

ment, a year ago, felt themselves at liberty to ask the late Superintendent of Education for his aid in preparing such a measure as would subserve the great object which they had in view. So now the government have not hesitated to avail themselves of the services of the present Superintendent in the preparation of a measure that would grapple effectually with the difficulties that have arisen in connection with the bill of last year. Therefore a bill has been prepared in connection with that officer that they believe will simplify and render more conspicuous many points which, on experience, have been shown are attended with some little doubt and difficulty. Under all these circumstances, it has been thought more advisable to substitute another act for the one now on the statute book. I now lay this bill on the table of the House in the confidence that it will receive the same dispassionate consideration, and generous assistance from gentlemen opposite which they gave to the bill submitted last session, and that both sides will co-operate in maturing such a measure as will obtain the important object we have all in view. I have no hesitation in saying that I feel deeply grateful to the gentlemen who, on former occasions, gave the government their aid in improving the act now on the Statute Book, and that I am also under great obligations to the patriotic gentlemen throughout the country who, irrespective of party feeling, have united in coming forward to give their aid in carrying into effect a measure fraught with such vital consequences to the people. I need hardly add that the government approach a question of this kind with great diffidence and reluctance. In bringing forward the measure of last year as well as the one I now lay before you, they have been actuated by the belief that a government, however great their duty to the party with which they are connected may be to adopt such a course as will strengthen and consolidate their influence, have a still more solemn duty to perform, and that is what they owe to their country. But I believe that in this enlightened legislature it will be said on all sides—by gentlemen who support, and by those who oppose, the government—that no administration could bring forward a measure of this kind with any other motive than to discharge a solemn duty to the country by whom they have been placed in the responsible position they occupy, and that in the fulfilment of that obligation, they are entitled to the frank co-operation of all, whatever their views may be on other questions of a public nature.

On the conclusion of the hon. gentleman's remarks the House was adjourned over until Monday at 3 o'clock

MONDAY, March 6th.

The House met at 3 o'clock.

PETITIONS.

Hon. FIN. SEC. laid on the table petitions relative to education and militia which were referred to the committees appointed to deal with such subjects.

Mr. ROBICHEAU presented a petition from Clare against Confederation.

Mr. PARKER presented a petition of W. Silver and others for a new mail ride in Colchester County.

Mr. DONALD FRASER presented a petition from Pictou Island for aid for a Grist Mill. The hon. gentleman stated that the petitioners

were situated some distance from the mainland, and for five months in the year were cut off from communication. He also mentioned that these persons had themselves subscribed one hundred pounds, and expressed his hope that the government to whom, under the rule of the house, he handed the petition would favorably consider it.

Mr. BLACKWOOD presented a petition from A. Munro, and others, asking for a re-adjustment of line in the township of New Annand.

Mr. LOCKE presented a petition from the inhabitants of Shelburne, asking for a light house at Little Hope. He trusted that the government would attend to this matter, since so large a number of petitions, in reference to it, had been already presented this session.

BILLS IN COMMITTEE.

On motion of Mr. Blanchard, the bill to amend chap. 115 R. S. concerning Real and Personal property, was read a second time, and referred to the committee of the whole.

The house then went into committee, and took up the bill which is to supply an accidental omission in the Revised Statutes, which occurred on the part of the house last winter in not reviving the act of 1860 touching the descent of real estate.

Some desultory discussion occurred in reference to the second section of the act which reads as follows:

"In case of a married woman, entitled to real or personal estate in her own right, dying intestate without *kindred*, the same shall go to her husband to his own use."

The section, on motion of Mr. Blanchard, was finally amended, by substituting for "*kindred*," "*without issue—father, mother, brother, or sister surviving.*"

The bill to incorporate the Waverly Gold Mining Company was next taken up, and Hon. Mr. Shannon stated that he had had some conversation with His Worship the Mayor who informed him that the Company was a perfectly bona fide one intended to develop the gold mines of this country. The bill then passed.

The following bills also passed:

To incorporate Virgin Lodge of Freemasons.

To incorporate Acadia Boot and Shoe Manufactory Company.

To enlarge the powers of the trustees and governors of Acadia College.

To amend the act authorizing a loan for the erection of a Court House at Yarmouth.

To legalize the assessment for the county of Lunenburg.

To change the names of certain places in the county of Lunenburg.

The committee then rose and reported up the foregoing bill.

MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS.

Mr. LONGLEY presented three petitions from the township of Granville against the law now on the Statute Book in reference to education.

Mr. MACDONNELL presented a petition from the Inhabitants of Plaister Cove against the Confederation of the Colonies.

Hon. ATTY. GENL. moved that the bill meeting to the rights of married women which had been read a second time, be referred to a select committee.

Mr. MILLER said that there was a great deal in the bill which he approved of, but in some respects he thought it went too far.

Mr. LONGLEY thought the principle of the bill had better be tested upon the second meeting.