Agents for the Grey Review.

G. R. Middleton,	Dundalk.
Archibald Thom,	Maxwell.
Thos. Nichol,	Priceville.
Colin C. McFayden,	Glenelg.
Daniel Keith,	Holstein.

THE REVIEW.

Durham, March 12, 1879.

—Mr. F. Osler has been appointed Judge in the court of Common Pleas. The appointment gives general satisfaction.

—The President of the United States has vetoed the Bill which passed Congress for the purpose of excluding Chinese, and prevented the enactment of a law which would have brought disgrace upon the Republic.

—The House of Assembly at Toronto was prorogued on Tuesday. The Hon. the Lieutenant-Governor came down to the House shortly after three o'clock, and after assenting to a number of Bills formally prorogued the House.

—Touching the Report of the meeting of the Reform Association of East Grey which we republished in a previous number of the REVIEW from the *Markdale Expositor*, we have been assured on the testimony of a gentleman who was present, that the said report was in no sense reliable, and is certainly unworthy of any one pretending to be a member of the Reform party.

—Wholesale traders at the frontier parts are busily engaged in taking goods out of bond in anticipation of a high tariff. It is thus estimated that notwithstanding the hard times there is locked up in superfluous tea and sugar alone four times the amount of money that would have been thus invested in ordinary seasons. So much for the operation of the N.P. before it has been put in operation.

—The Government of Prince Edward Island has been defeated; and Mr. W. Sullivan been called upon to form a ministry. From the Lower Provinces we also learn, that the Local Assembly of Nova Scotia has resolved by a large majority to abolish the Legislative Council in that Province. The Legislature will then consist of only one chamber as in Ontario, and a great saving will be effected in the cost of administration.

—On Tuesday evening the Hon. Mr. Tilley laid the estimated expenditure for the Dominion on the table of the House of Commons. The total estimates on ordinary expenditure for 1880 are $23,427,882 which is a decrease of $241,191 on the estimates for last year. But on examining the details we find that the controllable expenditure, which is entirely under the control of the administration, is $12,379 in excess of that of the Mackenzie administration for 1879.

—The deadlock in the Diocese of Toronto of the Episcopal church, has been relieved by mutual concessions on the part of both High and Low church parties, and the result has been the almost unanimous election of Archdeacon Sweatman of Brant as Bishop of the Diocese. The Bishop-elect was born in London, England, and graduated at Cambridge in 1853, and in 1860 took charge of the Chapel Royal, Whitehall. In 1895 he accepted the office of Principal of Holbrook College, London, Canada, and sometime afterwards was appointed to the Deanery which he has just vacated. The Rev. gentleman is said to be a thorough evangelical and it is expected by those who know him best, that he will be able by his wisdom and moderation to correct the dangerous errors which prevade a large section of the people over whom he has been appointed to rule.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The Report of the Registrar-General of Ontario on the registration of births, deaths and marriages, for the year 1877, has been laid on the table of the House of Assembly. It is satisfactory to observe that the great body of the people are becoming more and more alive to the importance of registration, and although much remains yet to be done, both as regards fullness and accuracy, the Report for 1877 is a great improvement upon that of the previous year.

The total number of births in the Province was 39,957—20,659 males and 19,299 females—of which 1,361—706 males and 655 females—occurred in the county of Grey. This includes 411 pairs of twins and five triplet births. Two of the parents of these triplets have obtained the Queen's bounty of £3 sterling. Of the twin births 11 pairs were born in the county of Grey, but no triplets. The months of greatest fecundity were January and March, giving respectively a birth rate of 4624 and 4,09: December being the least so, giving only 1922.

The number of deaths reported for 1877 was 20,053 as against 18,623 for 1876. On comparing these figures with the number of births, however, it is evident that there must be some irregularity here. We find that some municipalities — St. Catherine's for instance—report a larger number of deaths than births, when according to the returns of the Assessors the population has increased. Similar errors, no doubt, have crept into the returns from other places so that the figures which we have quoted can only be regarded as approximately correct. Of the total number of deaths 466 occurred in the county of Grey —255 males and 211 females. The Report shows an increased mortality among children. Of all the deaths returned, nearly one-fourth died within their first year, and over one-third before reaching the end of their fifth year. Still further we find that nearly one-half of the children born in the Province die before reaching maturity. As the Registrar-General remarks, this reflects but little credit upon the manner in which the resources of medical science are applied or sanitary regulations enforced. The classification of causes of death is an improvement upon that of former years. Lung disease is expunged, but still dropsy and heart disease and convulsions hold a place. So long as medical men will persist in such inaccuracy in filling up the schedules, this portion of the Report cannot be of much practical benefit. The most fatal diseases it seems are Phthisis (consumption), Diphtheria, and Pneumonia (inflamation of the lungs). Of the total number of deaths phthisis carried off it appears 2167. And what is more remarkable still, it would seem that this fell disease works at all ages. Of the whole number said by the Report to have died of this disease, no less than 45 were under one year of age, 48 from 1 to 5 years, 322 from 5 to 20, 1732 from twenty to eighty years and ten even between the ages of eighty and ninety. Nothing could more clearly show the want of care, or what might be called a want of discriminating diagnosis in filling up death schedules than these figures do; and there is no question but that by far the larger proportion of the deaths attributed to Phthisis should be set down to Chronic Bronchitis or its *sequelae* — but especially those occurring under twenty and over fifty years of age. Many of the diseases which carry off large numbers of the young and the old, are due to preventible causes, such as foul air and bad drainage, and were more attention given to these matters, the death rate would not be so high. The months showing the highest mortality were March and August and the diseases which proved so fatal during these months were Pneumonic affecteions and summer diarrhæa.

There were celebrated in 1877 in the Province 12,577 marriages, of which 714 were solemnized in the county of Grey. Of the males 1.06 p.c. were minors and 8 p.c. over 40 years of age. Of the females 22.17 p.c. were married under twenty and 3.53 over forty years of age. The oldest man married in 1877 was 88 years, his wife being only 48. The oldest bride of that year was 68, her husband being 71. Two youths entered wedlock at the early age of 17 years, they married girls of 17 and 20 respectively. Six girls of 14 married youths from 17 to 20 and 32 girls married at the early age of fifteen. It appears that the moths most favourable to the consumation of the matrimonial tie are December, January and November in the order in which we have given them, — the month the least so, being the sultry month of August.

ELECTION CRIES.

Her Majesty's Opposition in the House of Assembly, having failed to establish any claim to public confidence by their incapacity in dealing with the various legislative measures which were brought before the House, and still more, by their utter inability to show how the work of administration could be more economically or more efficiently carried on, have addressed themselves during the closing days of the session, to idle talking about economy, and moving clap-trap resolutions about retrenchment in the civil service. It is not contended by these *pseudo* economists that the work of the Departments is imperfectly done, or that there are too many employed to do the work, but that the price of flour and bacon having fallen, the salaries of efficient officers who have grown grey in the public service should be cut down. The argument is an exceedingly lame one, but especially so, when coming from men who for months have led the Canadian public to believe, that, notwithstanding the low state of trade, and the general dullness of the times, no sooner would the National Policy be promulgated than everything would soil at a profit, and prosperity would speedily take the place of depression. This long looked for event — the launching of the N.P. — is announced for Friday, yet its advocates seem to have lost all confidence in their handy work, and argue as if the dull times were to continue. The scale of salaries in force at the present time was adopted on the recommendation of a committee appointed during the reign of John Sandfield Macdonald, and received the almost unanimous approval of both sides of the House at the time. Year after year the Tory Opposition has voted without note or comment for these salaries being paid, and without doubt, would do so on the present occasion, but that an election is expected soon, and having been so successful last Fall in deluding the people with false notions about trade, they expect to be equally successful next summer with false notions about economy. Had the leaders of the Opposition been sincere in their desire for economy they would have dealt with the matter earlier in the session when the House was in Committee of Supply, but at this time of day they know full well that nothing can come of it in the way of practical legislation, but hope that some good may come of it in the way of a party cry in the approaching election. As very evidently appears, the work of the departments is conducted in the most economical way, and the salaries paid the heads of the departments as well as their subordinates, are less than those paid to equally competent persons in the mercantile and banking institutions. It should not be forgotten that if the work of the country is to be efficiently and honestly conducted, those who do the work must be paid for their labour, and as regards the public service, its most attractive feature is not high salaries but its permanence, and for that reason it sometimes secures the services of men who would be able to command far more money-making but more precarious positions elsewhere. It is to be hoped that before long in the Federal as well as the Local Governments the salaries of officials will be fixed, and their admission to office determined by a system of competitive examination. In this way the civil service would be removed from the domain of party politics, and thereby, as an inevitable consequence, infinitely improved. Instead of being used as a means of exerting corrupt political influence in constituencies and in parliament, as has often been the case under the *regime* of Sir John A. Macdonald, a most salutary lesson would be taught the whole people. The knowledge of the fact that positions in the service could only be obtained by merit, would constitute a wholesome check to office-seekers, and the admisitration of public affairs would fall into competent hands so far as the permanent staff is concerned.

Local and other Items.

THE Monthly Fair for Durham will take place on Tuesday next.

THE Junior Reform Association will meet every Friday evening at 8 o'clock. A debate will take place at the next meeting.

REMEMBER the soiree in the Presbyterian Church on Wednesday evening next. Extensive preparations are being made for it.

SPRING ASSIZES.—The Spring Assizes for the County of Grey will be held in the Court House, Owen Sound, on Monday 31st inst.

The Paisley *Advocate* says:—A son of Mr. Wilson of Bentick, accidentally bruised, his hand so badly while playing with a straw cutter, that it had to be amputated.

THE Grist Mill at the Sauble, (Sullivan P.O.) owned by Mr. Haddow, was burned down on Friday week. The woolen mill of Messrs. Cliff and Shaw had a narrow escape. Mr. Haddow, with remarkable promptness has got out timber for a new mill, which will be built at once.

THE United Temperance Association of this town will give an open meeting on Tuesday, March 25th, to which the public are cordially invited. Several first-class addresses and good singing will make the meeting both pleasant and profitable. The meeting will be held in the Orange Hall, and commences at half-past seven o'clock. Admission free.

SHEPPARD JUBILEE SINGERS. — The above company of genuine colored singers, which we noticed in last week's issue, gave one of their excellent entertainments, to a crowded house in the Town Hall, yesterday (Wednesday) evening, when they fully sustained their well-earned reputation. They rendered a number of plantation and camp-meeting songs in such style as to bring forth hearty encores, and in fact, taking the performance as a whole, it seemed to give general satisfaction.

A REFORM banquet was given to the Hon. O. Mowat, at the National Club, in Toronto on Thursday. It was tendered as a mark of the esteem and respect in which he is held by those who have acknowledged his leadership during the Parliamentary term which is rapidly drawing to a close. The names of the members of the committee of arrangements were Messrs Hunter, Massie, McMahon, Snetsinger, Ballantyne, Widdifield, Paxton and Ross. The banquet was a most brilliant affair, a large number of representative men being present.

NORTH GREY. — The members of the North Grey Reform Association met in the Town Hall, Owen Sound, on Tuesday, March 6, for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing year. The following were elected:—President, Geo. Snider; First Vice-President, W. Stewart; Second Vice president, Hugh Reid; Third Vice-President, C. McFayden; Treasurer, J. W. Frost. After the close of the Association meeting the convention of the delegates appointed to select a candidate for the Local Legislature was held. After an expression of opinion by the different members it was unanimously carried that Mr. A. M. Smith, of Toronto, be invited to contest the riding in the Reform interest.

RAILWAY MATTERS.—Those interested in the construction of the Georgian Bay & Wellington Railway will be pleased to learn that some further steps leading to the completion of the enterprise have just been taken. At a meeting of the Board of Directors held at Durham on Monday last Mr. Chas. Sproat, C.E., of Toronto, was appointed Chief Engineer of the railway, and was instructed to proceed with the permanent location of the first section from Pamerston to Durham. Mr. Smith, the Assistant Engineer of the Great Western Railway will be associated—through the courtesy of the Great Western authorities —with Mr. Sproat in the prosecution of the work, and it is expected that they will commence operations on Tuesday next, at Palmerston, proceeding in this direction. From this survey the necessary plans and profiles will be prepared, and as soon as practicable tenders will be asked for the construction of the section. By notice which appears in our advertising columns it will be seen that tenders are asked for the delivery of the necessary ties for the first section at points along the proposed track. Seventy-five thousand will be needed. A preliminary exploration was made last week by Smith over the section from Durham to Owen Sound, and it was found to be remarkably favorable for railway construction. We understand that the formal survey of that part of the line will be undertaken as soon as the location of the first section is completed. The directors evidently intend to promote the work with all possible expedition, and unless something unforseen prevents we hope to see the first section well advanced to completion during the coming season, and communication established at this point with the Great Western Railway system.—*Mount Forest Examiner.*

Tangled Threads No. 3.

I am composed of twelve letters,
My first is in danger but not in fear,
My second is in apple but not in plumb,
My third is in violet but not in pink,
My fourth is in Ireland but not in Scotland,
My fifth is in daisy but not in rose,
My sixth is in morning but not in evening,
My seventh is in city but not in town,
My eighth is in north but not in south,
My ninth is in island but not in ocean,
My tenth is in county but not in township,
My eleventh is in orange but not in peach,
My twelfth is in life but not in death,
My whole is the name of a gentleman who holds an honourable position in the county of Grey.

A. C.

Latona, March 1st, 1879.

Tea Meeting.

As announced in last week's issue the Rev. Mr. Bredin, chairman of the Walkerton District preached at both services on Sunday last, in the Methodist church here, to large and appreciative audiences, and was listened to with marked attention. The collection was in behalf of the church fund. The tea-meeting and lecture came off on Monday night, and, notwithstanding the state of the roads, there was a fair turn out. Mr. M. Armstrong, the able and popular principal of our common school, was called to the chair, and opened the meeting in a neat and eloquent speech. He then called upon Mr. Bredin to deliver his lecture on "England and the English." We have neither space or ability to describe the lecture. He gave graphic descriptions of some leading manufacturing establishments in England—of cannon-making—of the manufacture of steel plates for men of war—and he told us how he stood by when a man took a pinch off a piece of steel and in twenty minutes handed him a pen knife all complete. He also gave some sketches of the characteristics of John Bull, railroads, hotels, bachelors dinners, &c. Those who listened felt both profited and instructed. He spoke an hour and twenty minutes. The pastor announced that they had now in hand some $60 towards the payment of an instalment which will be due the first of June, and and that there would be no difficulty in raising the few more dollars needed. On the next evening a social was given to the sabbath-school children. They enjoyed themselves as boys and girls know how to do. Dr. Kiernan and Mr. M. Armstrong gave several readings.

Flesherton Chit-Chat.

From our own Correspondent.

SERIOUS FRACAS.—A fight, likely to be attended with serious consequences, took place the other day near the intersection of the "Old Durham Road," and the Toronto and Sydenham Road. The pugilists, some of whom are married men with families, were trying to impress each other with their superior attainments, and so got to blows. One, a Mr. W——, it is said is fatally injured. When will all men act like men towards each other and not act as brutes, as some of them do now?

Mr. Editor, couldn't you send us a receipt to cure a number of young men of the bad habit of standing on the church steps before and after service, to the great annoyance of said people and particularly ladies, also to cure the habit of smoking when in company with ladies. If these two wrongs could be made right the improvement would be duly appreciated.

We have lately discovered some portions of our sidewalks—the rest are buried under the snow. We hope to see the whole soon.

Our monthly Cattle Fair for March was not a great success, for two reasons — one the cattle brought out were not fat enough to suit the buyers, and the other, because there were only two or three buyers present. It would be well if our farmers could have fat beeves at the April fair.

Dundalk.

The Queen's Hotel, owned by John Colgan has changed hands again. Mr. John McGregor is now in possession. We hope it will be an improvement.

A certain ex-cordwood speculator who claims priestage in this neghbourhood terminated an abscence of several months, on last Friday, by presenting in turn his well remembered phisique at our hotels, and for the days of "Auld lang syne," took of our last proof "swamp" a "wallie waught o'er much." Like his countryman "McKey Free," he "became more loquickious than wise," which on account of past recollections, could only be tolerated to a limited extent. A spectator named McDowell, enjoined greater discretion, but finding moral suasion unavailing, administered a rather severe application of corporal punishment, which had the effect of imparting the symmetry of our guest's countenance, and relieving his peepers of further service for the moment. As soon as the news of the experiment became public property Dr. C—— appeared on the scene and exercised his professional skill to emeliorate the sufferings of the unfortanate youth. He, however, is still prostrated in an upper appartment in Caswell's Hotel — formerly May's Mayburne — far remote from the cares and pleasures of the farm. Moral—Consistency in his temperance professions would have spared him this. Dr. C—— is instructed to present his account for repairs, &c., to the County Council at its June session.

Mr. Wm. Keeler's sale of stock, came off on the 5th inst., and every article brought a good price. Hay sold for $13.60 per ton. Price here now, $6 to $7.

We had a small Donnybrook here, on the 4th inst. Several "ladies" enlivened the scene. also some prime boys "took a hand."

ZERO.

POULTRY EXHIBITION.—The annual Provincial poultry exhibition was held last week at Guelph. There were over 1,000 entries, and $1,600 were offered in prizes. It was the finest exhibition ever held here.

Mr. James Person, of Puslinch, brought to our office to-day a splendid otter, which was trapped on the Saugeen near Durham, and was bought by Mr. Person from the person who trapped. It is one of the largest we ever saw, and has a splendid dark skin which is worth about $10.—*Guelph Mercury.*

The Spring Assizes will open at Walkerton on Monday, 7th of April, Mr. Justice Burton presiding.

The call of the Woodville Presbyterians to Rev. J. Cameron, of Chatsworth, has been declined.

Rev. Alex. Leslie has been inducted pastor of the Presbyterian congregation at Newtonville.

Mr. John McLeod, M.P.P. for West Durham, died at his residence in Bowmanville on Sunday.

The Thunder Storm.

A heavy thunder storm passed over Wallaceburg at an early hour on Saturday morning. The lightning struck a house just outside the corporation, occupied by Mrs. James McDonald, knocking the western gable out and a chimney down. It smashed the windows and set fire to the carpets, the flames from which were fortunately extinguished by the falling plaster. The inmates, who were in the other end of the house, escaped unhurt.

A farmer, about three miles from Harriston, was engaged putting his cattle in the stable during the storm, when the stable was struck by lightning, which set fire to the hay and killed two cows, injured two others, and knocked the man down insensible for some time. The fire was put out by the neighbours before it had done much harm to the building or contents.

The barn of John Jenkins, farmer, Goderich township, was struck by lightning on Sunday evening, and burnt to the ground. The bulk of his last crop, farming implements, three sheep, and a threshing machine were destroyed. There was no insurance.

THE TEMPEST IN ITALY.—Reports from all parts of the peninsula bring most lamentable accounts of damage by the tempest which burst on Monday night and continued last week. The whole coast from Genoa to the south of Naples is strewn with wrecks of small craft. At Naples especially the effects were most serious. All the small craft along the Riviera Di-Chiaja were swept out to sea and lost, and at Follonica six vessels were wrecked. The inland effects were equally disastrous. Parma, Placenza, Milan, and Florence, Scenna and many other cities suffered. At Puagguelo the campanile of the church was blown down while the people were at mass killing two priests at the altar and three other persons, and wounding twenty-four. At Aontauro the vault of the church yielded to the storm and killed the priest who was celebrating mass, and injured a number of the congregation. At Rome the force of the wind was unparalleled. During the storm all the windows of the Monastry of Monte Alle Croci were destroyed and a portion of Michael Angelo's statue of David swept off.

HOLSTEIN SCHOOL.—Following is the monthly report of Holstein school, Mr. D. Allan and Miss Huston teachers:—SENIOR DEPARTMENT—Grammar, Mary McKenzie, And Stevenson and John Naismith; Junior, Ellen Adams, Thos. Reid and Nelson Burrows; 2nd Junior, Mary A. Young, Alfred Vance and Alex. Brown. Arithmetic, Wm. Naismith, John Naismith and And. Stevenson; Junior, Thomas Reid, James Brown, Minnie Brown and Nelson Burrows; 2nd Junior, A. Brown, A. Rutherford, J. Keith, G. Pinnock and Margaret L. Brown. Geography, John Naismith, Mary McKenzie and Wm. Naismith; Junior, Ellen Adams, Nelson Burrows and Mary Allan; 2nd Junior, Alex. Brown, M. A. Young and Alfred Vance. History, John Naismith, Mary McKenzie and And. Stevenson. Etymology, Mary McKenzie, And. Stevenson and A. M. Burrows. Dictation, Mary Allan, C. Greenly and Thos. Brown. JUNIOR DEPARTMENT,—2nd Class Arithmetic, Maggie Greenly, Jenny Petrie and Jenny Adams; Junior, Emma Johnston Perry Pinnock, Annie Brown. 1st Arithmetic, Wm. Rutherford, John Burrows and John Petrie. Dictation, Allan Vance, Maggie Greenly and George Burrows; Junior, Matthew Haley, Perry Pinnock and Annie Cameron; 2nd Junior, Amelia Main, Maggie Dickson and R. Mickleborough. Geography, Thos. Tanner, Maggie Greenly and Allan Vance.

SHOOTING AFFRAY. — A dispatch from Owen Sound, dated 27th February, says that considerable excitement was caused a day or two previously in the police court in that town by the attempted shooting in court of a young gallant named Walter Adair, by a girl who alleges that he had seduced her. At the time Mrs. Brown, mother of the young woman whose name is Elizabeth Brown, was on trial for assaulting Adair. The parties all reside in the township of Keppel. It would seem that some time ago the young man succeeded in enticing the young girl from the paths of virtue, and that in consequence of her disgrace she had since been living with her sister, at whose house she was occasionally visited by her mother. On Sunday, 16th inst., Mrs. Brown was on her way to see her daughters when she met Adair. Incensed at his treatment of Elizabeth, she struck at him, and he returned the blow with interest, blackening one of the woman's eyes, and making her nose bleed a stream. After the affray Adair, determined to have the first say before the magistrate, laid an information against Mrs. Brown, charging her with assault and battery. Mrs. Brown was accordingly arrested and arraigned at the police court the following morning. During the trial Miss Brown was present heavily veiled, and when the verdict had been rendered against her mother, who was fined a dollar and costs, she sprang forward towards the prosecuter and presented a pistol full in his face and tried to shoot. Fortunately the weapon hung fire, and instead of a death-carrying shot only a snap was heard. The young woman was at once disarmed, and the revolver, which was loaded, sequestered. Subsequently Adair was placed on trial for assaulting Mrs. Brown, and was fined $2 and costs. The young woman, Elizabeth Brown, was taken into custody and now lies in goal awaiting trial. All the parties are in fair circumstances and considered respectable.

On the 20th ult., a son of Mr. George Parks, of Luther, aged three years, was fatally burned. The little lad's father and mother were attending to duties at the barn, and while they were absent his clothes in some way caught fire from the stove.

The County Council of Bruce has petitioned the Legislature to bring the summer vacation of the Public Schools to three weeks instead of six.

The Legislatures.

THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Toronto, March 5.

Mr. Deacon moved an amendment proposing a reduction of the salary of the Deputy Attorney General from $2,800 to $2,500.

Mr. Meredith moved as an amendment to this amendment a motion to make a general reduction of $500 in the salary of each Cabinet Minister, and of 10 per cent. in all Civil Service salaries over $800. In speaking to his motion he went briefly over the ground already so often travelled over by the Opposition during the session, including the bugbear of direct taxation.

After some discussion the amendment was voted down by a majority of 47 to 31.

Mr. Meredith and his lieutenants then moved some fifteen other resolutions proposing special reductions in Civil Service salaries, all of which were voted down by majorities varying from 15 to 19.

On the motion to concur in the item for miscellaneous expenditure an amendment was moved by Dr. Clarke proposing to reduce the salary of the Inspector of Registry offices from $2,000 to $1,500. A few supporters of the Government voted for the amendment, and by their assistance the Opposition succeeded in making the reduction. Of the 43 who voted for the reduction 59 were members of the Opposition, and only 14 were Ministerial supporters; while of the 35 who voted to retain the present salary 33 were supporters of the Government, and only two members of the Opposition.

The House, after concurring in the whole item for miscellaneous expenditure, adjourned.

March 6.

The House was occupied chiefly with the consideration of Mr. Mowat's Election Bill which was ultimately carried, and with the School Bill which was also carried—some amendments having been adopted the amendment to have school elections by ballot was lost on a devision.

March 7.

The House went into Committee of the Whole on the Bill to make further provision respecting elections of members of the Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Mowat moved to amend the second clause, so as to make the duration of the Assembly date from the date of the election in Algoma, and not from the return of the writ for that constituency.

After some discussion the motion was allowed to stand.

The House went into Committee of the Whole on the Act respecting Public, High and Separate Schools, and after consideration, the Bill was passed with amendments, and the Committee reported.

The House then took up concurrence in the items for Legislation and Administration of Justice. In connection with the appropriation for legislation, the Speaker's salary was, at his own suggestion, reduced from $1,500 to $1,250, the Opposition having been defeated in an attempt to cut it down to $1,000. There were thirteen divisions taken in all, nearly all of them at the instance of the Opposition, the majorities in the party vote ranging from 12 to 16. By a very decided expression of opinion, the House, while concurring in the pay meant of the $1,000 extra to each Superior Court Judge now on the Bench, affirmed its desire to throw that burden, imposed on this Province by the Sandfield Macdonald Government, on the Government of the Dominion. With respect to salaries in the Superior Courts, the Opposition motions favoured a reduction of ten per cent., as in the case of the Civil Service.

March 8.

The House read a third time yesterday morning the Bill amending the Jurors' Act, the Education Bill, and the Elections Bill. In the afternoon the Bill respecting the consolidation of the debt of Toronto was read a third time, and the Municipal Bill was then passed through Committee and read a third time. The Supplementary Estimates were next passed in Committee of Supply and concurred in, after which the Supply Bill was introduced, read a first, second, and third time, and passed amidst the cheers of the Government supporters. A number of questions were then answered, and several motions adopted. The passage of two or three public Bills cleared the order paper, and the House adjourned to meet to-day at two o'clock. The only business done will be the bringing down of the Public Accounts and some returns, after which the House will be prorogued by the Lieutenant-Governor.

DOMINION PARLIAMEFT.

OTTAWA, March 5.

Mr. Dalton McCarthy intruduced a measure to authorize the payment to Dr. Stewart, Kingston, of $1,000 lodged in the Court of Queen's Bench, Ontario, with a petition filed in 1874 against the return of Sir J. A. Macdonald for the Limestone City.

Mr. Mackenzie having objected to the Bill on the ground that it was a private measure, and the rules of the House had not been complied with, the Speaker ruled the Bill out of order. It was withdrawn.

A debate took place on the motion in which the Government and its supporters defended the dismissal on the ground that Captain Purdy was incompetent; but this contention was met with direct denials from Mr. Burpee and Sir Albert Smith.

The Minister of Marine found it convenient to qualify his charges, and contended he had never made them.

Sir Albert Smith replying, said he now understood the charge had been withdrawn. A rowdy exhibition from the Ministerial benches prevented his proceeding. Shouts and desk slamming were resorted to to prevent his being heard, but order was ultimately restored. There being doubt as to whether the charge was withdrawn, the ex-Minister of Marine demanded that the charge be distinctly formulated.

The debate was adjourned.

Previous to adjournment the leader of the Opposition said he was ready to consider the Supply Bill, but the Government was not prepared to act on his offer. The House having no work to proceed with, then adjourned.

March 6.

Mr. McCarthy's Bill to amend the controverted Elections Act was moved to a second reading, and its promoters explained its principal object to be: 1, that election trials be presided over by three judges instead of one, so as to prevent charges of unfairness being made against a single judge on account of peculiarities in his decisions; and 2, the petition is to be verified on oath, in order to prevent groundless petitions being filed for purposes of annoyance.

In the debate which ensued speakers on behalf of the Opposition appeared to think the Bill was not sufficiently comprehensive in its provisions, and argued that trials should be before Supreme Court Judges, as the judges of the other Courts were now overworked.

Mr. Kirkpatrick, who said that two judges would be sufficient for the trial of an election, was speaking when the House rose for recess. After recess the debate was continued for a short period, but adjourned owing to the unexplained absence of the promoter of the measure.

March 7.

The Minister of Finance laid on the table all papers and statements relating to floating the last loan, and he announced at the same time that on Tuesday next the Estimates would be brought down, and on Friday the Financial Statement delivered.

A debate on the Insolvency law took place on a motion made by the Minister of Justice appointing a Committee to enquire into the operation of the said law.

Mr. Mackenzie proved that there had been no recent change in his opinions affecting an Insolvency Law, and he defined the present policy of the Opposition not to be one which would charge the Government of the day with being the cause of the continued commercial depression, but it certainly would call upon the Government to remove the existing depression, because it promised, if elected, to do so.

Mr. Paterson (Brant) pointed out the Government's inconsistency in appointing 83 official assignees, when it had in prospect a scheme which would remove all depression and abolish all bankruptcies.

A number of other gentlemen having spoken, the motion was put and carried.

March 8.

Mr. Macdonald (King's) moved for all correspondence relating to the practice of mackerel seining in the waters of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. In the debate on this motion, which was participated in by almost every representative of a maritime constituency, it was shown that the practice of purse seining by American fishermen in the Gulf of St. Lawrence threatened to destroy the valuable fisheries of the Gulf waters. Not only was this seine used outside the three-mile limit, but also inside. The objection to the seine appeared to be that it captured young as well as developed fish, and that the smaller fish were killed by it and afterwards thrown into the water. The fish sank to the bottom, and decomposing, poisoned the waters and drove the codfish from its usual haunts.

A number of gentlemen spoke upon the question, all the members from the maritime Provinces contending that as the fishermen along the St. Lawrence were alone affected by the Fishery award, the amount of the award ($5,000,000,) should be expended for their benefit. After recess, Mr. Dalton McCarthy moved that a commission be appointed to investigate with the corrupt practices which were alleged to have occurred in the South riding of Grenville. An amendment by Mr. Holton to refer the matter to the Committee on Elections was carried. After some further motions for correspondence relative to the appropriation and distribution of the fishery award by Mr. Yeo of Prince Edward Island the House adjourned.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The British squadron is to be immediately withdrawn from the Sea of Marmora.

The Russian Government has discovered a plot for forcibly liberating the Nihilist prisoners.

A letter mailed at Rochester on the 9th of December accomplished a circuit of the globe in 87 days.

Passanante, for attempting to assassinate the King of Italy, has been found guilty and condemned to death.

Rachel Sloan on Saturday obtained a verdict for $10,000 against the Brooklyn City Railway for personal injuries.

The Queen will embark from Portsmouth on the 25th inst for Cherbourg. She will be absent probably a month.

Victoria, B.C., had a $12,000 fire on the 12th of February. It has started an agitation for a paid fire department.

The Pembroke *Standard* says:—A report comes from Temiscamingue that a man, whose name we did not learn, was found frozen to death on the lake there last week. It is stated that he had snow shoes on, which were all frozen up with snow and slush, and when found he was standing erect.

Sir George Campbell has given notice that he intends asking Sir Stafford Northcote at a future day whether, if Canada adopts a protectionist policy at a time when England is striving against a similar policy by foreign Governments, Her Majesty's Government will consider it desirable to continue British connection with Canada.

A report from Professor Eichwald, who has been investigating the Plague for the Russian Government in the infected localities, says that the disease is now completely mastered, and its ravages have been greatly exaggerated. In two pestilential districts, between October and February, only 500 persons died out of a population of 118,000.

In the Cassiar country, British Columbia, gold prospecting goes on. Some claims were worked till after New Year. There has been little trapping and hunting this winter, but fish have been taken in considerable quantities from Dease Lake. The health of the community has been good. The winter population is not so large as last year. The weather has been magnificent, the snow-fall heavier than usual, and the frost steadier.

The other day, Mr. Dobson, of Bruce, had four sheep destroyed by wolverines. There is much ground covered with ever green bushes in the vicinity of Mr. Dobson's farm. This bush is much frequented by rabbits, and as the rabbit is the natural food of the wolverine, these fierce animals are quite plentiful in the neighbourhood, and are proving destructive to the sheep of the farmers around.—*Chesley Enterprier.*