

vour on the first memorable Easter. There were many others, who, on their testimony, had believed in a Saviour unseen by the bodily eye. There were laborious missionaries, like Paul and Barnabas, who had travelled many a weary mile to spread abroad the glad tidings of salvation. Men who had never before met face to face, but well known to each other by reputation, and loved as well as known, now first exchanged mutual greetings. Truly must such a meeting have proved to the observer a most impressive scene, and have proved to those gathered there a most affecting and refreshing season, a lively emblem of the blessed assembling of all God's dispersed children in his kingdom of glory.—*Isidore's Life of St. Peter.*

ONE OF PTAHOON'S DAUGHTERS.—Lord Litchfield states, that in the course of his wanderings, and the pyramids of Egypt, he stumbled on a mummy, proved by its hieroglyphics to be at least two thousand years of age. In examining the mummy, after it was unwrapped, he found in one of its closed hands a tubercle or tubercular root. He was interested in the question how long a root of this kind could last, and he therefore took that tubercular root from the mummy's hand, planted it in sunny soil, allowed it to rain and dews of heaven to descend upon it, and in the course of a few weeks, to his astonishment and joy, the root brought forth and bloomed in a beautiful dubia.—*St. St. Albans.*

MEMBERS' PAY.—A Bill has been introduced into the United States Senate to increase the pay of the members of both Houses to twelve dollars per day. This is simply an outrage, and we think it is time the people should take some measures to put it out of the power of members of Congress to rob the National Treasury. In a few years, at this rate, we shall have no but a money government as the worst despotism of Europe.—*Herald.*

We beg to call attention to the above, as having an important bearing on the late attempt to make the rate of \$6 a day permanent in our Legislature. If the line between paying the expenses of members, and compensating them for their services should pass of late, it is no limit. It is proposed to be six dollars a day, but next session it may be eight, ten, or twelve, until the office of member becomes so remunerative as to justify larger sums being expended in procuring a seat. This, evidently, never was the intention of those who first made an allowance to legislators. We hope that our House will stop in time.—*The Globe.*

A CURIOUS WILL CASE was lately heard at Stafford Assizes, in England. The son of Samuel Swinfen, a country gentleman near Lichfield, married a lady's maid without the knowledge or consent of his family, but she was afterwards introduced, became a widow, and on the death of the old gentleman, he left her by will the whole of his estate. This was contested by his elder son, the heir-at-law; but after the case had proceeded to a certain length, the counsel on each side had a conference, and agreed to a compromise. It was agreed that the defendant, the heir-at-law, should have the estate; and that the plaintiff, the widow, should have an annuity of £1000 a year, and the sum of £1200 for costs. In the course of the trial it transpired that the widow had at one time placed her affections on a teacher of foreign languages at Lichfield, and would have married him had he not turned out to be worthless. To obtain her letters from him she gave him £250.

The project of a union between the Greek and Roman Catholic Churches is revived. An ecclesiastic has published a work on the subject at the expense of the Pope, and, with the patronage of his Holiness, has left Rome on a mission to the authorities elsewhere. He declares the union to be the easiest thing in the world.

Some items indicate the return of peace. An order from the Horse Guards raises back again the standard height for infantry to five feet five inches at the least. The South Devon Militia have received orders to return their new clothing into store, and will be disbanded on the 18th proximo. One hundred and twenty labourers and a large number of boys, employed at the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, have received notice of discharge. The effects of peace will not, however, be felt in this establishment so much as had been anticipated, in consequence of the determination of Government to manufacture the various munitions of war, and to abolish, as far as possible, the system of contracting. Orders have been issued for the withdrawal of most of the recruiting parties.

It is understood that the British German Legion will be sent, now that peace has been concluded, to the Cape of Good Hope. At the Cape they will garrison the colony, and officers and men will receive grants of land for their military services. The strength of the force will muster, by about the 10th of this month, with all the recruits, about 9,000 men.

Provincial Legislature.

TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

The humble Address of the House of Assembly of the Province of Nova Scotia.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY.—We your Majesty's faithful and loyal subjects the Commons of Nova Scotia have maturely considered the despatches recently received from your Majesty's ministers, together with the draft of three instruments connected with the mines and minerals of this Province, and of a bill to give effect to those instruments, which have been forwarded to us for our sanction and approval.

We are required through your Majesty's Secretary of State formally to recognize, and by our own act confirm, a lease to be granted to the representatives of the Duke of York, for a period to terminate on the 25th August, 1856, "of all and singular the mines of gold, silver, coal, iron, iron stone, lime stone, slate rock, tin, copper, lead, and all other mines, minerals and ores in the Province of Nova Scotia," with the exception of such as previously to 1826 had passed from

the crown under grants in which reservations were not inserted.

We beg to call your Majesty's attention to the views which the Assembly of Nova Scotia have always held with regard to the grant of 1826, and which have been brought to the notice of your Majesty by our repeated address.

In no colony of your Majesty's dominions does there exist a more loyal attachment to your Majesty's person and Government than in Nova Scotia. The Legislature of this Province, when the exigencies of the empire required their co-operation have not hesitated to show in the most significant manner their most heartfelt sympathy with the parent country—and they can point with some pride to their journals and their statute books to testify the sincerity of their attachment.

In no colony of your Majesty's dominions have the pride and manly spirit of its population been more deeply wounded by the exercise of the royal prerogative.—The act of your royal predecessors in 1820, disposing of all that is valuable in the minerals of a province equal in extent to half of England, and distinguished for many of the physical and geological features which have made England what she is, justified by no necessity of state, and sacrificing to individual interests the prosperity of a whole province, has created in the minds of the people of Nova Scotia, a sense of injury which nothing but their loyalty and generous attachment to your Majesty's person and crown have prevented from ripening into feelings which none would deplore more sincerely than your Majesty's faithful Commons of Nova Scotia. We are now called upon to affix by our deliberate act, the seal to our provincial degradation. We are required to enact that the coal which warms our people—the gypsum, the quarrying and exportation of which gives employment to thousands of our population and to much of our tonnage—even the clay and the slate and limestone which enter into every branch of industry, and are essential to the comfort and almost to the existence of our people—in one word everything but the bare soil on which we tread, are to be handed over to the representatives of an individual, to be sublet by them to a company. We are to take steps to vest in this body the right to prosecute thousands of our people for acts in which they have been engaged all their lives—to say every house they build, every quarry they open, every ship they load with the materials which he in boundless profusion at their own doors, shall subject them to be prosecuted as trespassers or tried as criminals.

We do not mean to intimate to your Majesty that the duke of York's representatives or the General Mining Association would use the powers they ask us to confer,—we know they could not do so, because it would destroy themselves—but we wish the liberty and the privileges of our people to be held by a tenure more dignified and more secure than the generosity of two English gentlemen, or the prudential consideration of a commercial company.

For these reasons we cannot consent to pass the bill which has been submitted to us. We are ready and willing, we have always been ready and willing to admit the benefits which this province has derived from the General Mining Association. We have no desire to interfere with any mines they are working; we are willing to allow them as extensive an area round each mine as they can reasonably require for the successful prosecution of their operations. We have already at the sacrifice of interest to which some portion of our population attached a great value, acceded in changes in our relations with the United States which have relieved from a tax of 20 per cent. the only article which the company exports in the principal market to which it is exported. We are even willing to go further: to remit to the company one half of the royalty they pay on that part of the coal to which that royalty applies; to engage to impose upon all other parties who may open coal mines a burthen equal to the royalty which the company will have to pay, and we will engage that no export duty shall be levied on coal. But we ask as the condition for these concessions that they shall forego a claim which is of no value to them but of great injury to us—that they should relieve us from the sense of injury involved in the monopoly they claim, and allow us, whether we choose to exercise the power or not, at least the freedom to engage in any mining enterprise which we may consider to be for our own interests or the interests of our people.

Your Majesty's faithful commons are willing to admit that the legislature of this province have enacted laws which may be considered as sanctioning, to some extent at least the claim of the General Mining Association. The civil list act of 1849 refers to the rights then existing under the lease of 1826, and the agree-

ment of 1826, but the Assembly which passed that act had before them at the time the despatch of your Majesty's colonial minister Earl Grey, under date of 20th June, 1848, in which they were informed that if the existing arrangement was really detrimental to the province and practically stood in the way of the development of its resources, your Majesty's ministers were of opinion "that it would not be impossible to induce the association to come upon reasonable terms to a modification of their claims." The same assembly which passed that act, passed in the same session, and almost on the same day, without a dissentient voice, a series of resolutions, and adopted a report, both of which were transmitted to your Majesty, and in which documents they reiterate the assertions so often made in previous addresses, that they considered the grant an improvident and unconstitutional exercise of the royal prerogative. This report and these resolutions, were transmitted to the colonial secretary on the 2nd May, 1840, and therefore were in possession of your Majesty's ministers a considerable period before your Majesty's assent was given to the act which passed at the same session.

Your Majesty's faithful commons therefore conceive that these circumstances qualify the assent implied by the passing of that act, and indicate the extent to which the legislature were disposed to go in the recognition of existing rights.—We beg to state further to your Majesty that on other grounds we cannot consent to ratify these documents.

Under the Treasury minute of 1845, the royalty is payable on all coals that is raised over and above the 26,000 chaldrons to which the fixed rent applies. The documents we are called upon to sanction contain important exception of such coals as shall be used in working the mines and engines, and in smelting the ores and minerals and manufacturing the same. The extent to which this exception will operate at present is very considerable, but would be greatly increased if the company were to engage in the manufacture of iron or other smelting operations. If the association take their stand on the minute of 1845, they have no right to ask this concession, and they cannot be surprised that the people of this province should decline to append to an arrangement to which they have always objected an additional article to make it still more objectionable.

One other important feature in these documents is the alteration in the arrangement with the Duke of York's representatives.

The mines at Pictou and Sydney have alone been wrought to any extent. These mines were reserved in the original lease to the Duke of York; his representative therefore had no interest in the proceeds of the reserved mines. The association claim them under the agreement of 1826, yet we learn by the documents now before us, that they have agreed to pay the representative of the Duke of York on all coals raised in this province, as well from these as from any other mines, 1s. 6d. sterling, equal to 1s. 10½d. currency, on every Newcastle chaldron; thus imposing upon a necessary article of consumption a tax to be borne by the consumer to an extent nearly equal to the royalty paid to the Province. Already a sum of £55,416 10 2 sgd. has accumulated from this source, and only awaits the execution of those instruments, to be transferred to the Duke of York's creditors.

It is impossible to contemplate this feature of the arrangement, without feeling that so long as the association monopolizes the supply of coal, our people have to pay, on an article of necessary consumption a tax which it cannot be pretended they ought to bear, to which they were not even subject by the original arrangement made by the crown in 1826, and which imposed upon them a grant to which they were no party, to which they have given no assent, express or implied.

In refusing to complete the documents submitted to us, we do so from a sense of the duty we owe to the people we represent: but we earnestly hope that the offers we make may be accepted in the spirit in which they are made, and that your Majesty will be graciously pleased to interpose your powerful influence to close this protracted and irritating controversy.

In conclusion, we beg to assure your Majesty that in our belief, it is the true interest of the Association to adopt our proposition. If they consent to do so, and bring their operations into harmony with the general feeling of the community, they will be respected as benefactors, not dreaded or disliked as monopolists; and on the vast field for industrial operations on which they have entered, they will be aided by the cordial good-will and kind sympathies of our whole people.