

Mr. Speaker left the chair,
Mr. Robertson took the chair of the committee,
Mr. Speaker resumed the chair.

Report chapters.

The chairman reported from the committee that they had gone through the following chapters of the bill referred to them, which they had directed him to report to the House, viz. :

Chapter 71, of railroads ;

72, of railroads other than Provincial Government railroads.

And he delivered the chapters in at the Clerk's table.

Ordered, That the chapters be engrossed.

Chap. 60 returned to Council.

Ordered, That the Clerk do carry chapter 60, of public instruction, back to the Council, and acquaint them that this House agree thereto, as now amended.

Reply to address reported.

The hon. the Attorney General, from the committee appointed this day to present the address to his Excellency the Administrator of the Government, reported that they had presented the address, and that his Excellency had been pleased to make the following reply thereto :

Government House, Halifax, 31st March, 1864.

TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY APPOINTED TO PRESENT THE ADDRESS :

Gentlemen,—

I receive with the utmost gratification the flattering address, passed unanimously, by the representatives of the people, just presented to me, for which I request you will be so good as to convey to them my cordial thanks.

It will, I assure you, at all times be a source of pride, to feel that the honor of administering the Government of this fine Province has devolved upon me on two separate occasions, and with the aid of my responsible advisers, that I have performed the duties of the high office entrusted to me in such a manner as to gain the confidence of the representatives of the people of this loyal Province.

I am aware that this feeling has been produced towards me, not from any individual merits of my own, but from my having humbly attempted to follow, as far as my abilities have permitted, the noble example set by our beloved Queen, in strictly abiding by the principles of the British Constitution.

The House of Assembly have rightly judged my feelings in ascribing to me the desire to advance by every means in my power the welfare of this Colony ; and they will ever find me ready to co-operate in any measure calculated to promote its prosperity.

I beg, in conclusion, to assure you, that this highly-prized tribute of esteem of the House of Assembly will be an additional incentive to the faithful discharge of the important and responsible duties with which I have been entrusted.

HASTINGS DOYLE,

Major-General and Administrator.

Ordered, That the reply be entered on the Journals.

Pet. of McDonald and McNeil rel. to coal area.

A petition of Donald McDonald and James McNeill, of Glace Bay, in the county of Cape Breton, was presented by Mr. McDonald and read, complaining that a lease had passed in 1862 to G. F. A. Lecain, of a coal area at Glace Bay, which had previously been applied for by petitioners, and the fees for license paid by them, and praying for investigation by a committee of this House.

And thereupon,

Motion to refer to sel. committee.

Mr. McDonald moved that the petition be referred to a select committee to examine and report upon : which being seconded,

Amendment moved,

The hon. Mr. McFarlane moved, by way of amendment, that this House do now adjourn ;

and carried.

Which being seconded and put, and the House dividing thereon, passed in the affirmative.

And accordingly,

The House adjourned until to-morrow, at eleven of the clock.