

object to sending ours, for we get more than we give.

Hon. Attorney General.—All we mean to send are the copies of returns annually made to this House, which will cost but little trouble. My own opinion is, sir, that we ought not use these strong expressions of disapprobation towards the British Government, because there is no doubt in these days of economy in all branches of the public service, the Home Government has been pressed upon by popular sentiment, and forced into measures which perhaps their own judgment hardly approve.

Hon. J. Howe would have no objection to the reductions, and would not have used strong language, if the Home Government only begun at the right end. But when they kept a Bishop at £50,000 a year, and a Minister of State with £10,000, it was hardly right to starve a dozen poor Custom House officers. He was quite glad to see the popular principle advancing, and he hoped it would press more upon the Government than had yet.

Mr. Killam said that the Home Government knew best how to treat their own officers.—They employed them at certain salaries, and gave them certain retiring allowances; and if this Province wanted any of their services, the Province ought to pay them as much as they ought to have, and the Home Government be relieved of pensions; if we did not want them we had nothing to do with them, and they should not be discussed here.

Hon. Sol. General perfectly agreed with the honorable member who had just sat down as regards the ceasing of the pensions if we wanted the officers, and we ought to be very glad to send the required information to the Home Government, when we well knew that receiving as we did the whole statistics of the Empire, we were in the receipt of a boon in comparison with which our contribution was but a trifle.

M. Annand introduced a Bill to extend the Eastern Shore Road in the County of Halifax. It was the *fac simile* of a Bill introduced four years ago, which enabled the members to borrow £1000 to open this road, and this sum was required to extend it still further. The Bill was read a first time.

Hon. Sol. General introduced a Bill to amend chapter 113 of the Revised Statutes—of the Registry of Deeds. He explained that the Bill was in accordance with a Report of a Committee of last year; and its object was to have the Books in the Registry Office put in proper order and enable the Grand Jury to assess for the payment of the service.

House adjourned.

MONDAY, February 12, 1855.

Dr. Brown presented a petition from the Overseers of the Poor for the township of Horton, praying reimbursement of expenses incurred in support of a transient pauper.

Mr. Jost presented a petition from Joseph Bennett, of New Dublin, praying a further grant to Le Havre ferry.

Mr. Holmes presented a petition from the inhabitants of Middle Settlement, Middle River, Pictou, praying the establishment of a way office there.

Mr. John Munro, pursuant to leave, introduced a bill relating to pilotage in the Bras d'Or Lake. Read a first time.

Mr. Marshall presented a petition from St. Mary's River, county of Guysborough, praying a grant to erect a light house on Wedge Island. Also, a petition from Mr. Hugh McDonald, Deputy Post Master at St. Mary's, praying increase of salary.

Mr. Comeau presented a petition from Augustine Comeau, Way Office Keeper at Clare, praying increase of salary.

Mr. Wade presented a petition from the Board of Commissioners for Annapolis, praying a change in the appropriation of certain undrawn school monies. Also, a petition from the same parties, praying that two Boards of Education might not be established in that county.

Mr. Doyle presented the petition of John Oal, distiller, praying for an alteration in the law of distilleries. Referred to the committee on James Wilson's petition.

Mr. Whitman—petition of Henry W. Johnston, praying to participate in certain undrawn school money.

Also, 2 road petitions.

Mr. Wade, from the committee on Private Bills, presented the bill for sale of meeting house at Five Islands; also for sale of old jail at Truro.

Mr. Archibald moved that the House do go into Committee on Bills.

The Bill for preventing the sale of intoxicating liquors was taken up. On one clause,

Mr. Marshall condemned the clause just read as unconstitutional and repugnant to a British people.

Mr. Archibald and Hon. J. W. Johnston replied—it was necessary to make the law stringent, in order to have its provisions faithfully carried out.

Mr. Marshall asked if there was not a bill before the House the effect of which would be to make a man's wife liable to fine or imprisonment for giving a man a glass of wine; for this bill and that was to be dovetailed together, and the *delivery* of the article was to be the proof of the sale of it. He would be delighted to see the sin of drunkenness uprooted from the land, but he could not assent to pass provisions which he knew no man could enforce, and thus the law would be brought into contempt.

Hon. Provincial Secretary said he thought the experiment should be tried to ascertain whether the existing licence law might not be so perfected as to put down the vice of drunkenness.

Mr. Marshall opposed the clause which permitted the prosecutor upon charge of selling to A. B. to prove sale, to C. D. In his opinion it was unconstitutional and unjust; opposed to the spirit of British legislation, and should not be sustained by the House.

Mr. Doyle—To the spirit of the law I have a decided objection—and the subject is