

other gentlemen opposed the introduction of fish ladders as detrimental. A motion to defer the bill was made by the Financial Secretary, to test the feeling of the House, and lost. The bill then passed.

Mr. ARCHIBALD moved the passage of the bill to amend chap. 19, of Licenses for the sale of Intoxicating Liquors. The object was to prevent the sale of groceries and liquors in the same establishment, not excepting Halifax and Pictou. Mr. Tobin, Mr. Shannon, Mr. Pryor, Mr. Miller, and others, opposed the bill, on the ground that it had always been the policy of the House to allow the city to manage its own affairs. Mr. Longley strongly supported the measure as necessary to the public morality.

Mr. ARCHIBALD moved to test the feeling of the House: "That this House is of opinion that outside of the city of Halifax no licenses should be granted." On a division the motion was carried.

He again moved that no licenses should be granted to the city of Halifax. Mr. Shannon moved in amendment that the matter of licenses generally be referred to the corporation of the city of Halifax. The amendment was carried by 22 to 12.

Mr. Archibald's assessment bill was brought up and briefly discussed. It was moved that the third clause be reconsidered. As the motion was carried, the bill was virtually lost for the session.

The House then adjourned until 3 P. M. next day.

THURSDAY, May 3, 1866.

Hon. Mr. McFARLANE reported from the Committee on Agriculture, Hon. ATTY. GEN., from the Post Office Committee. Both of these reports were unanimously adopted.

SCHOOL LANDS.

Hon. PROV. SEC. did not think the Committee were in a position to deal with the bills; they were before the Legislature last session, but were not passed. The House gave authority to appoint a Commission on the subject, which had reported. Gentlemen were of opinion that that Commission—composed of representatives of different religious bodies—had not sufficiently enquired into all the circumstances of the case. The Commissioners, however, unanimously decided that some of the school lands in question could not be alienated by the Legislature without a violation of those principles that usually govern its legislation. The bills before the House were reported up from the Committee in the identical shape in which they had been rejected last year. He thought the House was not in a position to deal with the matter until full and deliberate enquiry had been gone into on the subject, and that it should be referred to another Commission who should be explicitly told to enquire fully into all the circumstances.

Mr. ARCHIBALD said that the bill relating to Onslow did not interfere with anybody's rights. There was a quantity of school land at that place which, since 1843, had been rented out by the trustees of schools at £5 a year. The trustees came to the House and said if they could sell these lands they would derive £30. These funds would be devoted to the same purpose, namely for schools. There was

not even a single churchman in the district of Onslow, and the church could lay no claim to the lands. Mr. A. went briefly into the history of the subject for the purpose of sustaining his argument.

Hon Mr. SHANNON stated that the question was more properly one that should be considered in a court of law. He would like to see a Committee go out with full power to examine into the subject. Such a Commission should be remunerated for their labour.

Dr BROWN said that all the people of Horton asked was permission to spend the funds belonging to them. He hoped that the bill relative to that district would be passed.

Hon PROV. SEC'y proposed the following resolution:—"That the Government be requested to refer the question of the title to these school lands claimed by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel to Commissioners in order that they may report more fully to the House on the subject, and after receiving testimony both for and against the Society's claims."

Hon ATTY GENL said that it appeared to him the rights of the society, if they ever had any, had now lapsed.

Mr. S. CAMPBELL said that the House of Assembly was incompetent under existing circumstances, to decide upon these disputed claims. He was in favor of the matter being referred to England, or some competent tribunal.

Mr. BLANCHARD urged the propriety of passing the bills, and stated that his Lordship the Bishop had been quite willing that the money should be appropriated for the support of schools in the township of Onslow; all he wanted was the power of nominating the teacher; he was quite content that the person should be one selected by the people; so he actually asked for nothing merely the vetoing power. He (Mr. B.) objected to that on principle.

Mr TOBIN said that all lands for school purposes belonged to the government. He would pass a bill devoting the whole of them to educational purposes.

Mr PRYOR gave a history of the question to show the character of the claims of the society to the lands, and expressed his desire to see the whole question referred to a commission.

Mr BLACKWOOD supported the bill.

On a division, the resolution moved by the Provincial Secretary, was carried by 10 to 20.

The Committee rose and reported progress.

Mr ANNAND reported from the committee on trade and manufactures.

The House adjourned.

FRIDAY, May 4.

The House met at 3 o'clock.

Hon. FIN. SECRETARY introduced a supplementary estimate, and in doing so remarked in reference to an application for \$1200 on a road in East Halifax, that it was found impossible to include that item in this estimate, owing to the large number of applications claiming consideration.

The Report of committee on public accounts was adopted.

The Bill relating to Patents, and the Bill relating to St. Xavier's College, passed.

Hon. Mr. McFARLANE moved the adoption of the Report of Committee on Mines and Minerals.