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It is sent to any address in Canada, the United States or Great Britain (Postage prepaid by the Publisher) for $1.50 A YEAR, or 75 CTS. FOR 6 MOS.—the money, in all cases, to accompany the order for the paper.

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The "MIRAMICHI ADVANCE" having its large circulation distributed among communities engaged in Lumbering, Fishing and Agricultural pursuits, offers very superior inducements to advertisers. Address

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

Miramichi Advance.

CHATHAM, THURSDAY, JUNE 21, 1877.

The Jam at the Southwest Boom.

The people living along the Southwest Miramichi River, and especially those who are interested in its free navigation, will soon be forced to the conclusion that it is, henceforth and for ever, to be used only as a log-pond and rafting-ground for the South West Boom Company and its lessee, unless they invoke the aid of the law in the protection of their rights. The position is simply this, that the lessee, without asking anybody's leave, deliberately swung a boom across the channel of the river, about half a mile down from the head of the Southwest Boom, and entirely outside of it, and allowed all the channel above it to fill with logs, which have now accumulated far above the limits of the Boom, as constructed, blocking out the public from the use of the river. When the Company failed to induce him to make a reasonable effort to open the navigation and employed Mr. McLaughlin, as any citizen has a right to do, to raft out the logs—not from the boom, but from the channel of the river—the lessee went before one of the Supreme Court Judges and actually swore that those logs were within the boom, in order to restrain those who were laboring to open navigation from accomplishing their purpose.

The affidavit of Mr. C. C. Watt, on which the injunction of Judge Weldon was obtained, sets forth the terms of the lease given by the Company to the former gentleman, which included the erection by him of five new blocks, the repairing of old blocks, etc. The affidavit then reads as follows:—

That Plaintiff has been put to very large expenses in conducting the said work and in hiring and keeping on hand a large number of men by himself and parties under him, at this time about one hundred and seventy men, and has made an agreement to increase the number, this week, to two hundred.

That on Saturday last, the second day of June inst., the said Defendant, although well knowing the facts hereinbefore mentioned and set forth, but contriving and intending to injure the Plaintiff in the premises and deprive him of the rafting of the said lumber and the tolls and fees payable to him in respect thereof, and which of right belong and ought to be paid to him, without the knowledge, privity, or consent and against the will of the Plaintiff, entered into the said boom and with a number of men, his servants and workmen, commenced to raft and from thence hitherto hath contrived to raft, for reward, the logs and lumber in the said Boom, the property of parties who had floated and driven the same down to the said river into the said Boom to be there secured and rafted by the Plaintiff as he, of right, ought to do, and the Defendant continues and persists in defiance of and against the will of the said Plaintiff to raft the said lumber out of the said Boom and interfering with the Plaintiff in his operations therein.

The Plaintiff therefore prays that the said Daniel McLaughlin, his workmen, laborers, servants and agents, may be restrained by order of injunction from entering into the said South West Boom and from rafting any logs or lumber within the limits of the said Boom, or in any way interfering with him, the said Plaintiff, in the management of the said Boom or preventing or interrupting him in the use and enjoyment thereof, or in rafting and securing the logs and lumber now in the said Boom or within the limits thereof or hereafter this season to be driven or floated down the said river into the same or any part thereof.

(Signed) C. C. WATT.

It will be observed that in the above-quoted paragraphs of Mr. Watt's affidavit he swears that the logs (which were actually in the channel of the Southwest River outside of the boom, as well as logs far above the boom) were within the boom.—The lessee, therefore, appears in a very questionable position as a man who regards a solemn oath, unless it be assumed that it was the intention of the Legislature, when it gave the Company its Charter, that the river should be boomed across at the option of the employees of the Company. If a citizen, or the Company in the public interest, may not legally take logs out of the way of the free navigation of the river because this lessee, of his own motion chooses to boom it across, temporarily, outside of the boom owned by the Company, then the generally accepted theory of the rights of the public in navigable rivers is erroneous. If the lessee is legally right, then it is in the power of any person in his position not only to close the navigation of the river at any time, but to assist his friends in making what is know as a "corner" in logs and preventing other operators or manufacturers from bringing their logs or lumber to market. As a matter of fact the lessee, by his absurd and ill-advised course, is keeping the logs and deals of up-river people out of the market, preventing the regular trips of the steamer subsidized to run on the river for the public accommodation and causing the suspension of river-traffic generally. It is to be regretted that it is in any man's power to reach forth and bring in to his aid the laws of the country to sustain him, for even a short time, in working out a policy so detrimental to public interests. Hundreds of persons are awaiting the issue of the matter—waiting to ascertain whether the Company is going to allow the lessee to play the *role* of autocrat over an important section of the country, the rights and interests of whose people he appears to hold in the lightest and most selfish regard.

The Election in Gloucester.

The election pending in Gloucester is the first that has been held in this Province under the Dominion Elections Act of 1874, and it involves a good deal of extra work by the Returning Officer and his deputies, as well as care by the electors in the matter of voting. The County has been divided into new Polling districts which now number sixteen. They are severally bounded as follows:

No. 1, consisting of all that part of the parish of Beresford from the Church Road (so-called) to the upper boundary line of the parish of Beresford,—at or near Jeremiah Sweeney's.

No. 2, consisting of all that other part of the parish of Beresford, from the upper line of the parish of Bathurst to the Church Road (so-called,) in Petit Rocher, and following the Church Road Westerly to the fifth tier of Lots; (to include all that part of the parish of Beresford between the Church Road and the parish of Bathurst,) —at the School House near F. Commeau's.

No. 3, consisting of all that part of the parish of Bathurst bounded as follows: Beginning at the North side of the Harbor of Bathurst, at the Northeastern angle of Lot number twelve in the first tract or division, to Pierre Doucett, Junr., and others', thence Easterly along the North side of said Harbor to Alston Point, thence northerly along the shore of the Bay Chaleur to the Parish Line between Bathurst and Beresford, thence westerly along said Parish Line to the County Line between Gloucester and Restigouche, thence southerly along said County Line to the County Line between Gloucester and Northumberland, thence easterly along last mentioned County line to the Middle River, thence northeasterly along said Middle River to the rear line of the second concession from Little River, thence northerly along said rear line to the south line of Rev. Richard Clark's land, thence easterly along said South Line of Rev. Richard Clark's land to the rear line of the first tract or division to Pierre Doucett, Junr., and others', thence northerly along said rear line of Pierre Doucett, Junr., and others' to the north line of Lot number twelve, in said first tract or division, to Pierre Doucett, Junr., and others', thence easterly along said Line of Lot number twelve, by the Dawson Road leading to St. Ann's, to the Harbor of Bathurst, the place of beginning:—at the School House near Joseph M. Hache's.

No. 4, consisting of all that part of the Parish of Bathurst bounded as follows: Beginning at St. Patrick's street, on the shore of the Harbor of Bathurst, in the Town Plan of Bathurst, thence westerly along St. Patrick's street to Douglas street, thence southerly along Douglas street to where it strikes the South side of the Harbor of Bathurst, thence along south side of said harbor in a westerly direction to the Mouth of Little River, thence along said Little River to the Intercolonial Railway, thence along said Railway to the County Line between Gloucester and Northumberland, thence westerly along said County Line to the Middle River. thence northeasterly along said Middle River to the rear line of the second concession from Little River, thence northerly along said rear line to the South line of Rev. Richard Clark's land, thence easterly along said South line of Rev. Richard Clark's land to the rear line of the first tract or division to Pierre Doucett, Junr., and others', thence northerly along said rear line of Pierre Doucett, Junr., and others', to the North line of Lot number twelve in said first tract or division, thence easterly along said line of Lot number twelve by the Dawson Road leading to St. Ann's to the Harbor of Bathurst, thence in a straight line across said harbor to Read's Wharf (so-called), thence following the shore, in an easterly direction, to St. Patrick's street, the place of beginning:—at Hilarion Hachey's new store in St. Peter's village.

No. 5, consisting of all that part of the Parish of Bathurst bounded as follows, viz: Beginning at the mouth of Teig's Brook, on the shore of the Bay Chaleur, on the Parish line between Bathurst and New Bandon, thence following the shore westerly to Carron Point, thence along the South side of the Harbor of Bathurst to St. Patrick's street, in the Town Plan of Bathurst, thence westerly along St. Patrick's street to Douglas street, thence southerly along Douglas street to where it strikes the south side of the Harbor of Bathurst, thence along said side of said harbor in a westerly direction to the mouth of Little River, thence along said Little River to the Intercolonial Railway, thence along said Railway to the County line between Gloucester and Northumberland, thence easterly along said County line to the Point where the said line between Bathurst and New Bandon meets it, thence northerly along said last mentioned line to the mouth of Teig's Brook, the place of beginning:—at the Court House.

No. 6, consisting of all that part of the Parish of New Bandon, lying West of Pokeshaw Brook;—at the store lately occupied by Read, Stevenson & Co.

No. 7, consisting of all that part of the Parish of New Bandon, lying East of Pokeshaw Brook;—at the building now occupied by Augustin B. Cormier.

No. 8, consisting of that part of the Parish of Caraquet, lying West of Pierre Godin (Luc);—at or near Romain Legere's.

No. 9, consisting of that part of the Parish of Caraquet, lying between Pierre Godin's (Luc) and Philip Duval's;—at shop now occupied by Prosper E. Poulin.

No. 10, consisting of all the remaining part of the Parish of Caraquet;—at or near School House near Joseph Legere's.

No. 11, consisting of all that part of the Parish of Inkerman, lying North of the following dividing line, viz: Beginning at the Ferry Landing at the mouth of the Pokemouche River, thence following the road to the Garryowen Settlement by the old bridge crossing the South Branch of the said River at Thomas Maher's, Post Office;—at the house of Thomas Maher.

No. 12, consisting of all that part of the Parish of Inkerman, lying South of the above dividing line;—at the house of Joseph Sewell.

No. 13, consisting of that part of the Parish of Saumarez, lying North of Welsh's Brook (so-called);—at or near the North End of Little Tracadie Bridge.

No. 14, consisting of all that part of the Parish of Saumarez, lying south of Welsh's Brook,—at the house of William Archer.

No. 15, consisting of that part of the Parish of Shippegan, known as District No. 1 for Local Assembly Election purposes:—at or near the Church, Shippegan.

No. 16, consisting of that part of the Parish of Shippegan, known as District No. 2 for Local Assembly Election purposes: —at or near the Church, Cross Point.

The Nomination is to take place at the Court House, Bathurst, on Monday next 25th inst. commencing at noon and, in case of more than one candidate offering, the polling will take place on the following Monday, in the several Districts above defined commencing at nine o'clock a. m. and continuing until five o'clock in the afternoon. July 5th is Returning day.

The ballots are different in form from those heretofore used. Each ballot will contain the names, places of residence and occupations of the candidates, arranged in alphabetical order and, at the end of each name will be a blank, for the elector's mark, indicating the candidate he desires to vote for.

No ballots, excepting those given to the electors by the Deputy Returning Officer, and bearing his initials, shall be used, under a heavy penalty.

Respecting the persons who may be present in the Polling Station during polling the Act reads as follows:—

In addition to the Deputy Returning Officer and the Poll Clerk, the candidates and their agents (not exceeding two in number for each candidate) in each polling station, and, in the absence of agents, two electors to represent each candidate, on the request of such electors, and no others, shall be permitted to remain in the room where the votes are given, during the whole time the poll remains open.

The mode of voting is directed to be as follows:—

The elector, on receiving the ballot paper and envelope shall forthwith proceed into one of the compartments of the polling station and there mark his ballot paper, making a cross on the right-hand side, opposite the name of the candidate (or candidates, if more than one is to be elected) for whom he intends to vote, after which he shall fold it up and place it in the envelope, and close the same, and shall then hand the envelope containing such ballot paper to the Deputy Returning Officer, who shall, immediately and in the presence of the elector, place the same in the ballot box.

No elector will be allowed to take his ballot paper out of the polling station under a penalty of $200.

When it shall happen that a voter is incapacitated in any way from understanding how to mark his ballot, the Act directs as follows:—

The Deputy Returning Officer, on application of any voter who is unable to read or incapacitated by blindness or other physical cause from voting in the manner prescribed by this Act, shall assist such voter by marking his ballot paper in the manner directed by such voter, in the presence of the sworn agents of the candidates, or of the sworn electors representing them, in the polling station, and of no other person, and by placing such ballot paper in an envelope and then in the ballot box:

And the Returning Officer shall cause a list to be kept of the names of voters whose ballot papers have been so marked, in pursuance of this section, with the reason why each ballot paper was so marked. And whenever the Deputy Returning Officer shall not understand the language spoken by an elector claiming to vote, he shall swear an interpreter, who shall be the means of communication between him and such elector, with reference to all matters required to enable such elector to vote.

Should a voter inadvertently spoil a ballot or envelope given to him by the Deputy Returning Officer he may, on returning it, obtain another.

The law is very strict in the matter of offences, the 68th section providing as follows:—

No person shall—

Firstly:—Forge or counterfeit or fraudulently alter, deface or fraudulently destroy any ballot paper or the initials of the Deputy Returning Officer signed thereon; or

Secondly:—Without authority supply any ballot paper to any person; or

Thirdly:—Fraudulently put into any ballot box any paper other than the ballot paper, which he is authorized by law to put in; or

Fourthly:—Fraudulently take out of the polling place any ballot paper; or

Fifthly:—Without due authority destroy, take, open, or otherwise interfere with any ballot box or packet of ballot papers then in use for the purpose of the Election:

No person shall attempt to commit any offence specified in this section:

Any contravention of this section shall be a misdemeanor; and any person found guilty thereof shall be punishable, if he be a Returning Officer, Deputy Returning Officer or other officer engaged at the election, by a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars or by imprisonment for any term less than two years, with or without hard labor, in default of paying such fine; and if he be any other person, by a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, or by imprisonment for any term not exceeding six months, with or without hard labor, in default of paying such fine.

Fines and penalties are also imposed for the violation of secrecy on the part of officers, clerks and agents in attendance at polling stations and very stringent provisions are enacted for the protection of electors in the free exercise of the franchise. It is important that all classes of the people should acquaint themselves with the Law, which although a very stringent one has been found necessary, in view of the undue influences exercised over and interferences with the less enlightened electors by partizans interested in candidates. If those who possess influence to a considerable extent in constituencies, were properly disposed to allow their fellow-electors to exercise the franchise freely, so strict an election law as that of 1874 would not be necessary. It is well, however, that it has been enacted as it will tend to the enforcement of honesty and purity in places and cases where moral forces would prove unavailing. We hope that if a contest takes place in Gloucester those charged with the conducting of the election will allow no tampering with the spirit of the Act, in order that the electors of that county may properly express themselves through the ballot-box.

The Hon. Judas Enquires!

The *News* indicates that something ought to lie heavily on the conscience of Hon. Mr. Willis and other members of the New Brunswick Government of 1874. It demands of the "organs" of that Government that they make explanations in reference to a large quantity of logs which suffered "shrinkage" after having been seized on the Garden Survey in that year. It wants to know something of the whereabouts of the "trespass money"; it also intimates that an explanation of "the wherefore of the too easy terms imposed on other trespassers." When our contemporary refers "to trespass money" one is reminded of the case of Judas Iscariot, but the New Brunswick imitator of that unprincipaled rascal is not the kind of man to offer to give back the money, so the *News* will have to satisfy itself with what is already known inside its editorial bosom of its Garden Survey business, and if the conscience which groans through its columns becomes too great a torture for the body which it now faintly inhabits, we cheerfully recommend the great betrayer's remedy.

Mr. Anglin's Candidature.

Referring to our editorial of last week on Mr. Anglin's candidature in Gloucester the *Watchman* says:—

"There is evidently a ground swell of opposition to Mr. Anglin in Gloucester of much greater volume than is generally supposed. The Chatham *Advance*, which cannot be accused of favoring opposition to the Government, while acknowledging Mr. Anglin's ability, maintains that Gloucester has better men within her own borders."

We hardly meant to put it as the *Watchman* does. Our objections to Mr. Anglin are that while making professions of the most unselfish devotion to Gloucester's interests, he has done no more for her—with all his reputed ability—than several persons residing and doing business in the County might have done, had they been in his place. We hold that had he been willing to accept as little as he professed to want for himself, he might have done much better than he did for Gloucester. It was clearly not in Gloucester's interest that he tied his hands and weakened his position and influence as the champion of the causes he pretended to have so much at heart, by accepting for himself the anti-representative position of Speaker, with its handsome salary, and the Post Office Printing, with its large profits. We do not say that there was anything wrong in Mr. Anglin accepting the position or the work referred to, save in so far as it involved the breaking of his promises to his constituents and the demonstration of the fact that he was and is no better than other professional politicians, who trade on their talents, on all the influences they can command and on the credulity of those whom they desire to assist them to position and power—and in return forward their friends' interests only so far as their own may be advanced thereby. At the same time we have not said there are better men than Mr. Anglin in Gloucester. There are, however, men residing in the County and doing business there, who can forward her interests quite as well in Parliament and who, at the same time, have a much better right to be elected to do so.

The Fishery Commissioner's Report.

Continued from last Week.

We cannot leave the subject of the Hatching Houses without earnestly pressing upon the notice of the Department the necessity for remedying,—as far as it is possible to do it—what is and has been wrong at the Miramichi establishment. Whatever may have been the nature of Mr. Wilmot's Report concerning the deception charged upon the Inspector for this Province in April last in connection with the eggs there, dozens of persons living in and near the vicinity of that establishment, as well as ourselves, know from their own observation that the reports have, from the first, been based on untruths of a very glaring character. Mr. Wilmot admitted that he found not more than one half the quantity of ova stated by Inspector Venning in the troughs at the Hatching House whenhe visited it, and he also expressed his conviction that it had never been laid down. Semi-official statements, to the effect that some 320,000 young salmon fry were hatched out in and distributed from that establishment this season, have also been made, and will, we presume, be repeated in the next Report of the Commissioner, as equally questionable statements have appeared in that Report heretofore. If the Commissioner is to be obliged to give such a statement to the public next year, those who are familiar with the facts will feel doubts in reference to other matters set forth in the Report and, to a certain extent, public confidence in the figures presented will be shaken. We have now evidence in our possession (and it was offered to Mr. Wilmot) to show that up to and including the summer of 1876 the Miramichi Hatching House had not turned out 20,000 salmon fry, although the Government Blue Books represent the number at hundreds of thousands. It is a matter of very grave concern to those who take an enlightened interest in our salmon fishery that the Department not only neglects to investigate these matters, but accepts and gives to the public the continued fraudulent statements of the officers implicated, thereby shielding and encouraging them in official wrong-doing, which would, we hope, be tolerated by few administrations outside of that which is now in power. We would much rather bestow praise than blame upon those who have public, official duties to perform, for we are well aware of the fact that they often have difficulties to contend with and overcome of which the public have little knowledge, and for which little allowance is made. But when officers, holding high positions in the public service sink so low as to be obliged to sustain themselves and their reports by corrupting those under them and making them partners in their wrong-doing, we have our duty to do, and that is to ask without ceasing for reform. The Minister and Commissioner of Fisheries must be aware of the true character of the Inspector for this Province and some of those who are associated with him in his mal-administration and we shall continue to look to them for the righting of what is wrong until they are constrained to realise their duty in the matter.

Referring to the subject of mill refuse the Commissioner says:—

The injurious and illegal practice of emptying mill offals from lumber manufactories into the rivers and streams has not been sensibly diminished. As the statutes prohibiting such disposal of the refuse from saw mills admit of exemptions, the parties interested, to whom this habit is a slovenly sort of convenience and a saving of expense are not slow to assert the impossibility of adapting their mills to dispose of the offals in any other way. This assertion raises a question as to the facts on each applications to be exempted, and requires investigation into every case. But as the attendant trouble and expense would be considerable' it is recommended that certain pattern instances should be selected from which to judge of the practicability of compliance in all other similar cases. There should not, as a rule, be any exemptions as to the coarser offals; but as regards sawdust, this special enquiry might be applicable. After determining that it is necessary for the public interest to compel any parties to comply with the statutes by disposing of sawdust, otherwise than by placing it in the streams, the next step would be to determine how and at what cost it can be done. An enquiry on these points needs to be of a practical character, and demands qualifications of a professional and mechanical kind. It should be thorough enough, and completely trustworthy, so as to carry the confidence of the public and the manufacturers. Whenever the practicability of conforming to the law at reasonable cost was thus established in different localities the statutory prohibitions should be rigorously enforced; otherwise it would be better to repeal the Statue of 1873 altogether.

The above indicates that the Commissioner entertains common-sense views on the subject treated and it is to be sincerely hoped that the Government will take hold of the matter in the way suggested. It is all very well to place enactments on the books, but when neither the men for nor the means of enforcing them are provided they appear only like attempts to play at regulation and administration. If we had about one half the legal provisions that are in the books for the protection of our Fisheries and less incapacity and greater honesty in enforcing them, the public would entertain more respect for both the law and its administrators. By all means let us have "practical enquiry" on this important subject.

The Commissioner refers as follows to Portage Island:—

"The deed of transfer of Portage Island, Mir., sent for execution, as amended and approved by the Admiralty authorities embodies conditions not contemplated by the original Order of the Governor General in Council accepting its surrender. These conditions are incompatible with legal control and due regulation of the use of fishing berths around that Island. It is therefore respectfully suggested that this surrender be not completed, but that the holdings of tenants of "fishing lots" may continue to be dealt with by the Admiralty Agents as regards whatever legal "rights" may have been conveyed to them; and that the fishing privileges be disposed of under the fishery regulations irrespective of such titles."

It seems, therefore, that the Dominion Government has acquired no more control over Portage Island than it had previously.

The above, together with our quotations and remarks of last week, brings us to the end of our references of Mr. Whitcher's introduction to the appendices and tables of the Report. We shall refer to these next week.

INCREASE OF REVENUE.—The statement of the imports of the Dominion for the last four months shows an increase of $1,663,926 over that of the corresponding period last year.

THE OKA INDIANS have at last, shown that they are not to be driven without a struggle from the land in dispute between them and the Roman Catholic Seminary of St. Scholastique, Montreal. At the instigation of the Seminary the Provincial Police of Quebec made a descent upon them and, it is said, used them harshly; in revenge they burned the Roman Catholic Church and other property. It is deplorable that the acts which have rendered the Oka Indian question notorious should be done in the professed interest of Christianity.

Provincial Notes and News.

NEW VESSEL.—Messrs Troop & Son of St. John have lately launched a fine barque of 1073 tons, named the *Cedar Croft*, which cleared on the 18th for Belfast.

ACQUITTED.—The trial of Mr. Brown, of the Londonderry iron Works, (who shot a rioter at the works) which was concluded at Truro on Thursday, resulted in his acquittal.

THE DOMVILLE CHALLENGE CUP.—A handsome silver challenge cup, presented by James Domville, Esq., M. P., to the King's County Rifle Association, was received by the Secretary of the Association on Friday.

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.—The Western Baptist Association met at Liverpool N. S. on the 16th inst. the Rev. Mr. Richards was chosen moderator. The attendance was large. A mass temperance meeting was held in the evening.

A BIG FISH.—There is a fine large salmon in Mr. Charles Baillie's window, Prince Wm. street. Its weight is thirty pounds. The happy possessor of this fish is Mr. Frederick Robinson, the tragedian, who captured it in the waters of the Metapedia.—*Globe.*

RIFLE ASSOCIATION COMPETITION.—There were only eight contestants at the monthly competition of the St. John County Rifle Association, on Saturday afternoon, at Drury Range. The ranges were 200, 500 and 600 yards, seven shots at each. Firing began at 2 o'clock and continued until 4 30.—The following is the score:—

	Points.
Corp. G. F. Thompson, N. B. Engineers, rifle	83
Capt. Perley, N. B. Engineers, $4	79
Lieut. Potter, N. B. Engineers, $3	79
Ensign Shives, 62nd Battalion, $2	75
Bugler Hartt, N. B. Engineers, $1	72

General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada began its sessions for the present year in St. Matthew's Church, Halifax, on the evening of the 13th inst. at half-past 7 o'clock. This annual meeting is the third since the union of the Presbyterian churches in the Dominion in Montreal, on the 15th June, 1875. It differs, in respect of membership, from the two previous meetings. They included all ministers and elders being members of Presbyteries; this is to be a representative Assembly, consisting of one-fourth of the whole number of ministers on the rolls of the several Presbyteries with an equal number of acting elders. There are some 300 delegates. The proceedings opened with prayer. A sermon was preached by the Very Rev. Alexander Todd, D. D., Minister of Knox Church, Toronto, his theme being "The peculiar obligations and responsibilities of the Church." After the roll had been called, the election of Moderator for the ensuing year was proceeded with. For this office Rev. James Bennett, of St. John, and Dr. McLeod, of Sydney, were nominated, the vote resulting in the election of the latter. After the appointment of committees the Assembly adjourned until eleven o'clock the following morning.

On the 14th the case of Rev. Mr. Houston *vs* Rev. Dr. Maclise was referred to a special committee. The evening was devoted to home missions. There are 500 home missionaries, and $46,000 was raised last year for this purpose. Earnest appeals were made on the subject.

For the year commencing July 1st the committee recommended grants to 50 congregations involving a sum of $6,677—among these was the Presbytery of Miramichi—New Carlisle, Hopetown and Port Daniel, $200—if settled; Black River, $100—if settled; New Mills, $100—if Mr. McMaster continues in charge of congregation; Tabusintac and Burnt Church, $180; Redbank, $100.

THE MACDONNELL CASE.

On Friday the Macdonnell case came up. Mr. Macdonnell said having been requested by the General Assembly of 1876 to report through the Presbytery of Toronto to this Assembly, whether he accepted the teaching of the Church on the Eternity of Future Punishment of the wicked, he begged to state he held no opinion at variance with the teaching of the Church on this point.

Dr. McGregor moved that the Report be received, inasmuch as regret had been expressed for the sermon which gave occasion for reference to the Assembly, and a statement had been made by Mr. Macdonnell declaring he held no opinion at variance with the Church on this point. Therefore, resolved, that the proceedings in regard to this matter do now terminate.

Dr. Topp moved in amendment to the effect, that the General Assembly find that while Mr. Macdonnell reports he holds no opinion at variance with the Church, he had failed to say he accepted its teaching, and requires him to give in writing, addressed to the Moderator, before 10 o'clock on Saturday a. m., a categorical answer to the question in terms of the deliverance of the last Assembly.

Rev. James Thomson, of West River, Pictou, seconded the resolution.

Dr. McGregor supported the resolutions earnestly in the interest of sound doctrine, peace, and the good of the church. Dr. Topp's speech was strongly against Macdonnell, but courteous. Mr. McPherson proposed half measures, but his motion was not seconded. Dr. Proudfoot, of London, Ontario, made a hard speech in support of the amendment raising the ghost of Scepticism and Infidelity. Ballantine, of Coburg, made a violent speech on same side. MacLennan, of Charlottetown, supported the motion. Dr. Waters briefly and temperately supported the amendment. Dr. Murray, of P. E. Island, made a powerful appeal on behalf of Macdonnell.

Mr. Bennet, St. John, denounced Dr. Topp's resolution as immoral, bringing pressure on a man to change his views. Mr. King, of Toronto, urged that if a negative attitude would be allowed in the case of Macdonnell, regarding one doctrine, any minister might claim the same liberty regarading any other doctrine. The debate was carried on in the evening by Rev. Dr. Macrae and others, Professor Mackerras making a powerful argument in favor of Dr. Macgregor's motion. On Saturday the debate was carried on by Dr. Macknight, and Rev. G. M. Grant supporting Dr. McGregor's motion, while Prof. Maclaren and Dr. MacVicar supported Dr. Topp's amendment. The vote was taken at 2 o'clock, when Dr. Topp's amendment was carried by a majority of 92. The division showed 174 for amendment and 82 for the motion.

"Mr. Macdonnell rose and said: "I can give answer to the Assembly now, as well as on Monday morning. The reply I have sent in through the Presbytery is as categorical as the Assembly has a constitutional right to require of a minister under subscription to the confession of faith. Should this prove unsatisfactory to the Assembly, I ask that the Presbytery of Toronto be instructed to proceed by libel against me."

After the motion had been carried, Rev. Principal Snodgrass, of Kingston, Ontario, said: In my own name and in the name of all who adhere to my dissent I dissent for two reasons. First, that Mr. Macdonnell has already reported an answer in a form as categorical as can constitutionally and fairly be given by one who adheres to the Confession of Faith. Second, that the Assembly has no constitutional right at this stage of the proceedings to require him to give his answer in any particular form. The dissent was adhered to by the following ministers and elders: Dr. Cook, Dr. Jenkins, T. G. Smith, Dr. Bell, Neil McKay, Jas. Bennett, Jas. C. Smith, M. W. McLean, Kenneth McLellan, James Williamson, Andrew Drummond, Alex. McPherson, J. D. Patterson, J. B. Muir, George M. Grant, Chas. Davison, Dr. Bain, J. J. Cameron, Thomas Rutherford (Belleville), Colin McIver, John H. McRobie, W. R. Ross, J. M. Sutherland, W. D. Main, D. McDonald, A. F. Thompson, Robert Cassels, J. M. Gray, Geo. Smellie, G. S. Hobart, Jas. Hutchinson, William Colquhon, W. M. Wilson, J. Ferguson, Jas. Carmichael, Wm. Sutherland, J. H. McKerras.

On Monday morning Mr. Macdonnell read the statement made by him on Saturday.

On Tuesday Mr. Middlemas, of Elora, moved to remit the case to the Presbytery—Toronto, to proceed by libel to be ready for final adjudication at the next General Assembly. He claimed that the Assembly could libel now, but he would not press the measure.

Dr. Proudfoot seconded the motion.

Dr. Cochrane moved that the further discussion stop at this stage, and the matter be remitted to a special committee. It was seconded by Dr. Jenkins and carried. The following special committee were appointed: Dr. Jenkins, professor Caven, Drs. Topp, MacVicar King and Waters.

The case of Houston vs. Session and Dr. Maclise of Calvin Church, was amicably settled in Committee.

The Assembly closes on Saturday.

"RANK."—Our sylvan cotemporary the *Colonial Farmer* says "Colored Physicians now *rank* with British in the mercantile Service." The dark complexioned *Farmer* man should not so pointedly refer to the comparatively *strong* qualities of his dark-hued professional friends.

Correspondence.

[We invite correspondence on all local subjects, and will be glad to publish anything that will advance the interests of our readers, individually, or of the communities in which they live Local News Items, Notices of Improvements—either moral or physical—Reports of Meetings, Agricultural, Lumbering, Fishing, Mechanical and other Industrial notes are especially welcome We do not expect that all who desire to assist us in the above way are good writers, but that should not deter them form sending along their favors. We want the news and will see that it goes into the paper in proper shape.]

Temperance at Black Brook.

To the Editor of the Miramichi Advance.

SIR:—On Friday evening the inhabitants of Black Brook, and vicinity, assembled at the School House, to hear a lecture delivered by Mr. W. A. Pitt. Wm. McRae, Esq., being called to the chair, and, having introduced the speaker, Mr. Pitt gave a very eloquent lecture on the evils of Intemperance, and, having spoken on this subject for about an hour, he gave a recitation, called "Little Shoes," which was, as well as the lecture, received with applause. The Chairman then thanked the audience for the good order, preserved during the lecture, after which, a vote of thanks was tendered to the Chairman and speaker and the meeting adjourned, every one well satisfied with the evening's entertainment.

As I understand Mr. Pitt is going to reside in Black Brook for some time, it is