

Dobarr, had received warrant as Attorney General of that Island, but he was subsequently elevated to the bench, and the duties of Attorney General were turned over to this Province without any increase being made to the emoluments. An act of Parliament swept away all the Customs' fees; during the last two years he sued on one bond; another act deprived his office of all fees on excise seizures under £10. By a recent seizure £75 was paid into the treasury, his claim was £5 11s, but the Commissioners demurred, and gave his fees to the man who made the seizure, and directed him (the Attorney General) to the Assembly for remuneration. He did not come to the office as a proposer,—he resigned thousands to get hundreds. He had the command of the most important business of the country; and was then enabled to lay up what assisted him to live when he became a Crown Officer. If he had not supposed that the £200 was fixed, he would not have stated that amount to the Government.—He rested on what had been given for thirty years, and before the annexation of Capri Beton. He was not able to lay by one shilling since accepting the office, because, for this salary of £600, he withdrew from general business, except when a friend brought him a fee of £5 once or twice in a year, and he went down to plead as Counsel. Had he remained out in England, he would by this time be independent; his humble talents, or the partiality of friends, would have ensured him sufficient practice. He would ask some of those around him whether they would accept of £600 a year in lieu of their practice? The mode of paying this £600 had been spoken of; it had been put down in columns, and added up in various ways. He was paid in Province paper, and the £200 sterling only amounted to £225 currency, whereas, if it had to be paid as a debt, £250 should be given. He wished to make this explanation, and to ask the House whether they would now depart from what they had done for thirty years. The Speaker's Salary they might do with as they thought well, reduce, or strike it off,—but this he looked upon as his freehold. The Attorney General of New Brunswick received more, and his duties were much less than those of the same officer here. That Attorney General received £750 sterling, which came to £10 more than the £600 here, paid as it was. He should be sorry that the House should act under erroneous opinions; the office might fall into other hands to-morrow; and he would deem himself culpable if he did not come forward when it was attacked. The House might now dispose of it as they thought proper. On his return from England the Solicitor General expressed his surprise, at the amount of duties to be performed in his office. He hoped that the power of the Crown was not subject of complaint in this province; when parties were in his power he trusted that moderation had been experienced, and that none could say he had endeavoured to enrich himself by virtue of his office. He received notices beyond those stated, except some few which certain suitors had to pay, as any one else would, for services rendered.

Mr Doyle wished to say a few words before the Speaker retired. He thought the emoluments of the Speaker should be the last to be reduced, and he had moved the present proposed reduction, that the reduction in the Speaker's salary might be rescinded. If the British Government were in the practice of making bargains on the appropriations of that House, it threw a worse light than was expected on the matter, and exhibited appearances of controul which should not exist.

The Speaker explained, there was no 'bargaining' with the home government, he was merely required to make a return of what the Province paid towards his office.

(The Speaker retired.)

Mr Goudge made some objections to the word 'freehold,' as used by the hon Speaker in reference to his salary. Large sums were charged for criminal prosecutions beside the annual emoluments.

Mr Huntingdon said they were to decide what should be paid, without considering who held the office.

Mr Wilkins thought decidedly that the Attorney General was overpaid in proportion to the duties of his office, and the duties and responsibilities of other public officers. But as so small a sum went out of the funds of the Province, he thought reduction need not be made until the Casual Revenue came under their controul.

Mr Goudge wished to know did not the Province really pay this, by the Quit Rent Commutation. The £2000 went to the Governor, as it were, but it just relieved the Casual Revenue to that amount, and left the more to be shared by others.

Mr Forrester remarked that he saw several charges for the Attorney General's services, beside his salary.

Mr Huntingdon said, that the Civil List Bill of a former session, which did not pass, settled the Attorney General's salary at £500 currency.

Mr Goudge remarked that the emoluments of the office amounted to about £800 a year.

Mr Uniacke said that the Attorney General was deprived of the extensive practice which he would otherwise have, by accepting office.

Mr Forrester inquired, was not £800 a year sufficient to remunerate for all services. He thought that the chief effect of his office on his practice was, that he was expected to get larger fees than others.

Mr J Young said, that reckoning fees of office, after this reduction, the Attorney General would still have about £750 currency a year.

The resolution granting £150 was passed, 22 to 16.

Mr Uniacke moved that the resolution respecting the Speaker's salary be reconsidered.

The resolution was agreed to, and the Speaker's Salary was raised to the usual sum, £200, without division.

[From the Acadian Recorder.]

DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE.—The Assembly, for the past week, have not been engaged in any very important business. The Supplies have been abundantly voted; we suspect they will be plentifully needed in the Chamber above—it will be as well if they are. Extra sums for Extra Bridges whereon girls can step over half a road and where no vehicle can possibly travel, are scarcely yet needed. The House have taken off the immense sum of—ten pounds!!! from the Chairman's salary. We trust posterity will record this magnanimous instance of self-restraint. We shall publish the division of names in our next. Are the People of the Province to be fed with crumbs?

Nothing of consequence has occurred in the House of Assembly, since our last. The business is crawling along. Several Conferences have been held on the subject of the Bank of British North America. The Nova Scotia states the probability of the House breaking up in the second week in April.—Halifax Times, March 28

## REPORT

Of the Pictou Temperance Society.

[21th March, 1837.]

Your Committee, in reporting the progress of your Society for the past year, cannot boast of a great accession of members, 22 only having joined us during that period;—and they have cause to regret that 7 violated their pledge during the two past years. Still, on the whole, the Society has every motive to persevere, as 96 members still observe the Rules, and consequently enjoy all the blessings which abstinence from ardent spirits is calculated to produce, besides the influence which the Temperance Cause exerts among the community at large. A very considerable number not connected with your Society observe temperance, if not total abstinence; and although the dissemination of temperance principles had accomplished no more than abolishing the practice of supplying and giving ardent spirits to workmen and labourers, much good has resulted. It is the wish of your Committee to avoid throwing any reflection on those who still stand aloof from your Society; but they would invite them to examine the claim which such Instructions have on their notice;—they earnestly entreat professors of the Christian religion to give a candid examination to the object in view, and the end to be obtained. We do not assert that temperance is religion, but we do most certainly maintain that intemperance is irreligion. It is difficult to find words strong enough to point out the evils of drunkenness. The man given to this vice is prepared for every evil deed. The Sabbath has no sanctity in his eyes. The holy name of his Creator is dishonored and blasphemed. He regards no tie sacred or social. The man who looks forward to another world, must be convinced of the appalling consequence of intemperance, as it affects not merely the present comfort, but also the eternal welfare of his fellow creatures. We fearlessly assert that his duty is plain, and not to be misunderstood. It is the Christian's highest privilege to be able to administer to the needy, to soothe the distressed, and to mitigate the misery of his brethren.

Your Committee would farther beg of every candid man, to examine the principles of Temperance Socie-

ties, and he will find their foundation to be Christian charity and self preservation. What permanent influence temperance principles are destined to exercise on the prosperity of Pictou, we will not pretend to predict; but the visible good effected already, should be an earnest of what might be accomplished, if the principles were more generally understood and adopted; this consideration must have forced itself on the unwilling notice of those who, if not adverse are still indifferent, to the temperance cause. If a life of sobriety is calculated to render a man prosperous and happy, it is the interest of every member of the community to adopt means by which the end may be obtained.

We beg to call your attention to facts, which at first sight may intimate that temperance is not making that progress which its advocates claim for it: The Returns of the Custom House at this Port exhibit the enormous quantity of 40,000 gallons of spirits imported during the last year, showing an increase of 5000 gallons above the year 1835; and 10,000 gallons over what it was in the year 1834. But, still it is 10,000 gallons less than in the year 1833; or in other words, the quantities stand thus: in 1833, 50,000 gallons; in 1834, 30,000; in 1835, 35,000, and in 1836, 40,000 gallons. That a great decrease has taken place three years ago, is evident, and a progressive increase since that period is also apparent. Persons will account for this according to their different views of the subject, whether this progressive increase arises from the increased demand of the County, or be occasioned by the growing traffic of its port. In either case, it exhibits a waste of property that should attract the serious attention of every reflecting mind.

## OFFICE BEARERS

Elected for the ensuing year:

Reverend John McKinlay, President; Mr John Patterson, Vice President. Messrs Robert Dawson, Francis Beattie, James Fogo, jr., Charles Robson, and William Pottinger, Members of Committee. Mr Matthew Patterson, Treasurer; Mr A. D. Gordon, Secretary; and Mr Joseph Robinson, Collector.

A. D. GORDON, Sec'y.

[FOR THE BEE.]

MR DAWSON,

Sir.—It appears to me that the due discrimination which has ever marked the selections of the BEE, was not extended to the communication of "Veritas" in your last number. However anxious you may be, to afford the community a Press "open to all parties," still, when any of your correspondents are disposed to gratify their hypocondriacal vapours at the sacrifice of truth, their communications should be suppressed from the public eye. A knowledge of the parties referred to by "Veritas," must convince every unprejudiced mind that his charges are groundless: "The Committee" says he, "should be skilled in the theory and practice of Agriculture." The majority of the Committee are practical farmers—men of extensive scientific information; and the minority are eminently skilled in the "theory" of the art. Few in the County of Pictou, have a better knowledge of the chemical properties of the soil than Mr Fraser;—and no individual can be successful in the management of his soil, without being acquainted in a greater or less degree with its chemical qualities. If Mr Fraser could afford time to deliver a course of Lectures before the Society on Agricultural Chemistry, they would be highly beneficial in imparting scientific information to the Agricultural Community.

With theoretical and practical knowledge, the Committee have every desire for the prosperity of the Society, and ought therefore, evidently to be viewed as men well qualified to discharge the important duties of the office to which they have been honorably elected.

Yours, &c.

MELVILLE

April, 1837.