

Postmaster, Milton—Mr J Campbell.
Inhabitants Co. Shelburne—Mr. Locke.
Do. Argyle.

Miscellaneous.

Inhabitants of Ingonish, &c.—Presented by Mr. Campbell.

Conlon Bros, Halifax—Mr. Pryor.

Fruit Grower's Association, Co. Kings—Mr. Hamilton.

Wm. Twining, Halifax—

H. Oldridge, do.

A. D. Denham, New Glasgow—J. Fraser.

Do. do.

H. Davenport, Sydney, C. B.—Mr. Bourinot.

D. Ferguson, et al., Co. Pictou—Mr. McKay.

John Spidell, Co. Lunenburg—Mr. Jost.

Residents of Halifax, &c.

do. do.
Residents St. Mary's, Guysborough Co., for Bridge on St. Mary's River—S. Campbell

Revenue Expenses.

Residents of Amherst.

A. Thomas, Windsor—Mr. Hill.

Inhabitants Port Gilbert—Mr. C. Campbell.

W. Bryden, Liverpool.

R. B. Darling, et al., Bridgetown.

T. A. S. DeWolfe, Halifax.

Peter Morrissey do.—Mr. Pryor.

Indians.

S. Dudge, M. D., Kentville.

Parker & Cowie, Halifax—Hon. Fin. Secy.

J. M. Barnaby, Mill Village.

Dr. McLatchy, Falmouth.

Militia.

Naval Brigade, Halifax.

A. Clarke, and A. McLellan—Mr. D. Fraser.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Hon. PROV. SECY. laid on the table a return of Provincial notes issued.

Also, a report of the council for the protection of inland fisheries and game.

Hon. Mr. McFARLANE introduced a bill in reference to Ragged Reef school section, in the County of Cumberland.

Also, a bill to incorporate the St. Lawrence and Bay of Fundy Canal Company. He stated that the object of this company was to unite the waters of the St. Lawrence and Bay of Fundy, a work of great importance.

LOCAL CONSTITUTION.

The order of the day was moved.

Hon. PROV. SECY. said that in rising to move the second reading of the bill to amend Chapter 3 R. S., in reference to the duration of and representation in the General Assembly, he did not feel it necessary to occupy the time of the House, having explained the objects of the bill before. The bill was introduced to adapt our legislation to the changed relations which we were called to meet under the Act of the Imperial Parliament for the Union of the Provinces. As the House had been relieved by that act from a large amount of the duties devolving on it, it would be necessary deliberately to review the constitution. He was glad to hear from the observations of the gentleman who had led the opposition on the question of Confederation, that that hon. member

would feel it his duty to give the most dispassionate consideration to any measure that would enable us to meet the new condition of affairs. It would have been unreasonable to suppose that on so great a proposition as that of the Union of the Provinces, effecting so great a change in our institutions, a great diversity of opinion would not exist, but it had now become necessary for every one interested in the prosperity of this part of Her Majesty's dominions to look with a single eye to the interests and advantages of the country. It was only to be expected that such a sentiment would find expression on all sides, and would be re-echoed back from every part of the Province. Taking into consideration the important questions of which the Legislature would be relieved, he thought this would be regarded as a necessary measure, leaving, as it would, a fair and efficient representation for every county, and at the same time striking off a very considerable portion of the expenditure. The bill proposed that in the Local Legislature every county should be represented by two members, excepting Halifax and Pictou, which should have three each. This would be in addition to the members to be sent to the General Parliament. It had been asked, "would it not be better to allow the Legislature now shortly to be elected to arrange the local constitution," but he believed that the common sense of every member, as well as past experience, would convince every one that no time could be so appropriate and convenient for dealing with the question as the present. The duty of legislation devolved as much upon the House up to the last day as at the first hour of its existence, and there should be no disposition to shrink from this responsibility.

If the bill would put it out of the power of any future Parliament to deal with the question there would be something in the argument, but it was a fact that the people at the polls would have a full opportunity of instructing the incoming members, and while it was very easy to increase the representation it was not so easy to decrease it. The reduction could now be made without creating the impression that any actual reduction was being made, for our relations with the General Parliament caused an actual increase to the representation of some of the counties. On the same day the people would poll their votes for general and local representatives, exercising a larger franchise than at present. He did not consider it necessary to occupy the time of the House in the advocacy of a measure which