

POOR DOCUMENT

THE WEEKLY HERALD

CHARLES H. LESLIE, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.
FREDERICTON, N.B., FEBRUARY 18, 1882.

THE SPEECH.

Unless it be to give the members an opportunity to attend the Ball and Promenade Concert, it is difficult to see any reason why the Legislature should be called together at this time; that is, if the speech with which the Lieutenant Governor opened the Session is to be taken as any indication of the work which is cut out for it. Past experience has rather induced the expectation that the Government would bring down very much less than they foreshadowed, but it will be next to impossible for them to do so in this session, for they promise scarcely anything.

The reference in the first paragraph to the condition of the Province has the merit of modesty at least, inasmuch as it does not claim for the Lieutenant Governor's advisers any of the good times which are therein officially recognized, but which the general public have as yet failed to be impressed with.

The meaning of the second sentence in the second paragraph is a little obscure. What we would like to ask, is meant by the statement that it is "important to maintain those institutions which are essential to the efficiency of the service and the good government of the Province, with the dignity becoming their importance"? Are we to understand from this, and from the omission of any reference to the abolition of the Legislative Council, to which the Government pledged itself last winter, that they have gone back on their record? We admit that there are certain branches of the Legislature which, if they are maintained with no more dignity than their importance, or usefulness, entitles them, will come off with a small share indeed; nevertheless, we regret that the Government of New Brunswick, after having posed for three years as the apostles of retrenchment and reform, are now so carried away by the brilliancy of their new surroundings, that they begin to devise ways and means of justifying extravagance and the maintenance of unnecessary legislative machinery. When the constituencies ask of their representatives why the promises which were made with so much fervor, have not been fulfilled, they will not be satisfied to be told that the loftiness of the ceilings, and the magnificence of the chandeliers, and the brightness of the carpets, in the new Parliament buildings, were such that it was felt necessary to make every department of the public service correspond with them. The Legislature should put its foot down once and forever upon the sentiment which is breathed by the portion of the sentence which we have above quoted.

The third and fourth sections were doubtless put in for the purpose of padding out the speech to a respectable length, and nothing indicates the want of ability on the part of the Government to deal with the subject of immigration better than their suggestion that the Geological Report will furnish intending settlers with practical and convenient information. Every one who knows anything about what information settlers need, will agree with us in saying that a copy of a work on differential and integral calculus would be about as valuable for that purpose, as the facts which the young men employed on the geological survey are collecting.

The three bills promised may not be of value. A new law is wanted for the collection of debts, but it would not be necessary if the Attorney General had not been so hasty in repealing the Acts which were formerly on the Statute book. It is to be hoped that any new measure to be brought down, will be so drawn as to enable the Courts to understand it, and of such a character that it will not have to be repealed just when the public have become familiar with its working. The County Court Judges could probably attend satisfactorily to matters involving larger amounts than \$200, and deal properly with suits in which the title to land arises. The people will watch with anxious eyes any effort to add to the powers of the Trustees of Schools, as the working of the Good Law in the country districts of the Province has been accompanied with a good deal of friction and has produced considerable dissatisfaction.

THE "REPORTERS" RAILWAY AGAIN.

The Reporter informs us that it is not going to build that railway "for the benefit or with the approbation of THE HERALD and its constituents, but for the benefit of the country at large." Very good; but THE HERALD's constituents happen to be the public at large, and when the Reporter starts out a project which interests them, we do not propose to ask anybody's permission to discuss it. We ask our contemporary to get down to facts, and tell us where his road is going to get any freight, except such as it will draw from the country between Fredericton and Woodstock. It would be very gratifying if we could get a railroad built along the river as it would get a railroad to Stanley; but these things cost money, and people will not put money into them unless they will pay, and such a road as the Reporter advocates would not only present circumstances pay interest on the

cost of the right of way which would probably be little or nothing. Our contemporary says this road is proposed to provide for a trade which the N. B. Railway has failed to secure. Will it tell us what that trade is? Will it give us one credit for sincerity? We want to know what good this road is going to do, and we are answered by a lot of chaffing which is very amusing, but by no means convincing. We will not be so uncharitable as to suggest that the ultimate object of this railway project is to get a quick transit route for some one to Ottawa; but the unwillingness of our contemporary to give us the facts on which he hopes to justify an application for a charter looks very much as if it was not intended for any other purpose.

The Toronto Mail indulges in some nonsense over an alleged quotation from THE HERALD, but the point of the joke is spoiled by the fact that the quotation is not given correctly. THE HERALD did not say that "hundreds of thousands" of young men are leaving the country. Will the Capital and Reporter, which copied the Mail's article, produce their proof?

It was eminently proper that His Lordship the Metropolitan and Bishop Kingdom should have been accommodated with seats at the opening of the Legislature; but it was not proper that clergymen of other denominations should have been permitted to take their chance, standing among the crowd.

WHERE THE ASSEMBLY HAS MET.

The following extract from the St. John Globe is interesting and timely. The building where the Legislature first met in Fredericton was erected by Cornelius Ackerman, whose name is associated with the first grant of the city:

"THE FIRST NEW BRUNSWICK PARLIAMENT met in St. John in 1786. The first Governor of New Brunswick was Thomas Carleton, who called the first Assembly to order in the Mallard Building, King street, where the Victoria Hotel now stands. Two sessions were held in St. John; the third was held at Fredericton. In the journals of the House for these two years no mention is made of a motion to remove the seat of Government to Fredericton, but on the third year the Assembly met at the present Capital. On Friday, 18th July, 1788, the following minute was made in the journals of the House, which is the first mention made of the removal: 'The Assembly having been prorogued to Tuesday, the 15th day of July instant, then to meet at Fredericton where a sufficient number of members to compose a House not attending, the Honorable Robert Dundas, Esq., M.P., arrived in St. John. When the Governor arrived in St. John he took up quarters in the Leonard house, corner Dock and Union streets, but on his removal to Fredericton he built a fine residence for himself here. When he returned to England the house was sold and was subsequently destroyed in the great fire of 1825. It was in the following year that the corner stone of the present Government House was laid.

OPINION OF THE HOUSE.

His Honor having taken his seat, directed the House of Assembly to attend him, and that body having come, he opened the House with the following SPEECH:

"Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,
"Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

"I am happy to be able to express to you my full appreciation of the auspicious circumstances under which we meet. The affairs of the Province appear to me to be in a very favorable position; our people are reaping the rewards and advantages of their industry; the labors of the Farmer have been followed and crowned with the blessing of Divine Providence; and the commercial and trade depression, which for so long a time was so general, and injurious, is rapidly leaving us, if it has not already wholly passed away. We should be devoutly thankful to the Supreme Governor of All Good for these manifestations of His mercy and goodness towards us, also, that the provision you made for the construction of Legislative Buildings has resulted in the completion of this handsome and commodious edifice. I trust and believe it will be found well adapted for the purposes to which it is to be devoted, and a fitting place for the meeting of the representatives of the people in the Legislature of their own Province. While it is our duty to preserve inviolably our internal independent rights, and legitimate submission to the recognized functions of the Federal Authority under the Constitution, it is equally important to maintain those institutions which are essential to the efficiency of the service and the good government of the Province, with the dignity becoming their importance, at the same time having due regard to economy consistent with our financial ability and the public requirements.

"You are aware that a good deal of attention has—and particularly of late years—been given to the Agricultural affairs of the Province. For some time past, my Advisers have devoted much time to their consideration. It is quite to be expected that in a young country like ours, great interest will be felt, especially by the younger portion of the population, in all these subjects which are intimately connected with the welfare of the Province and their own success in life. This is a subject peculiarly within our competence and jurisdiction. The right discharge of our duties in relation to agriculture will necessarily afford additional incentives to our young men to settle themselves contentedly within our own boundaries on our valuable land, so easily accessible to them. This is a matter of present and pressing importance. I believe the policy of my government on this subject has thus far not only received your approval but also the approval of the people at large. I am glad therefore to assure you that the money granted by you during the last session for the importation of improved breeds of stock has been expended in a way which I think warrants me in hoping for gains and improvement in that department of Agricultural work. In continuation of this policy, and influenced also by convictions matured after careful consideration of the opinions of the Board of Agriculture, and of Agricultural Societies, and of leading Agriculturists, my Advisers concluded to lease for a term of years a property to be used as a Provincial Stock and Breeding

THE DOUBLE EVENT.

Gov. Wilmot Opens the Local Legislature in the New Parliament Building with Imposung Ceremony.

The Citizens Commemorate the Occasion with a Carnival of Gaiety and Pleasure.

LAW GIVERS, LADIES, AND LAYMEN TRIPPING THE LIGHT FANTASTIC.

Shortly after one o'clock Thursday the lower portion of Queen street became thronged with pedestrians, wending their way to the Parliament building. Long before three o'clock almost every part of the spacious Assembly room was filled by a crowd of ladies and gentlemen, representing every portion of the province. Mrs. Wilmot, Mrs. Harry Wilmot, and Mrs. Hubbard and Miss Wilmot occupied seats on the right of the Speaker's Chair, which was temporarily set apart as the Throne. On the left were His Lordship the Metropolitan, Bishop Kingdom, in full canonicals, and the Rev. Mr. Alexander, Chaplain of the Legislative Council. Of the Legislative Council all the members were present except the Hon. Messrs. Hamilton, Beveridge, and Harrison.

Fully twelve hundred ladies and gentlemen occupied seats on the floors of the House and in the galleries, while several hundred more were in other parts of the building. Those upon the floors of the House were for the most part strangers in the city, who appeared to form the majority of those present. Among those present were the Chief Justice and the Judges of the Supreme Court, Judge Steadman, the Rev. Messrs. Evans, Precillius, Mowatt, and Wadman, of Fredericton, Hartley and Carleton, and Allen of Gibson, Dr. Jack and the University Professors, and a large representation of the Bar of St. John and Fredericton.

A more brilliant assembly was never gathered in this Province on any previous occasion of the kind.

Shortly before three o'clock Company No. 5 of the 71st Battalion, with the Battalion band at their head, marched down Queen street, and took their stand in front of the main entrance to the building. Capt. Loggie was in command, assisted by Lieutenants Funder and Hasen. Major Beckwith had already had the guns for saluting placed in position, and everything was in readiness for His Honor the Lieut. Governor, who arrived shortly after three o'clock, and was received with the usual honors. His Honor was attended by a staff consisting of Colonel Drury and Captain St. A. D. C.'s, Colonel Taylor, D. A. G., Lieut. Col. Marsh, Major Staples, Capt. East, Goddard, Lieut. Campbell, and Lieut. Hazen, also by Sheriff Temple and Coroner Macpherson.

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Farm, and to utilize a certain portion of the settled importation of cattle for stocking such an establishment. The papers relating to these subjects respectively, will be laid before you at an early day, and I confidently rely upon our sanction of a transaction so deeply associated with the public weal.

"The further settlement of the Public Lands is a matter of great importance, and my Government has fully understood the desirability of obtaining and disseminating accurate information in relation to them. It is understood that the general Geological Survey now proceeding under direction of the Federal Government is approaching completion, and I have no doubt the publication of the results of the Survey will place us in possession of valuable knowledge of the geological and other characteristics of our Lands—which it is the intention of my Government to avail themselves as circumstances may suggest, so that all additional desirable information may be brought within the reach of intending settlers in a practical and convenient form.

"The Hon. Attorney General moved for the return of a writ issued for the election of a member for the County of Sunbury to the Provincial Legislature in the place of the late J. S. Covert, deceased.

The Hon. Provincial Secretary presented the returns, and Messrs. Blair and Ritchie introduced Mr. White, the new member for Sunbury, to the House.

Mr. White was sworn in by Mr. Justice King, and having signed the roll took his seat on the floor of the house, amid the plaudits of the members.

His Honor's speech was then read by the Speaker.

Mr. Lynott moved the Address in reply to the Speech, which was seconded by Mr. Beveridge, the consideration of which was made the Order of the day for Saturday noon.

The Attorney General moved that the Attorney General, Provincial Secretary, the Commissioner of Public Works, and Messrs. Blair and Gillespie, be appointed a special committee to nominate the Standing and General Committees of the House.

The House then adjourned until 3 o'clock on Friday.

THE BALL.

The event of the opening of the first session of the House in the new Parliament Building was by all odds the grand Ball and Promenade Concert tendered by the citizens to the members of the House in honor of the formal opening of the new building. When the members had disappeared in the afternoon and the last lingering visitor had gone away, the doors were closed, and but little time lost in making ready the various rooms for the grand event. The seats of the members of the Assembly Room were removed from the order in which they had been placed, and were arranged in comfortable and easy-suggesting positions, and grouped around the room, with plenty of space vacant of course, for the promenade.

The building was lighted up some time before eight o'clock and quite a number of expectant sight-seers were gathered around outside admiring the noble picture presented by the building as it towered up a black mass against the blue of the sky with windows blazing with light. At eight o'clock sharp the doors of the House were thrown open to the guests. The Reception Committee, His Honor the Chief Justice, Mayor Fisher, and Sheriff Temple were promptly on hand, and the ladies and their escorts soon began to arrive. The main hall, lobbies, and dressing rooms presented a scene of animated confusion. Ladies were rushing in out of the cold with hoods and wraps on over their gowns; committees were rushing frantically about without any apparent object in view; and other ladies emerging from their chrysalis state of warm wraps and dressing-rooms at the same time into full ball costumes, and sweeping up the main staircase, en route to the room of the Legislative Council, where the dancing was to be held. All the arrangements were complete, and everything passed off smoothly and without hitch. Both the Assembly Room and the Legislative Council Room presented a handsome and striking appearance, and the former being most comfortable. The band of the late Judge Wilmot graced one corner, and on the wall facing the Speaker's Chair were the old Coat of Arms and clock with a photograph of the late Judge hanging under them. An extemporized band stand had been erected in the north-eastern angle of the Council Room, where the Band of the 71st Battalion was stationed during the evening, and discoursed the music for dancing. Everything was in readiness and there was a large crowd in the building by nine o'clock, when the first note opening the gaieties of the night was struck. The Fredericton Brass Band, which was stationed in the reporter's gallery, and furnished the music for the Promenade Concert, began their first air at this hour. There were then only a few persons on the floor, but in a short time the room was completely filled with the Promenade Concert was in full swing. The Fredericton Brass Band played the following programme of selections during the concert:—

1. Slow March, "Prince Leopold," Gifford
2. Concert Waltz, "Tourmaline," Boyer
3. Concert Waltz, "Corisande," Carrol
4. Fantasia, "Bonnie Scotland," Metcalfe
5. Cornet Polka, "First Success," Lacombe
6. Selection, "La Vestale," Mercadante
7. Galop de Concert, "Sells Brothers," Southwell
8. Fantasia, "Erin go Bragh," Metcalfe
9. Andante & Waltz, "May Flower," Boyer
10. Original Caprice, "Solitude," Mercadante
11. Concert Galop, "The Rifle," Farmer
12. Overture, "Forepaugh's Aggregation," Southwell
13. Polka de Concert, "Tuba-Terror," Southwell
14. Quick March, "The Rescue," Southwell
15. Fantasia & Galop, "The Relief of Eker," Round

His Honor the Lieutenant Governor arrived about half-past 9 o'clock, and about fifteen minutes to 10 the dancing commenced, and in a very short time the ball room was packed, and scores were whirling in the maze of the dance, which continued without interruption from that on.

The Ball really opened with no leading couple, but among those who took part in the first dance (a quadrille) were Mayor Fisher and Miss Wilmot; the Chief Justice and Mrs. Judge Wetmore; Sheriff Temple and Mrs. Landry; Judge Wetmore and Mrs. Wetherburn; the Attorney General and Mrs. Perley (of Sunbury); Hon P. A. Landry and Miss Temple; Hon R. Young and Mrs. Stevenson; Provincial Secretary and Mrs. A. F. Street; Hon D. L. Hannington and Mrs. J. Ritchie; Hon Robt. Robinson and Mrs. McCallan; Mayor Jones of St. John and Mrs. A. G. Beckwith; the Speaker and Mrs. Beck; Col. Drury, A. D. C., and Mrs. Henry Wilmot; A

were seen to be Messrs. Vall, of King's County; McManus, of Gloucester; Johnson, of Kent; Hutchison, of Northumberland; Davidson, of Northumberland; Butler, of Queen's; and Killam, of Albert.

The Speaker having taken the chair, the Hon. Provincial Secretary introduced an Act relating to Personal Estates. Ordered to be read a first time.

Mr. Elder introduced an Act to Incorporate the New Brunswick Historical Society. Ordered to be read a first time.

Mr. White (Carleton) introduced an Act intituled "An Act relating to the office of Solicitor General." Ordered to be read a first time.

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G Blair and Miss Adams. The dancing was kept up continuously during the night and the approaches to the Council Room were lined and blocked with clusters of fair ladies and their partners awaiting an opportunity to dance. The dancing music, furnished by the Band of the 71st Battalion was admirable, and the following is the programme of the music and dances as well:

1. Quadrille—"Songs of the Day".....Coote
2. Polka—"Castania".....Dixon
3. Galop—"Pantina".....Faust
4. Lancers—"Hit or Miss".....Neilson
5. Valse—"Burlisque".....Coote
6. Mazurka—"La Rose".....Faust
7. Quadrille—"La Fille Marie Ang".....Coote
8. Valse—"Kate Kearney".....Coote
9. Lancers—"Second Step".....Julien
10. Lancers—"Favourite".....Bryson
11. Galop—"Mid Damp".....Strauss
12. Mazurka—"Les Cloches".....Coote
13. Quadrille—"Les Cloches".....Coote
14. Valse—"Corn Flower".....Gungl
15. Polka Quadrille—"Bohemian".....Bryson
16. Mazurka—"Apollo".....Gungl
17. Valse—"De Battenim".....Gungl
18. Lancers—"Schubert".....Strauss
19. Galop—"Danube".....Strauss
20. Valse—"Fair maids of Fredericton".....Stewart

About 10:30 the supper room was thrown open and a detachment of guests was ushered into the Legislative Library, where the supper tables were set. A glance into the supper room just before the crowd was let in revealed one of the most pleasing sights that could possibly greet the eyes of a mortal of epicurean habits and tastes. Tables were spread to accommodate 225 guests at the time and were set in the most tasteful manner possible and presented an elegant and recherche appearance. Mr. Isaac K. Long, the caterer for the occasion, is to be highly complimented on the admirable supper which was spread, both as regards the plentifulness and excellent quality of the refreshments, and Mr. John Berry set and arranged the tables, and much credit is due to his excellent taste in such matters. Running from one end of the room and extending into the bay was a long table in the shape of an elongated horse shoe, and in the recesses formed by the caves for the books were set a number of smaller tables. The display on the centre table was really beautiful and attractive in its array of edibles and delicacies that charmed the eye with their variety of color and form, while they made the mouth water with anticipation of the pleasures that were to be had at such a table. A mass of fruit and flowers, jellies and creams, boiled and roast fowls were spread before the gaze in almost endless review, broken here and there by elegant and rich epergnes, bearing fruit and flowers, that lifted their shapely forms above the surrounding field of edibles. One of the epergnes was sent for use on this occasion by His Honor the Lieut. Governor, one from High Street Temple, and Mr. S. F. Shute, jeweller, kindly lent another. These three were of great beauty, and added much to the general appearance of the table, which was also brightened and freshened up by large quantities of cut flowers and handsome shrubs in pots. The cut flowers were imported from Boston especially for the occasion, and were magnificent; the shrubs were from Government House. The display of silver, glassware, &c., was fine. Nothing but the best was used, with the exception of potatoes, but the cold roasts and boiled were admirable; and a feature of the long table were two small roast porkers, duly garnished, and with lemons in their mouths, that would have made Charles Lamb's mouth water, even though he wrote that charming article on "Roast Pig." No printed menu was furnished, but the following summary of the viands gives a very good idea of what there was to eat:

- Turkey, Ham, Chickens, Tongue.
- Roasts.
- Turkey, Chickens, Roast Pig.
- Jellies.
- Orange, Lemon, Wine, Pine Apple.
- Creams.
- Strawberry, Vanilla, Lemon, Pine Apple, Chocolate, Raspberry.
- Cheese Cakes.
- Lemon and Cucumber.
- Pies.
- Cocoonant and Cream.

Tipy Cake, Trifle, Floating Island, Charlotte, Russe, Blanc Mante.

Fruits, &c.

Oranges, Grapes, Figs, Nuts, Raisins, Celery, &c.; cakes, cut and uncut.

Hot Coffee and Tea Soup and Ice Cream.

In addition to this, throughout the entire evening ice cream was dispensed from a room on the left of the octagonal hall, Mr. Long having started with a supply of thirty-six gallons, which proved a most enjoyable gift to the dancers, as the rooms were very hot during the entire night. Soup was also served through a doorway in the Assembly Room, and proved acceptable to very many.

At two o'clock this morning the dancing was going on with unabated vigor, and the floor was literally thronged with couples whirling in the mazes of the enchanting dance and the scene presented was as gay and as pleasant as one could wish to look at. The retiring and dressing rooms adjacent were crowded with young ladies and the hall also. The main hall on the lower floor was a coolly refreshing spot at this hour, as the miniature fountain splashed and played, sprinkling the flowers that clustered around its bowl.

The most beautiful and regal scene of all, however, was to be observed in the Assembly Room. The strains of the band had been hushed for a time, but the sound of the music room above was distinctly yet softly heard. Seated in groups in various parts of the room, were seen ladies in rich and elegant costumes, chatting with a number of gentlemen; from above the light of the magnificent chandeliers shed a mellow radiance on the dresses, the handsome furniture and fittings which, together with the noble dimensions of the room and the faint glitter of the rays from the prismatic pendants, made up a rich picture that had an indescribable charm and beauty and was well worth description by the pen of the poet or depiction by the pencil of the painter, rather than by the rough, cutting stylus of a Bohemian inklinger.

Supper was still progressing, and while the appetites of all were sharpened and unabated, yet the provender withstood the repeated assaults made upon it, and seemed inexhaustible. Sounds of increased merriment came from committees and other rooms, but these were later and rather earlier in the morning, while now and then the strains of a suppressed song came stealing along the