

The committee would glance at these in order, and mention the steps that have been taken regarding them respectively :—

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC.

There existed no difference of opinion as to the extent of Sabbath desecration to which this practice gave birth, not only in disturbing the citizens repairing to their several places of worship, but in congregating large crowds of people. The difficulty here experienced by the committee was the party to whom application should be made with a view to its suppression, and after due enquiry and deliberation, it was resolved to memorialize the Lieutenant-Governor on the subject. A Deputation waited on his Excellency to present said memorial. That deputation was received most courteously, and the following Sabbath the practice was discontinued.

POST OFFICE.

It is well known that Sabbath profanation prevailed to an alarming extent in this department of public Service. According to the old arrangement, the Mail on the Western Route left Annapolis every Sabbath about mid-day, and one of the Mails on the Eastern Route left Halifax late on the Saturday afternoon, thereby perpetrating a fearful amount of Sabbath desecration along both these lines. Any one who has been at Amherst and Pictou, on occasion of the arrival of the Mail, can bear testimony to this fact. As the Post Office department was soon to be brought under Provincial Control, and Legislative measures to be adopted by the last Session of the House of Assembly relative to its future management, the committee spared no pains in endeavouring to obtain redress for these claimant grievances. They appointed a special committee to watch over the whole of this business. This sub-committee used all diligence in stimulating those most exposed to these evils to petition the Legislature, in conferring again and again with the committee of the House of Assembly charged with the matter, and in repeatedly memorializing the Governor in Council. And the committee have now the highest possible satisfaction in being able to state that with, one solitary exception,—the case of Amherst,—there is no such thing as secular labour in this department of public Service on the Lord's day, a state of things which, as far as the committee are aware, does not exist in any other portion of her Majesty's dominions. The following extract is taken from the report of the House of Assembly of last Session.

“ The attention of the committee has been called by the Sabbath Alliance and numerous Petitions, to the secular duties performed on the Sunday by the transmission of Mails and delivery of letters on that day, and after deliberate consideration have adopted schemes by means of which the advantages of post communication will be greatly enlarged. And no office be kept open or Mail be transmitted through the Province on the Lord's day.” The schemes here referred to, the committee have reason to believe, have even been greatly improved in the way of avoiding all secular labour in this department, and the exception of Amherst has arisen entirely from the difficulty of arranging with the Postal authorities in the neighbouring Province. It is to be hoped, however, that the energetic friends of the Sabbath at Amherst will continue to testify until they get rid of the evil. Then will Nova Scotia present to the whole world the