontinuance. The postal arrangements in Nova Scotia and elsewhere would present some difficulties, but in a few months the Government will be able to discontinue wholly the Sunday carrying.

Mr. Montgomery would go for total discontinuance, but could not see, if mails were made up and forwarded, why they should not also be delivered.

Mr. McAdam thought that the Postmaster General would fall in discontinuing the carrying on Sunday.

Hon. Mr. Connell here made an explanation which we could not understand.

Mr. Botsford wished to leave the matter entirely in the hands of the Government, and should therefore vote against both amendment and resolution.—Mr. Botsford made merry with Mr. Connell's apparent sanctity.

Mr. McPhelim closed the debate. He sarcastically congratulated the House on the reform so lately effected in their morale. If the walls of the House could speak they would tell of many strange things which had happened beneath this roof scarcely consistent with the piety now professed by honorable members. He would go to the fullest extent in stopping Post Office Sunday labor, but he would not take a half measure, which after all did not effect its object. The petition from 200 people of Fredericton was a small matter to be obtained in two days in a city of six thousand inhabitants, and the first name on the Bathurst petition, which, after all, had only 40 signatures, was that of the Postmaster himself. He wished the House joy to the fullest extent of their new gotten morality; and he hoped that the new Postmaster General would get from the public a larger measure of justice than he himself had obtained. Mr. McPhelim here

related how in order to obviate complaints made in St. John of the time of making up and delivery of mails in that city, and to make such arrangements as would be convenient and satisfactory to the business men, he had written to the Chamber of Commerce for information, but had not to this day received even an acknowledgment of the receipt of his letter.

For the Amendment: Tibbets, Connell, C. Perley, Tilley, Fisher, Wright, Chandler, Gillmor, Hanington, Wilmot, Scovil, Yail, McLeod, W. E. Perley, Tenley, Ferris, McAdam, DesBrisay, Lawrence, Mitchell, Stedman, McClellan, Lewis, Watters, Williston.

Against it: Kerr, McPhelim, Gilbert, Brown, Cudlip, McIntosh, Montgomery, Allen, Botsford.

After this important matter had been thus disposed of a whole host of complaints of mail arrangements were poured in upon the Postmaster General by several members—principally from the North. Messrs. Mitchell, DesBrisay, Read, Tibbets, McPhelim, Kerr, and Williston, rose, one after the other, to present the grievances of their particular localities. Mr. Connell explained and promised, and promised and explained, and explained and promised again.

VICTORIA MAILS.

Mr. Tibbets called attention to the manner in which the mail was carried between Little Falls and Grand Falls. The contractor carried the mail with a dog cart and an old horse. The mail arrived at Grand Falls frequently three or four hours behind time, and Tupper's line to Woodstock had to make it up.

Hon. Mr. Watters warmly defended the contractor against the charges of Mr. Tibbets. He was a very respectable man; and his horses, which he saw when up recently, were as good as could be found between this place and Little Falls. It was the subtlety which produced the delay. It was most unjust for Mr. Tibbets to throw aspersions upon this contractor.

Mr. Tibbets replied that the line was a perfect disgrace to the service.

The House adjourned at 4.37 P.M.

FRIDAY, FEBY. 18.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

Mr. Gray brought in a Bill to enable parties having claims against the Province to have these claims adjudicated upon by the Courts of Law.—Mr. Scovil brought in a Bill to alter and amend the law to regulate the sale of spirituous liquors.

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.

Mr. Kerr's Bill to repeal the Act providing for the election by the people of Parish officers so far as regarded the County of Gloucester, was committed, Mr. Cudlip in the chair.

A discussion took place which, commencing with the Bill itself, extended to the general subject of local self government and Municipal Institutions—the general operation of the Parish election system—Toryism, Liberalism, progress and retrogression—Universal Suffrage—Parliamentary Reform—John Bright and the Reform movement in England—John Bright's detractors—universal suffrage in New York and Boston—the use and meaning of certain high sounding phrases—and a "general assortment" of other subjects.

Mr. End contributed some judicious remarks upon the swelling of bladders in exhausted receivers; which the Speaker complemented with a few observations upon the use of the condensing syringe. We shall not follow the devious track of this meandering debate; but shall give a few salient points.

Messrs. Read and End supported the bill, on the ground that it was desired by the people of Gloucester.

Hon. Messrs. Tilley, Johnson and Brown opposed it because it was a departure from a correct and liberal principle.

Hon. Mr. Smith supported it, and denounced the operation of the law throughout the Province, but particularly in Westmorland. The Parish meetings were in the hands of the lowest of the people; and in them there was no order and no regularity; they were nothing but a piece of rosydium.—Mr. Smith expressed a general want of faith in Municipal Institutions and local self government.

Mr. McPhelim opposed the Bill because he believed in extending rather than in contracting popular privileges. He believed that we would and should proceed as far as Universal Suffrage.

Mr. Lewis opposed the Bill.

Mr. End pitched into Universal Suffrage generally and John Bright in particular.

Mr. Tibbets thought the whole system of local self-government a complete farce.

Mr. Gillmor said that the law worked badly only because people of character and intellect were too lazy or too proud to go to the meetings. They would learn better.

Mr. Mitchell thought that offices to be filled were too important to draw intelligent people to the meetings. Were Municipal Institutions established the people in the election of Councilors and management of County business would find something worth their time and trouble.—Mr. Mitchell defended and eulogised John Bright.

Mr. Wilmot expressed his surprise to hear the Hon. Mr. Smith, a prominent Liberal, express such illiberal opinions. He believed that there was a petition coming in from Sanbury for the repeal of the Municipal Act, and that a Bill for that purpose would be brought in.

Hon. Mr. Smith.—I thought it would come to that.

Mr. Wilmot.—Well; I shall not support such a Bill, although I am called an old Tory. I cannot consent to our going backward now.

His honor the Speaker argued that people were apt to grumble at any law however good, because they did not think of the evils which it had removed, but only of those minor evils which remained, or had been caused by the law itself. If a certain class of people would not go to the Parish meetings it was better that they should be returned by those who did go than that a return should be made to the old system. He contended that the House had nothing before it to show that the people of Gloucester really desired this Bill. Progress was reported.

QUESTIONS.

Mr. Gillmor put a question to hon. Provincial Secretary Tilley concerning the Ontario Canal. Other members followed with other questions. The questions gradually slid into a conversation touching the propriety of assessing Railway land damages on the localities in which the railways were being constructed.

THE MEDICAL BILL.

The Medical Bill was again committed. Mr. Gray asked if Homeopathic physicians were protected in the Bill. There ought to be a fellow feeling between them and the Government, a member of which had charge of the Bill; for the latter were given to dealing out infinitesimal doses of their measures.

Hon. Mr. Tilley replied that they were protected equally with others. With respect to the Homeopathic system the late Government dealt out such huge doses of disagreeable material that the House rejected them.

Mr. Hanington objected to the Bill that it was not feasible—it was not called for by the country—there were sufficient restrictions now to the practising of medicine; that there was no pressure of quackery in this Province—that the present license system was sufficient—that no one was compelled to employ a quack—that the people had sense enough not to prefer ignorant or unqualified men.

Mr. End in reply to Mr. Hanington argued that the people were not the best judges of those who should treat their ailments, as was proved by their devotion to those horrible compounds, patent medicines, and the like, which were therefore a mercy to them to protect them against quackery. He drew a comparison between Law and Medicine, and contended that the professional physician should be discriminated from ignorant pretenders, and protected against them, as lawyers were.

Hon. Mr. Speaker started various objections to the details of the Bill. It compelled the oldest practitioners to become registered or else lose their rights and privileges which they had hitherto enjoyed. It restricted the Government in making medical appointments to registered physicians. It gave the power of saying who should be registered to the Board of Physicians, instead of the Governor in Council, and thus opened a road for injustice in occasions of excitement; and it provided no appeal from the decisions of the Board in the matter of licensing. It gave the Board the power of selecting the colleges the graduates of which should be entitled to registry; so that if they chose to exclude the University of London or Edinburgh they might do so. The effect of the Bill was to centralize a Medical Council in St. John, and to subordinate every other medical man throughout the Province.

Hon. Mr. Tilley said that Johnson's course was unfair. The Bill had the concurrence of the great body of medical men. He read a petition in his favor from a large number of physicians, and said that the adherence of others would soon be received. He replied to Johnson's remarks at some length. Progress reported.

PROGRESS OF BUSINESS.

The House is quite industrious, and the business is going on very well. Quite a number of private and local Bills have already been disposed of. The prompt and sharp manner in which the Speaker discharges his duties much facilitates the progress of business.

SATURDAY, FEBY. 19.

REPEAL OF THE INSOLVENT DEBTOR'S ACT.

This morning the House went into committee upon a Bill introduced by Mr. Kerr, to repeal the Insolvent Debtor's Act.

Mr. Kerr contended that the Bill was passed without consideration; that it was unpopular; that it gave dishonest men an opportunity of making over their property to some person until they get a discharge from their debts; that it afforded a facility of getting rid of debts which with proper industry and spirit might eventually be paid in full.

Mr. Montgomery was willing to go any length to amend the Act, but could not vote its repeal without some measure to take its place.

Mr. Tibbets thought there would be no Bill this session to take its place, and that it had better remain another year.

Hon. Mr. Speaker made a vigorous attack

upon the Bill. He spoke of a Bankrupt Law, and could see only one difficulty in preparing it—what should be considered an act of bankruptcy. In certificates of discharge there should be a discrimination between the honest and the dishonest—the provident and the improvident—the capable and the incapable.

Mr. Wilmot said that the feeling of his constituents was against the Act, but he would not repeal it without having something better in its place. Misfortune in business visited the careful as well as the careless. In Boston out of one hundred merchants it was calculated that but two had passed through their history without failure, compromise, or something of the sort.

Mr. DesBrisay read a resolution passed last session instructing the Government to have a Bankrupt Law prepared, and asked why it had not been done. The Insolvent Act was a stain and a disgrace to the Statute Book. If the Government would not prepare a Law a committee should be appointed to prepare one.

Hon. Attorney General said that his time had been too much occupied with his wanted labors and his trip to England. He had understood that the Chamber of Commerce of St. John were preparing a Bill.

Mr. Chandler at length and warmly replied to the attacks which had been made upon the Insolvent Law. He showed that they were mere general assertions; and not specific and particular. He went over the principal features of the Law, and argued that it provided guards against fraud and dishonesty.

Mr. Mitchell spoke at length in favor of some protection and relief to the poor and unfortunate. He looked upon the Law as imperfect, but could not consent to its repeal without something better to take its place. He moved that Kerr's Bill be postponed for three months.

Mr. Lawrence spoke in opposition to the Insolvent Act, and stated the principles of a Bill which he had himself prepared. Mr. McLeod took the ground that the Legislature had no right to interfere between debtors and creditors. He would oppose any measures having such an object.

Mr. Gillmor thought that there was one hundred cases of dishonesty on the part of the debtor for one of cruelty in a creditor. But there were no petition for the repeal of the Insolvent Act, and he would not repeal it without having something to take its place.

Hon. Mr. Brown thought that no man's personal liberty should be pledged for debt. He did not like to repeal the Insolvent Act until something better was had.

Mr. McPhelim made a non-committal speech.

Mr. Lewis felt it his duty to vote for the Bill.

Progress was then reported, as many members were absent.

BOARD OF WORKS.

Hon. Attorney General laid on the table a copy of the Annual Report of the Chief Commissioner of Public Works.

AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORT.

Hon. Mr. Tilley laid upon the table the Auditor General's report upon the Treasurer's accounts.

BILL INTRODUCED.

By Mr. Tilley—a Bill to Regulate the Office of Clerk of the Peace and of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas. By Mr. Scovil—a bill to alter and amend the Act relating to Highways. By Mr. McPhelim—a Bill to alter the constitution of the Legislative Council by making the same elective. By Mr. Scovil—Bill relating to Hawks and Pedlars. By Attorney General—Bill relating to great Roads.

FREDERICTON LAW LIBRARY.

The House went into committee on a Bill relating to Attornies. Hon. Attorney General explained its object. The Law Library at Fredericton although of benefit to every attorney throughout the Province who either himself attended at term or employed another to take charge of business before the court, had been hitherto supported by a very few of the profession. It had got in debt, and it was now proposed in order to sustain it that attornies throughout the Province should pay a year's tax of ten shillings.

The Bill was opposed ferociously by Messrs Mitchell and End, and more mildly by several others, on the ground that the Library was of little use to any but Fred-

ericton Lawyers. In spite of all opposition it was got safely through some four or five spiteful divisions. When it was found that the Bill would pass Mr. Mitchell moved to amend the title by making it, "A Bill to get the Law Library out of Coal at the expense of those who get no benefit from it," and actually divided the House upon the motion, which, of course was rejected.

Why Mr. Mitchell should have considered it necessary to divide the House upon the Bill several times after its principle had been affirmed by a decisive majority we cannot understand. That it was Saturday afternoon, and members inclined to be funny and facetious is perhaps some excuse. But Mr. Mitchell should be careful; he appears to be cultivating a spirit of rapturous and obstinacy which will interfere grievously with his future usefulness and influence in the House, and with his rise to posts of authority and honor. Impracticable men make the worst of legislators. Mr. Mitchell should really consider that he cannot always have things just as he wishes them; that men will differ from him in opinion, and will not yield up their convictions; and that differences of opinion is no just ground for anger. We speak plainly; but we speak with the best intentions.

MONDAY FEBY. 21.

PURGING THE JOURNALS.

This morning the House, ashamed, as it might well be, of its freak on Saturday afternoon struck off the Journals the resolution to amend the title of the Bill relating to Attornies, with the division upon it.

RAILWAY LAND DAMAGES.

Mr. Stedman presented a petition from W. R. M. Burris, of St. John, setting forth that a quantity of his land had been taken for Railway purposes,—that it had been entirely undervalued by the Appraisers;—and praying relief.

Objection was taken that this petition came within the rule of the House which forbid the reception of petitions for money or relief. A conversation took place upon the general award of the Appraisers and upon the system of appointment. Much complaint was made of both by several members. The petition was not accepted, on the understanding that it was a money petition and that the matter could be brought up by an address to His Excellency for the papers.

RAILWAY PAPERS.

Mr. Kerr moved the address for Railway Documents of which notice was given by Mr. Gray—who is now absent in St. John, carried without opposition. The list of documents and other information asked by this address occupies over two columns in the *New Brunswick*.

LAW LIBRARY BILL.

The Bill relating to Attornies,—taxing them 10s each annually for the support of the Law Library in Fredericton,—came up this morning for a third reading.—Mr. End moved a rider to the effect that all attornies paying the ten shillings shall have the use of the Library.—The Attorney General and Hon. Mr. Smith opposed the rider on the ground that the 10s would not be sufficient to support the Library, but that an additional voluntary contribution from those using the Library was necessary.—The rider was lost, 10 to 23, and the Bill passed.

PETITIONS FROM CARLETON.

Hon. Mr. Connell presented two petitions from the Municipal Council of Carleton Place for such an amendment of the Municipal Law as would authorize the Council to pay its members their actual expenses in attending meetings, and the other for change of Law which would give Lumber merchants the first applicants.

DIVISION OF THE LAW COURTS.

Upon the committee of a Bill to alter the time of holding the Circuit Court in the County of Charlotte some observations were made of General interest.

Hon. Mr. Watters thought that we had too many courts, and an entire revision of them was needed. It would be better to abolish the Courts of Common Pleas, and establish two sittings of the Supreme Court in each County. Suitors were disinclined to bring their suits in the Common Pleas Courts. Let this Court be abolished, and replaced by the Supreme Court in which ability and legal knowledge could be had.

Mr. Williston entirely agreed with the last Speaker. Suitors are not willing to bring their suits in the Common Pleas. He would increase the jurisdiction of the

lower Courts, and have two sittings in each County if necessary. This revision would effect a very considerable saving in the expense of the Courts, which is an absolutely necessary consideration in the present financial condition of the Country.

Mr. Kerr thought that the Courts of Common Pleas should be abolished; but that change would involve the appointment of another Judge. Almost the whole time of one Judge was required in St. John. He would not extend the jurisdiction of magistrates; but would have all law-suits tried in the Supreme Court.

Progress was reported upon this Bill. A similar Bill for the County of Kent was committed, upon which progress was also reported.

Mr. Smith moved the appointment of a special committee to take into consideration and report upon all these Bills which was carried.

The Speaker named Messrs. Smith, Kerr, and Chandler the committee.—Mr. DesBrisay thought that the sitting of the Courts had been hitherto fixed for the convenience of the lawyers and not the public. The lawyers in this seemed to think that no one but themselves had a right to open their mouths in this House.—The little attack made quite a ferment amongst the lawyers. Hon. Mr. Smith replied warmly to Mr. DesBrisay. The Speaker struck off the committee which he had named, and said that being a lawyer himself he should leave the appointment to the House. After this little quarrel had fermented awhile, several members, one after another, rose to say that they entirely approved of the committee named by the Speaker. But the three legal gentlemen put themselves on their dignity, and declined to serve. Messrs. DesBrisay, Cudlip and End were named the Committee.

A STRANGE DISEASE. A singular and malignant disease has appeared in Providence, and some cases have proved fatal. The Providence Post says of it:—"It commences as a little dark red spot, on the face of hands, with, perhaps, a stinging or pricking pain, on which spot there soon appears a pustule or vesicle seated on a hard inflamed base, in which is formed a slough of charcoal blackness, where no suppuration commences. The earliest attention tracing the earnest attention of the physicians. The only effectual mode of treatment is said to be, to burn the pimple out in its early stages, with a hot iron or with caustic. In view of the rather undelimited nature of this disease, we would suggest that it is eminently desirable, if any one is troubled with a pimple swelling of an unusual character, that a physician should be at once consulted before it is tampered with. Although there is no cause for general alarm, a disease of this malignant type cannot be checked too early."

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS. Cough, sore throat, bronchitis, asthma, tightness of the chest and pain in the left side, the precursors and accompaniments of Consumption, are readily subdued by the regular application of the Ointment after warm fomentation of the throat, chest and side. There is no preparation in existence which passes so quickly from the surface to the diseased and irritated membrane employed in the office of respiration. One or two applications will sometimes restore the voice which has been reduced to a husky whisper by cold, and enable the gasping victim of asthma to breathe freely, regularly, and without pain. A few doses of the Pills, by promoting the general health of the system, minister to the permanent and permanency of the cure. Beware of counterfeits; see Caution at foot of Holloway's advertisements.

A BRITISH REGIMENT IN NEW YORK. The Gothic military are on the move in regard to the expected arrival that city at an early day of the 42nd Highlanders of the British army, en route for America, by way of the isthmus. With the exception of the Montreal companies present at the Cable celebration last night this will be the first appearance of British troops in New York, since the evacuation in 1783. The 42nd Highlanders is a regiment in the British army, and has borne the British flag in battle and victory in parts of the world, where the hardest fighting has been done—under Marlborough at Waterloo, in Spain, in India and the Crimea. The officers of the Seventh Regiment have already taken the initial steps to give the famous visitors a suitable reception which it is hoped they will not decline.