younger lawyers would receive the greatest benefits, the older ones having more or less good Libraries of their own. The younger ones would also enjoy the Library longer than their older brethren.

MR. PICKARD said "yes, and pay the $10 fee oftener."

HON. ATTORNEY GENERAL said that was true, but the benefit to the younger members of the Bar would still be greatest and there was a unanimous feeling on the subject among the profession in St. John, no dissent yet having been expressed from the provisions of the Bill. The bill was agreed to.

MR. ELDER introduced, with a Petition, a Bill relating to Highways in Lancaster, Simonds, St. Martins and Musquash, St. John.

MR. AUSTIN presented a Petition of the Portland Town Council against the Fifth Ward Bill.

Adjourned.

THURSDAY, March 7.

After Routine.

MR. O'LEARY introduced a Bill to vest in the Trustees of St. Andrew's Church, Kingston, Kent, the title to certain Lands in Weldford Kent and to authorise them to dispose thereof, with a Petition of said Trustees asking for the enactment of said Bill.

MR. AUSTIN presented the Petition of A. R. Ferguson and others praying that the boundaries of the proposed Fifth Ward, Portland, may be so changed as to include Spur Cove road.

MR. O'LEARY introduced a Bill to alter the time of holding the County Court of Kent.

MR. BARKER committed a Bill to empower the Inhabitants of St. Mary's, York Co., to assess themselves for Fire purposes and procuring a supply of Water. Agreed to.

MR. COTTRELL gave notice of a Motion for a detailed Statement of the Travelling Expenses of the Executive for the fiscal years ending the 31st of October, 1875 and 1876.

MR. COVERT's motion relating to Papers, etc., connected with the claim of John Glasier, reported upon in 1868 by Messrs. Harding & Dawson, being moved and amended by Mr. McLeod to include papers, etc., on a similar application by Hon. Benjamin Beveridge was withdrawn, the Secretary promising papers in both cases without the usual formalities.

MR. JOHNSON from the Address Committee for a Statement relating to Licenses for Inns in Acadiaville and Weldford, Kent reported that his Honor promised the information asked.

HON. MR. CRAWFORD introduced a Bill to abolish Preferential Claims for Rent upon Goods and Chattels seized under Execution.

Recess.

AFTER RECESS.

MESSRS. AUSTIN, BURNS, DOW, MCKAY, BUTLER, SMITH AND TWEEDIE were appointed a Select Committee on the Bill to incorporate the St. John and Maine Railway Company.

MR. JONES introduced a Bill relating to Constables.

MR. BURNS gave notice of a motion for a Statement showing the amounts to the debit or credit of every Department of the Government with the Dominion Government, People's Bank, or other Banks, Agents or persons on the 31st October, 1874, 18th February and 31st October, 1875, 24th February and 31st October, 1876, and 8th February and 31st October, 1877.

HON. PROVINCIAL SECRETARY laid on the table the Reports of the Provincial Asylum, Deaf and Dumb Institution (St. John), and Tracadie Lazaretto; also, Returns, Reports, etc., connected with the St. Martins & Upham Railway.

Adjourned.

FRIDAY, March 8.

THE CLERK, this morning, announced the unavoidable absence of Mr. Speaker, and Dr. Dow, Deputy Speaker, took the Chair.

After routine.

MR. ELDER introduced a Bill to amend Portland Incorporation Act, so far as it relates to Indiantown Ferry, with the petition of the County Council in favor thereof; also, a Bill to amend the Assessment Law, so far as it relates to Lancaster, Simonds, St. Martins and Musquash, St. John Co., with like Petition.

MR. RYAN (Albert) gave notice of a motion for a Statement showing the amount paid on account of Small-Pox in 1874 and 1875, to each person; also, a Statement of amounts in detail paid to members of the Government on delegations during the years 1872 to 1875 inclusive.

SCHOOL LANDS DISTRICT NO. 2, NEWCASTLE.

MR. DAVIDSON committed a Bill to authorise the Trustees of School District No. 2, Newcastle, to sell and convey certain land, Mr. McLeod in the chair. The mover explained that the piece of Land was about a quarter of an acre, situated just below Haviland's Ferry, which, until lately, had a building upon it, used for upwards of fifty years as a School. The rear parts of the river lots having become settled, it was agreed that the School Building should be moved in that direction, and now the Trustees and people of the District asked, by Petition, for the passage of this Bill to authorize the sale of the Lot, the proceeds to be devoted to the benefit of the District for School purposes.

There was quite a long discussion on the matter, Hon. Mr. Crawford claiming that there was nothing to show how the Title was vested, and that as, under the present law, such Lands were held in trust for the benefit of the Districts by the Municipal Councils the Petition and Bill should emanate from the Municipal Council of Northumberland, instead of from the Trustees and people of the District.

MR. ROGERS said it might be that the person who originally gave the Land did so only for School purposes; if that were so it ought, when not used for those purposes, to revert to the original owner.

HON. MR. CRAWFORD said it seemed that the title to the Land was acquired by trespass, committed forty years ago, and the Bill was to legalize said trespass.

MR. TWEEDIE said that no member had brought more "rotten" bills before the Legislature than Mr. Crawford. His Bill relating to Probate matters, was one, and the Maritime Mutual as well as other Bills, to effect suits of Pugsley, Crawford & Pugsley, were evidence of the hon. member's efforts in that direction. So it did not come with good grace from him to charge others with seeking questionable legislation. He styled Mr. Crawford's speech the greatest effort yet made by him in the Legislature and said it was only a little $20 or $30 matter that was calculated to bring forth all that gentleman's powerful eloquence.

HON. MR. CRAWFORD said he was a little surprised at Mr. Davidson, with his conservative views in such matters, advocating such a Bill, but Mr. Tweedie's doing so was no surprise to anybody, it being a matter of absolute indifference, both to that gentleman himself, and every one else, what his course was. Of one thing the House was well aware, the hon. gentleman, since he held a seat in the Assembly, had not troubled it with a single measure affecting either the Law or any other public interest, and the Statutes would be searched in vain for any trace left by him of his ever having changed or added to them in any way. Perhaps the country was much better off because it was so; at any rate, it did not seem to complain. He (Mr. Crawford) contended for a matter of principle, in what he had advanced in reference to the Bill. The principle was the same whether it was in $20 or a larger matter. So far as Mr. Tweedie's assertion in reference to his seeking legislation for personal ends was concerned, he challenged him to advance any facts to show that he had sought Probate legislation to affect a case in which he was interested.

MR. TWEEDIE said that Mr. Crawford had brought in a Bill relating to Easements which was intended, as shown at the time, to affect a case then pending in St. John. The hon. member could not say that the Maritime Mutual legislation was not of personal interest to him. It might be that he (Mr. Tweedie) did not effect a great deal by his course in the House, but he could say that what he did was of his own motion, and not suggested or dictated by others, and it might be well if all other members could say the same.

HON. MR. CRAWFORD said the enactments sought by him in the matter of Easements were certainly not calculated to change the law relating to Probates. They were, however, required by the then existing state of the law, as he found in his experience, and not to meet any particular case in which the Firm of Solicitors to which he belonged was interested. The Maritime Mutual Insurance Company, while doing business, had not been barren of benefits to the people, although it had met misfortunes like other Companies. The House had approved of his Bills, as a rule, and it was a reflection upon it that its action was thus impugned.

MR. SMITH was willing that the Bill should pass, as it provided that the proceeds of the sale should go for School purposes in that District.

MR. PHILLIPS said the land should revert back to the original owner, now that it was not to be used for the purposes for which it was given.

MR. BUTLER favored the Bill, but said that such small matters ought to be placed, by a general Bill in the hands of the Municipal Council.

HON. PROVINCIAL SECRETARY cited the law relating to the title of School Lands, and said that, under the circumstances explained by Mr. Davidson, he thought it would be best to pass the Bill.

MR. SWIM gave the history of the old School House property, arguing that no one but the Petitioners were interested in it, and that their wishes ought to be complied with.

MR. MCKAY expressed himself as being pleased with the cross-firing between Messrs. Crawford and Tweedie, and said it was well to proceed cautiously in dealing with the Bill, after so quiet a time as there had been since the opening of the session, because of the principle involved.

The Bill was agreed to.

BILLS, ETC.

MR. ELDER introduced a Bill to incorporate the New Brunswick Mutual Marine and Fire Insurance Company, with the Petition of R. Cruikshank, James L. Dunn, W. H. Tuck, and others in favor thereof.

MR. AUSTIN presented the Petition of the Town Council of Portland, praying that no Act may pass to place Indiantown Ferry under the control of the County Council.

MR. ROBINSON committed a Bill to authorize York County Council to sell and convey certain lands in Canterbury, Mr. McKay in the chair. Agreed to after an explanation by the mover.

AID FOR SUFFERERS BY THE ST. JOHN FIRE.

MR. JONES committed a Bill, Mr. Cottrell in the chair, to authorize the County Council of Carleton to aid persons rendered destitute by the St. John Fire. He explained the measure as one embracing the same provisions as that which passed the House in September last, and was amended in the Legislative Council. The amendment was not acceptable and the matter was dropped, as those interested in the Bill did not care to accept it in the amended form. The amendment exempted those who suffered from the Woodstock fire in May last, a provision which was not asked, so far as he was aware by any resident of the town.

MR. BUTLER said many persons suffered by the Woodstock fire to as large an extent individually as others in St. John by the Great Fire in that City, and it would seem hardly fair that these should be called upon to pay assessment for those who had been no more unfortunate than themselves.

MR. JONES said it was a Councillor from the Parish of Woodstock, which included the Town, who moved the Resolution in the Council to make the donation—that the Resolution having been passed in June, and the Bill having been before the House in September, and another Resolution having been passed by the Council in January requesting the passage of the Bill, the proceedings having been published and there being no petition against it, it was evidence that it was desired by the people. If there were people who had lost all their property by the Woodstock fire they would pay little or nothing towards the assessment, the poll-tax being only three cents per head. He did not argue that it was just to tax losers by the Woodstock fire, but it was difficult to discriminate, besides which no one had spoken to him asking any exemption.

MR. SMITH said he did not think it right that losers by the Woodstock fire should be obliged to pay to make good similar losses of others in St. John.

MR. MCQUEEN said he had an amendment placed in his hands providing that losers by the Woodstock fire who were insured in the Provincial Insurance Company should be exempted from assessment under the Bill, the reason in favor of the amendment being that no insurances were paid by that Company. He believed it a hard matter that those who lost by the Woodstock fire and failed to get their insurance should be obliged to pay for St. John losses.

MR. JONES claimed that the amendment was a blind one, because it would be difficult to know before the assessment was made who had been insured in the Provincial. He had no objection to having any names inserted in the Bill for exemption. In fact he knew of only one gentleman, and he belonged to the Upper House who claimed the exemption. He said further that the amendment proposing to exempt persons insured in Provincial was unfair and unreasonable as it did not also exempt persons who were not insured at all.

MR. MCKAY said he understood that the Assessment List was made out previous to the May fire in Woodstock, and parties who were assessed on properties subsequently burned were refused relief from taxation on such properties when they applied to the Council therefor.

MR. JONES said that the statement was incorrect.

MR. RYAN (Albert) thought the County Council were the best judges of their own requirements and that the Bill ought to pass.

MR. WILLIS said Hon. Mr. McQueen's amendment belonged to the worst kind of class legislation, and he could not understand why persons who lost insurance by Provincial Company should be exempted any more than others who might have had no insurance at all.

MR. O'LEARY favored the Bill as it stood.

MR. JOHNSON claimed that when the representatives of the people affected were agreed to the measure it ought not to be interfered with by members from outside Counties, especially in such a case as this when the amendment was not backed up by a Petition from even one Ratepayer of the County affected.

MR. MCKAY repudiated the idea advanced by Mr. Johnson and said if that were to prevail hon. members might as well meet in their own Counties and pass their local measures without coming to the Legislature at all. He thought as the Bill was brought in by suspension of the Rules it was the more objectionable.

HON. MR. MCQUEEN also urged against the principle enunciated by Mr. Johnson.

MR. MURCHIE favored the Bill, and said that he and others owning property in York did not grudge paying part of the assessment in that County for a similar purpose, although they were heavy losers by the St. Stephen fire.

MR. SMITH, referring to persons not being assessed because they might have lost their property by the Woodstock fire, said that persons who owned properties and had large families to support were sometimes as badly off as those who had no property, for they had much difficulty in paying their taxes.

MR. JONES said it was the first time he had heard it stated that persons owning property were poorer than those who had none.

MR. PICKARD said that persons who were insured in the Provincial Company might also be insured more largely in others, in which case there would not be much force in the exemption under the amendment.

The amendment, being put, was lost and the Bill was agreed to.

MOTIONS FOR ADDRESS, ENQUIRIES, ETC.

MR. MCLEOD, pursuant to notice, moved for an Address for statements of expenses on Immigration; Mr. Willis for statement of Travelling Expenses of the heads of Departments; Mr. Davidson for Statements of Returns of Stumpage in Northumberland, Gloucester and Restigouche—all of which were promised by the Hon. Provincial Secretary without Address, and the motions were withdrawn.

In reply to Mr. Jones's inquiry, the hon. Provincial Secretary said the Consolidated Statutes were already furnished to Parish Courts' Commissioners free of charge, and it was the intention of the Government to furnish them also to Justices of the Peace and other Public Officials in the same manner.

In reply to Mr. Jones' inquiry, whether it was the intention of the Government to ascertain the length of the By-Roads in the Province, the hon. Provincial Secretary said the matter was under consideration by the Government.

In reply to Mr. Rogers' motion for the Report of the Engineer and other papers connected with land taken for a wharf at Shepody River by the Albert Railway, the hon. Provincial Secretary said the full report of the Engineer on the Albert Railway, which contained reference to said wharf, would be brought down, together with other papers on the subject without address. The motion was withdrawn.

BILLS, ETC.

The Chatham Driving Park Association Bill was committed by Mr. Tweedie, and agreed to after an explanation by the mover.

Recess.

AFTER RECESS.

HON. PROVINCIAL SECRETARY introduced a Bill to amend the law relating to Municipalities with the petition of the York County Council in favor thereof.

MR. BARKER committed a Bill to authorise York County Council to assess eleven thousand dollars on the County to redeem certain Debentures, Mr. Willis in the chair. Agreed to after explanation by the mover.

MR. MARSHALL introduced a Bill to amend the Act to widen and extend certain Public Streets, in St. John with the Petition of Amos P. Barnes and forty others in favor thereof.

Adjourned.

SATURDAY, MARCH 9th.

DR. DOW, Deputy Speaker, resumed the chair this morning.

MR. THERIAULT moved for leave to introduce a Bill to exempt capital invested in Mills and Manufactories in Madawaska from Taxation for ten years. The Bill was withdrawn, the rules not having been fully complied with prior to the motion.

MR. THERIAULT also moved for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the election of two members of the Assembly in Madawaska; ruled inadmissible as involving a charge on the public revenue without a recommendation of the Government.

MR. MARSHALL moved that the petition of A. P. Barnes, Jas. Lawton and others, in favor of a Bill to amend the Act to widen and extend certain Streets in St. John, be read at the Clerk's table, which was done.

MR. MARSHALL introduced a Bill for the protection of Mechanics and Material men.

MR. O'LEARY committed and explained the Bill to invest certain land in Weldford, formerly granted to St. Andrew's Church when in connection with the Presbyterian Church of Scotland, in St. Andrew's Church, Kingston, in connection with the Presbyterian Church in Canada, and to enable the said Trustees to dispose of the same, Mr. McKenzie in the Chair. Agreed to.

The Bill to incorporate the New Brunswick Marine and Fire Insurance Company was referred to Messrs. Elder, Crawford, Covert, Davidson and Marshall, as a Select Committee.

MR. JONES gave notice of motion for a detailed account showing how $6,081.50 crecited in the Receiver General's Account, 1877, is made up; also showing particularly the number of Marriage Licenses issued by each Issuer, and the amount received by each therefor.

MR. JONES also gave notice of motion for a detailed Statement showing the particular PublicWorks or Buildings to which accidents happened in the Fiscal year 1877, which required immediate outlay for repairs thereof and for which there was no legislative provision; also a Statement showing the particular occasion when an expenditure not foreseen or provided for by law was urgently required in said year; also any Reports made by the Auditor General that there was no legislative provision for such outlay for repairs or expenditure; also the Reports made by the Provincial Secretary or other head of Department that the necessity for such repairs or expenditure was urgent; also copies of any Special Warrant or cheque issued and signed as provided by Section 19, Chapter 9 of the Consolidated Statutes, showing how, to whom or for what service, and at what time the amount of said Warrant so drawn under Sec. 19 was passed.

MR. ROGERS gave notice of motion for a detailed Statement of all Lumber seized as cut in trespass on Lands in Albert County, with the names of the trespassers and the amounts of the Stumpage and expenses on the same from 31st October, 1876, to 26th February, 1878.

MR. MURCHIE introduced a Bill to amend the St. Stephen Incorporation Act, with a petition in favor thereof.

MR. COTTRELL moved, pursuant to notice, for copies of the proceedings and a Return of the expenses, etc., of the Investigation of charges against H. E. Herbert, J. P., and J. E. Knapp, Clerk of the Peace, Westmoreland.

HON. MR. MCQUEEN said the initials of Herbert's name were S. E.

HON PROVINCIAL SECRETARY said the information would be furnished without an Address, and the motion was withdrawn.

MR. JONES moved, pursuant to notice, the papers connected with Stock purchases, Sales, etc., which were promised without Address and the motion was withdrawn.

MR. BARKER introduced, with Petition a Bill to authorize the Rector, Church Wardens and Vestry of Christ Church, Fredericton, to dispose of certain Lands.

In laying the papers asked for relating to the Grand Southern Railway on the table.

HON. PROVINCIAL SECRETARY said he did not have copies of the Plans prepared because the expense involved in the work would be greater than the House would care to authorize. The originals would, however, be submitted for examination at any time. The papers submitted did not include those brought down by a similar request last year, but were merely those coming into the hands of the Government since that time.

MR. O'LEARY introduced a Bill to revive and continue the Richibucto Railway Company's Act.

HON. PROVINCIAL SECRETARY again referred to the tardiness with which Private Bills seemed to be sent forward, and said that he feared some of them would be too late to receive attention at the present session. He gave notice that he would be prepared to submit the Estimates early next week.

In reply to Mr. Burns Hon. Provincial Secretary said that most of the Financial information asked for by several members was contained in the Statements promised in the Lieut-Governor's Speech and such details as were not contained therein would be furnished as soon as they could be prepared.

In reply to Mr. Covert the Secretary said information respecting School Books was being prepared in the Chief Superintendent's Office, and would be brought in as soon as possible.

Adjourned.

(Special to the Advance.)

FREDERICTON, March 13.

MR. BURNS gave notice, this morning, for detailed statement of travelling expenses of members of the Executive, to 31st October last, showing what amounts were paid and when.

A long discussion was had on Mr. Davidson's bill to authorize Parishes in Northumberland to vote pay to Councillors, nearly all the members taking part. The hardships of Councillors in having to travel long distances to attend meetings, paying their own expenses and losing time, was argued in favor of the measure and there seemed a desire in the House that whatever was done should be for the whole Province, not for one county. There was division of opinion as to whether the remuneration should take the form of mileage, daily pay, or a combination of both, and whether the parish or county should bear the charge; some also argued that payment of Councillors should be compulsory. Progress was reported with leave to sit again.

Hon. Mr. STEVENSON presented a petition from Charlotte County Council favoring payment of Councillors, out of county funds.

Mr. ROGERS introduced a bill to incorporate Albert Southern Railway, and

Hon. Mr. STEVENSON a bill in respect of Library Association and Mechanics Institute.

Papers were promised in response to Mr. Rogers' motion relating to Crown Land trespasses in Albert County.

Mr. TWEEDIE introduced a bill to incorporate the Chatham Dutcher Temperance Reformers Hall Company.

DEATH OF C. ARMSTRONG ESQ.—It is with much regret that we chronicle the death of C. Armstrong Esq., who for a long period was associated with Mr. Ellis in the management of the St. John *Globe*. Mr. Armstrong was well known and much esteemed both for his abilities as a journalist and his worth as a private citizen.

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.

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

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Miramichi Advance.

CHATHAM, THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 1878.

The Richibucto Railway.

We earnestly hope that the Government of the Province will lose little time in doing justice to Kent County in the matter of her Railway, and not, by unnecessary delay, cause the loss of opportunity which the Company now has of obtaining the loan of Rails promised by the Dominion Government. That there is danger of this loss appears from the following taken from the Ottawa correspondence of the St. John *Telegraph*:—

"I may mention what has probably been sent by telegram, that in reply to several inquiries upon the subject of old Rails, which are now quite in demand. Mr. Mackenzie has stated that there are no more of these at the disposal of the Government, the total quantity on hand sufficient to lay some seventy miles of Road having been promised to the Central Railroad and the Richibucto Branch, in proportion to their respective mileage, and it will only be in case of these Roads *failing to be put under construction within a reasonable time*, that the disposal of these Rails in another way can come up for consideration."

The Northern, or Richibucto Railway Company were foremost among those who took steps to secure the advantage of the Subsidies Act of 1874. They were quite as well prepared to undertake the work as other Companies with whom the Government made Contracts, when the friends of what was known as the Shore Line succeeded in having the application of the Northern Company held in suspense until the Line running from Kingston, via Buctouche, etc. was tested. That having been done, both Companies were before the Government with their claims and the latter decided in favour of the Richibucto Road.

By this time the Government were sensible of the fact that the Province was in danger of becoming seriously involved on account of its Railway expenditure, and, with the evident intention of securing delay and perhaps imposing upon the Richibucto Company a condition which they could not fulfil, the latter were required as a necessary evidence of their ability to carry out their Contract—to show that they had a guarantee of a loan of Rails from the Dominion Government. The Company secured a guarantee of sixty per cent of the Rails required and again applied to have their Contract signed, but the Government still refused on the ground that forty per cent of the Rails were yet required. The Company then proceeded to negotiate with Mr. Domville for the balance of Rails required and it was while these negotiations were pending that they were officially informed that Government claimed it inexpedient to enter into a contract.

There had been no reason, whatever, to doubt that the Government would keep faith with the Company in the matter, and upon the strength of the official promise that the Contract would be signed, as well as the personal assurance of members of the Executive, the Contractors under the Company had cleared out several miles of the proposed line to full width, built necessary shanties for men, placed plant and implements on the works and done considerable grading, when the Government announced a change of Railway policy. Since that time work has been hung up on the Richibucto Railway to the direct loss of the Company and their contractor and to the disadvantage of the public interests of that important section of the North Shore.

It was not because of anything the Richibucto Company had done or left undone that Government refused to carry out its understanding, but simply because of a change of Government General Railway policy. No change of general policy, however, could justify the course pursued. It was because of the Government's promise and the knowledge that they were fulfilling conditions imposed thereunder that the Company commenced the work.

Kent County was very badly treated when the route of the Intercolonial Railway was determined, for nothing save indifference to her interests on the part of those who could influence the local direction of that Road, prevented it from passing on to Richibucto *via* our parishes of Nelson and Glenelg. It was the duty and it should have been the policy of the Provincial Government to do all in its power to relieve so important a section of New Brunswick from the disadvantages thus entailed upon it; and, above all things else, the promise made, and under which the construction of the Road was commenced, should have been observed. We say nothing concerning the comparative claims of the Richibucto Company and others who were differently treated by the Government, for such references can affect the question in no way at this time, but, in view of the importance to Richibucto of securing her Railway, the pledged faith of the Government that the Contract for it would be signed, the fulfilment of all the conditions on which the Government's promise was made, the awkward financial position of the Company and Contractors, caused by the Government's unfulfilled assurances, and the fact that prolonged delay may involve the loss of sixty per cent of the Rails required for the work, we urge the Government to even strain a point and do justice, in this important matter, to Kent County and its own pledges.

Repenting of an Old Evil and Engaging in a New One.

The "leading Liberal Conservative journal" of the North Shore appears to be driving ahead at a fair rate as a campaign sheet, and has set itself vigorously about the task of crying down everything and everybody whose course and utterances do not tally with the doctrine that destiny has ordained Canada to be governed by Sir John A. Macdonald and Dr. Tupper, while that small portion of the country in which we live shall forever remain in the hands of Mr. Peter Mitchell. We have been accustomed, heretofore, to observe that the *Advocate* was entirely in accord with the Fishery officers and the Minister in the unnecessary restrictions placed upon our fishermen, but we have, in the last issue of that paper the repudiation of that idea and the declaration that "for the last three years it cannot be "denied that the several changes made "in the Regulations affecting the modes "of fishing and the close seasons for "fish have caused considerable dissatis-"faction in the County." That is what we have been contending for all along and we are glad, even at this late day, to have our views on the subject endorsed by a journal which has so long and so unfairly opposed them. The *Advocate* further says:—

"A contemporary in St. John has "recently made some serious charges "against the Minister for having, in "several cases, used his authority to "shield violators of the law from the "consequences of their acts. Several "instances were given, with such de-"tails of time, place and circumstance, "as seemed to call for official explana-"tion."

We had almost expected that our contemporary, instead of finishing the last sentence as it has done in the above, would have given expression to a belief which prevails in well-informed circles and, in place of the last five words said "indicate that the charges "emanated from an official source with-"in the Province."

Gentlemen in Northumberland who have, of late, become objects of the not very dignified attention of the *Advocate* are, of course, made to appear as implicated in the charges referred to and the ADVANCE is put on the defensive in connection with the real or supposed sins of the gentleman who prevents—as our contemporary puts it—"our Representative from being induced to resume his old portfolio."

As to the attitude assumed by ourselves towards the Department in the matter of the Regulations which, as the *Advocate* now confesses, have given so much dissatisfaction, we have nothing to say, save to give expression to our regret that the injudicious counsels of the Inspector, the *Advocate*, Mr. Mitchell and others in the interest of the latter gentleman's political party prevailed in bringing about the ready changes which our contemporary now condems. But the facts connected with all these subjects have been kept sufficiently before the readers of our County papers to render further reference to them unnecessary at this time, so we pass on to the introduction of the gravamen of the *Advocate's* leader of last week. The article in question was entitled, "The Minister of Fisheries and his Annual Report," and it appeared that in working itself up to "this frame of mind" in which our contemporary gravely informed its readers it was when it received the Minister's Annual Report, the subject announced had almost been forgotten. However, the Report was reached at last and the first charge launched at the "Grit" successor of the patriot who presided over "the old state of things" was in connection with the Dominion Fish Breeding Establishments. The complaint was that out of an expenditure of $24,087 for current expenses of Hatching Houses, only $5,192 were expended in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, the expenditure in New Brunswick being but $1,388. That looks like a very grave charge upon its face but when the subject is penetrated to any depth—and we by no means expect our contemporary to trouble its mind in that direction—the *prima facie* unfairness will entirely disappear. It must be remembered that if there is any virtue in artificial Fish Breeding for commercial purposes our inland waters need such assistance to a much greater extent than those of the Maritime Provinces; first, because the fishes thus propagated in the non-tidal waters are non-migratory and therefore exposed to greater danger of destruction than our migratory fishes and, second, because of the smaller fishing areas of our inland waters in proportion to the population of the Provinces in which they are located.

But, we must admit that the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec are entitled to a larger expenditure on fishery account than the Lower Provinces, as a matter of simple equity, because of their proportionately larger population—and consequently larger contributions to the general Revenues of the Dominion—and on the still stronger ground that their contributions directly to the Revenues of the Fisheries Department are very much larger than those of the Maritime Provinces. Thus, if we take population as a basis we find that New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, with a population (Census of 1871) of 673,394 absorb $5,192 as Fish Breeding Expenditure, while Ontario and Quebec, with a population of 2,812,367, absorb $18,845 for the same service. If, however, the expenditure of the two Upper Provinces were to be as much larger, proportionably, as their population is greater than the two lower Provinces, they should have an expenditure of $21,683 instead of the $18,845 of which the *Advocate* complains. But, it may be said, population is not a fair basis on which to base the argument. We hold it is fairer than what the *Advocate* advanced—no basis at all.

We will turn, then, to what is the true basis, and that is the contributions of the respective sections of the country to the Revenues out of which the disbursements on Fisheries Account are paid. As Fishery expenditure is greater than Fishery income, the general, as well as the Fishery Revenue is called upon to meet the former. General Revenue may be said to receive about the same sum per head from our population all over the country and, as we have shown above, the Upper Provinces have not received their fair share of expenditure on that basis. The next items to be considered, then, are the relative contributions of the Upper and Maritime Provinces to the Fishery Revenue. For the year ending 30th June, 1877, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia contributed $2,809, and Ontario and Quebec, $10,554 to the Fishery Revenue. It needs only the rules of simple proportion to demonstrate that if $5,192 were apportioned to New Brunswick and Nova Scotia for Fish culture, Ontario and Quebec should have had $19,507 according to the status of the respective divisions of the country in the matter of contributions to our Fishery Revenue, instead of the $18,845 which is so grudgingly spoken of by the *Advocate*. It ought to be borne in mind, also, that the Hatching House of the Restigouche is on the River that divides New Brunswick and Quebec and that its benefits are divided between the two Provinces, while all its expenses are charged to the latter Province.

We say nothing at this time concerning the conduct of those who have been guilty of so scandalously misrepresenting the work of some of our Hatching Houses, for that will come up where we desire to use proofs of what we have heretofore stated in that connection. We had intended to refer to other points brought up in the *Advocate's* article on the Fisheries Report, but we will reserve our remarks thereon until next week. In the meantime we may say that the superficial and erroneous character of its researches are easily demonstrated, and we can promise so facile an *expose* of its misleading figures as will convince any fair-minded reader of its unfitness to deal justly with public questions.

The Fisheries Award.

It appears that Mr. Blaine, of the United States Congress, is endeavoring to bring about the repudiation of the Fisheries award of $5,500,000 in favor of Canada, and the New York *Herald* is assisting the doughty Maine politician. The *Telegraph*, thereupon, takes it for granted that the United States will be mean enough to refuse payment and says:—

"It would be a fitting sequel to the imposition of a duty on fish cans, the silver bill and the election of a President by fraud and forgery. If the people of the United States are willing to write themselves down a nation of swindlers and repudiators, that is their own concern; they always were a cheap people and this last illustration of the extreme cheapness at which they hold their reputation will hurt them far more than it does us. We lose a sum of money, which, although considerable, is, in a national point of view, not large; they will lose what is of far more value, their reputation as an honest people and the respect and confidence of the civilized world."

We think the *Telegraph* goes a little too far in attacking the United States so unreservedly, because it may turn out, notwithstanding the position taken by Mr. Blaine the *Herald* and the *Telegraph*, that the award will be paid. It is scarcely logical, after making reference to the Fish Cans, Silver Bill, and election of the President by Forgery—all done by a "cheap people"—to say that such a matter as cheating us out of $5,500,000 could hurt them more than us, for we want the money badly enough, it is justly due and it is a sum not to be despised. We will certainly never get it by abusing our neighbors after the petulant fashion of the *Telegraph*, which is almost as undignified in its treatment of the subject as Mr. Blaine and the *Herald* are mean-spirited and void of national pride and honor. We incline to the hope that the Maine Senator and the big newspaper do not represent the intentions of the President or the feelings of the American people in the matter.

Political Leadership of the Maritime Provinces.

The Hamilton *Times* correspondent at Ottawa states that Sir John A. Macdonald has been virtually deposed from the leadership of his party. The correspondent appears to be quite at home and off-handed in reference to the details of the position and among other things says:—

"He [Sir John] was recently waited upon by a deputation of the U. E. Club wire-pullers who informed him respectfully but firmly that he would be expected to resign the leadership after the next election and give place to Dr. Tupper, who, from his manner in the House, is clearly manifesting a power and an importance with which he was never invested before. The reason for this is said to be two-fold: (1) Sir John, who is rapidly growing infirm and not to be depended upon, is fast losing his influence over his baker's dozen of lieutenants who are anxious to usurp his place, and (2) it is known that Dr. Tupper refuses to serve any longer under him after he has been used for the purposes of another election. Mr. Tilley, who is to be a candidate, declined to be one unless he had assurances that Sir John should not lead the party in the next Parliament. This assurance has been given, and as Mr. Tilley has declared he will not serve under Dr. Tupper, it is to be arranged that the latter is to represent the western section of the Tories, while Tilley leads the contingent from the Maritime Provinces."

We interpret the above as, after all, presenting a rather improved programme in comparison to that of a few would-be representatives of the old "Liberal" party of New Brunswick. It has been hard to induce them to understand that the solid sentiment of the country revolts against those who set themselves up as champions or apologists of the once astute, witty and sagacious Sir John A. Macdonald. It indicates—and we are glad to give emphasis to the fact—that Mr. Tilley, whatever his confidences with his former political associates in Dominion politics may be, is not prepared to father and attempt to condone the disgrace which Sir John A. Macdonald and politicians of his stripe brought upon Canada. It gives some assurance of the fact that the Maritime Provinces Representatives are to have, at least, an able leader in whose record of the past there is every reason to justify the hope of an honorable course for the future. It will be to the credit of Mr. Tilley's well known power to resist temptation if, in the event of his again entering political life, he is found equal to the duty of avoiding a too close association with Sir John, Dr. Tupper and the less important members of the morally ragged regiment who are now engaged in party guerrilla warfare at Ottawa. If, on the other hand, Mr. Tilley should choose to come forward as the champion of the present so-called Liberal-Conservative Party, he will find very many of his old friends sadly disappointed and reluctantly obliged to abandon one so long looked upon as their political standard-bearer. We dismiss, as not being worthy of belief, the conjecture in the above that Mr. Tilley would so far forget his principles as to lead any contingent of "Tories," and expect, if he is a candidate at the next Dominion election, to find himself in accord with the honest sentiment of his old supporters, who, however, are not prepared to wander too far from the principles which they have always enabled him to represent and adorn.

The Eastern Question.

The treaty of peace has been already ratified by the Sultan and on the 10th inst, was sent to the Czar at St. Petersburg for signature. Raouf Pasha, it is said, is to try and obtain a reduction of the indemnity. The latest despatches represent Russia as maintaining that only questions of European interest ought to be brought before the coming Congress.

France and England have agreed to interfere jointly in the affairs of Egypt and both have sent strong remonstrances to the Khedive, on financial matters. Austria will probably support Great Britain in the demand that Greece shall be admitted to the congress.

The Quebec Difficulty.

On the 8th inst., the members of the new Quebec Ministry were sworn in; they are as follows:—

H. G. Joly, Premier and Minister of Public Works; Pierre Bachand, Provincial Treasurer; F. G. Marchand, Provincial Secretary; Francois Langelier, Commissioner of Crown Lands; D. A. Ross, Attorney General; Alexander Chauveau, Solicitor General; Henry Starnes, President of the Legislative Council.

Ministeral explanations in the Quebec Legislative Council showed that the Governor wrote Mr. DeBoucherville complaining that his recommendations had been neglected, and his prerogatives infringed by the introduction of bills about which he had not been consulted, ending as follows:—"The Lieut.-Governor after mature deliberation cannot accept the advice of the Premier in reference to the sanction to be given to the railway bill intituled, an Act relating to the Quebec, Montreal, Ottawa and Occidental Railways. For all these reasons therefore the Lieut.-Governor cannot consider his memorandum without expressing to the Premier the regret which he feels in being no longer able to retain him in his position contrary to the rights and prerogatives of the Crown."

The Premier briefly replied that he had no other duty to perform beyond submitting to his dismissal from office, reiterating his profound respect for the rights and prerogatives of the Crown.

The House voted confidence in the dismissed ministry as an amendment to the supply bill.

The new Cabinet abandoned the obnoxious bill and propose to meet the obligations of the Province, and to carry out their undertaking for the execution of which the public faith has been pledged, by a system of economy and retrenchment, which will render unnecessary the laying on of new burthens upon the people.

The Assembly was prorogued on Saturday, until April the 8th, by the Lieut.-Governor.

That "Public Document."

In his Newcastle references to Mr. Senator Macpherson's Pamphlet, Mr. Mitchell made a comparison of the cost of bringing Immigrants to Canada under the present and late Governments. Referring to this subject in his speech at Galt in September last the Premier said:—

The gentleman who wrote Mr. Macpherson's Pamphlet (laughter) states that the total cost of Immigrants per head in 1873 was $7.76, and he calls that year the last of the late Government. You will not find 1873-4 there at all. Then in our first year he says that the cost per head was $18 90, and in our second year $26.55. Now, the Secretary of the Department states that in 1875—our first year—the average cost per head was $10.83, instead of $18.90, while in 1876 the cost per head, instead of $26.55, was only $10.82. Now, the cost in their last year was $6.37, or as near as may be $4 per head less than during our second year, when the number of immigrants was diminished by the causes—unavoidable causes—mentioned; but besides these there is another fact which they are very careful not to mention. In 1873, just before they went out of office, there was, I am informed, an additional payment of $5 per head practically given to the Allan Steamship Company, and this is added, of course, to the expenditure in our second year, but does not appear in the expenditure for their year. (Hear, hear.)

The total expenditure in 1873, according to Mr. Macpherson's