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to be granted in gross to the Custom House,  
and that the whole of the Revenue would  
thus be put into the hands of a body over  
whom the Legislature could have no direct  
control. The principle of the Bill was how-  
ever sustained, and at the end of two days,  
the details being nearly completed, the ques-  
tion came up upon the section for paying the  
present officers of the Treasury. There then  
appeared a disposition to select a certain num-  
ber of the most needy as pensioners, and to  
let the rest go; but where to draw the line of  
disinction they could not tell. Some were  
for paying all, others none, at last the pen-  
sion clause was struck out, and the Bill pass-  
ed. A new Bill was brought in to regulate  
the pensions, and having passed through the  
necessary stages, was taken up in full Com-  
mittee. It was then maintained that this Bill  
would lay the foundation of a pension list,  
which the Province would never get clear of;  
and that if they would pension deputy Treas-  
urers, they must also be prepared to pension  
some two dozen of Supervisors, who would  
be dismissed on the establishment of the Board  
of Works. This was a startling proposition,  
and the pension Bill was thrown under the  
table. The principal supporters of the other  
Bill seemed discouraged, and I do not think  
it will become a law after all.

The Bill to regulate the sale of Timber and  
Logs came down from the Council amended,  
by merely altering the title, and adding a  
suspending clause. The Speaker declared  
this to be a money bill that the Council had  
no right to touch.—This was denied by Mr.  
Weldon, who seemed to know the law of Par-  
liament as well as the Speaker. Upon this a  
curious debate arose, in which the House di-  
vided into three parties.—One party main-  
tained that there was no tax in the bill, which, as  
it related to the disposal of certain public prop-  
erty, was a common subject of legislation  
between the two Houses, and might be am-  
ended by the Council the same as any other  
bill. Another party considered it a tax bill,  
but as the Council had not altered the price,  
their amendments were legal. The third party  
maintained, that it was to all intents and  
purposes a money bill, and that the Council  
had no right to touch any part of it. This  
last party outnumbered the other two, and a  
Resolution was entered on the Journals, de-  
claring the inference of the Council a  
breach of privilege. The House divided;  
and when I saw the division, and in the ma-  
jority many of those who were a few weeks  
since so anxious to surrender to the Governor  
the initiation of all money grants, it reminded  
me of certain characters "a long time ago"  
who were said to "strain at a gnat, and swal-  
low a camel." The whole matter was recon-  
sidered the next morning;—the previous re-  
cord struck from the Journals, and a new bill  
passed similar to the one amended by the  
Council.

The Government Bill for building Gaols  
and regulating prisons was examined, and  
laid over till next Session.

The Election Bill, having for its object the

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COMMUNICATIONS.

[From our Fredericton Correspondent]

Fredericton, 13th March, 1842.

Mr. Editor,

The debate in the Committee of Ways and Means, was opened on Monday last, in a long and able speech by Mr. Weldon. After no-  
ticing the clamour which had been raised  
against the Province, he reviewed the public  
accounts, and having noticed the great im-  
provement on the Roads, showed that £180,  
000 had been paid for that service in four  
years. He then enumerated various grants  
made in consequence of the late border trou-  
bles—Canadian sufferers—sufferers by fire in  
St. John, &c., amounting to nearly £10,000.

In reviewing the finances in his own peculiar  
way, he showed that on the 31st of December  
last, all possible demands against the Province  
then payable, as well as such as were in  
future payable by existing laws, could not  
exceed £293,000, and that there were sums  
due, and on hand, enough to meet this, mak-  
ing a large allowance for bad debts. On es-  
timating the revenue of the current year, and  
enumerating the various services to be pro-  
vided for, he maintained, that without any ad-  
ditional taxes, there would be very little against  
the Province at the year's end. He proposed  
to issue treasury debentures, and sell them for  
money to lay out this year on the Roads.—