

the report of Mr. Poole, if so he would be obliged to journalize upon it.

Hon. Attorney General replied in the negative.

After some remarks the amendments were agreed to as amended by the Hon. Attorney General.

Hon. Financial Secretary from committee on Road Scale reported. He also laid on the table certain returns of Excise Duties asked for by the member for Cumberland.

Mr. Brown, Chairman of the Committee appointed to investigate the case of the member for East Pictou, reported by a majority that his seat was not vacated.

Messrs. Donkin, Longley, and Pryor, from the minority, also reported.

The report of the majority was adopted, 22 to 19.

Dr. Tupper objected to the vote of Mr. Burgess being taken, as he had paired off with Mr. Wade.

Mr. Burgess replied that it was only on government questions.

Dr. Tupper continued his speech of the morning until 4 o'clock, when the Governor prorogued the House.

PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.

At 4 o'clock His Excellency the Earl of Mulgrave, Lieut. Governor, came to the Council Chamber in state, and after giving his assent to a number of bills, prorogued the legislature with the following speech. A Guard of Honor, with the band of the 63rd regt., were stationed in front of the Province Building, and the usual salute was fired from the Citadel by the Royal Artillery.

SPEECH.

Mr. President and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly.

The business of the Session having been matured, it affords me much pleasure to relieve you from further attendance on your legislative duties.

The demise of Her late Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, has called forth your sincere condolence, and given you an opportunity of again expressing the deep interest you feel in all that affects the happiness of our Gracious Sovereign.

The session which we are about to close has been marked by an improvement in practical legislation, which commands my entire approval.

The Government in assuming, and the Legislature in yielding to the Executive, the

initiation of money votes, have, for the first time, adopted the usage of the mother country; and I have no doubt that a fair trial of the system will prove that you have acted wisely in conforming to the practice of the Imperial Parliament.

I thank you for the provision which you have made for the maintenance and extension of the Volunteer System. The experience of each day shows how strong a hold this movement is taking on the intelligence and patriotic feeling of the young men of this Province. Six new companies are now in course of formation, and no exertion shall be wanting on my part to render the whole Volunteer force of Nova Scotia as effective as possible.

The enlightened policy which has induced you so liberally to provide for steam communication upon the coasts and estuaries of your country, and for the opening and improvement of roads connecting important sections of its territory, will, I am well assured, be hailed with satisfaction by those for whose benefit they are designed.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

I thank you for the very liberal supplies granted for the service of the present year, and you may rely on their judicious and faithful application.

Mr. President and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

Among the valuable measures matured by your joint deliberations, I am gratified to perceive a bill for suppressing corrupt practices at elections, and for securing that independent exercise of the franchise, without which there can be no true freedom, and no security that public opinion will be duly represented in the Legislature.

I have not failed in forwarding to Her Majesty's Government your addresses on the important subject of the deep sea fisheries, and the Inter-Colonial Railroad, to express the hope that these questions will be considered with the care which the strong interest you have professed in them would seem to warrant.

In releasing you from your legislative duties, I trust that you will bear with you to the communities in which you reside, and to the districts you represent, a full conviction of my sincere desire to promote the happiness of all Her Majesty's subjects confided to my care, and of my determination to govern this country with impartiality and independence.

[The reporter may state that the pamphlet is not as full towards the end as he would wish. This has arisen from the fact that one of the assistant reporters failed to supply the manuscript of several speeches and debates he had taken.]