

It was then agreed that the part of the resolution which related to vouchers be struck out. R. LAIRD, Rep.

The question was then put on Hon. Mr. Palmer's resolution, as amended, and was lost on the same division, as in Committee, with the exception that Messrs. Clark and Muirhead voted against it instead of the Speaker, who was in the Chair.

Then the House adjourned.

[The following is an abstract of the Report of the Committee on Public Accounts, as agreed to by the House:]

"Your Committee appointed to examine and report on public accounts for the past year, have to submit that after examining the different accounts to them referred, they find the financial affairs of the Colony to stand as follows:

Government of Prince Edward Island.

Dr.

Warrants unpaid, 31st January, 1857,	£22,687 7 0 $\frac{3}{4}$
Treasury Notes,	11,500 0 0
Debentures,	21,450 0 0

£55,637 7 0 $\frac{3}{4}$

Cr.

By assets in Treasurer's hands, 31st January, 1857,	£32,833 13 0 $\frac{3}{4}$
Balance,	22,803 14 0

£55,637 7 0 $\frac{3}{4}$

Dr.

To balance against the Colony, 31st January, 1856,	£18,101 18 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Expenditure during year 1856, ended 31st January, 1857,	50,364 12 8 $\frac{1}{2}$

£68,466 10 9 $\frac{3}{4}$

Cr.

By receipts at Treasury for 1856,	£40,602 16 9 $\frac{3}{4}$
Balance, including all Debentures and Treasury Notes.	22,803 14 0

£63,405 10 9 $\frac{3}{4}$

"The revenue for the year ended 31st January, 1857, is £1418 5 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ less than that of the previous year.

"Your Committee have examined the accounts of the Commissioner of Public Lands, and from their sales they find that the sum of £1,086 1 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ has been paid into the Treasury, and there is yet to be paid, for Lands sold, £10,641 14 4 $\frac{1}{2}$, exclusive of interest.

"The Committee remark that although the revenue for the past year is £1418 5 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ less than that of the previous year, yet the deficiency on the Impost duty is but £20 17 6 $\frac{1}{2}$, while they understand that £730 of Impost duty has been paid since 1st January, at Three Rivers, on goods for this winter's consumption, and which amount does not appear in the accounts reported on. This they can not but consider as an indication of a more prosperous state of commercial business than was generally anticipated by the members of this House last session, when the opinion was generally expressed that the revenue for 1856 would be from three to five thousand pounds less than that of 1855.

"By order,

"ANDREW A. MACDONALD,

"Chairman."

MONDAY, April 13.

The House was engaged during the whole of this forenoon in conferences with the Council, and sitting with closed doors. T. KIRWAN, Rep.

AFTERNOON SITTING.

A Message was received from the Legislative Council informing the House that they had passed a Bill to incorporate the denomination of Christians called "Bible Christians," and to repeal a certain Act therein mentioned; also a Bill relating to the Office of Surrogate, and to other purposes—to both of which Bills they desired the concurrence of the House.

The last mentioned Bill was then read a first time;—second reading to-morrow.

The Bill relating to the denomination of Bible Christians having been read a first time, and the rule of the House relating to Bills suspended, it was read a second time, committed to a Committee of the whole House, and reported agreed to without amendment. It was then read a third time and passed.

Hon Mr. Whelan, from the Special Committee appointed to examine and report on the petition of inhabitants of Head of St. Peter's Bay, in reference to the establishment of a school, presented the Report of the Committee, which Report was adopted and the same Committee were appointed to prepare an Address to His Excellency in accordance with it.

Hon. Mr. Whelan, from the Committee appointed on the part of this House to join a Committee of the Legislative Council to prepare an Address to Her Majesty respecting the Fishery Convention relating to Newfoundland, presented the draft of an address on the subject. It was then received, and the consideration of it made an order of the day for to-morrow.

House adjourned.

TUESDAY, April 14.

A message was received from the Council, informing the House that they had passed a Bill to explain and amend the Land Purchase Bill, to which they desired the concurrence of the House. Bill read a first time.

Hon. COL. SECRETARY, in moving that the rule of the House relating to Bills be suspended, and that the Bill be read a second time, explained some of the provisions of the Bill. The purport of the Bill was to remove doubts which had been expressed respecting the power of the Commissioner of Crown Lands to convey more than 300 acres of land, which was necessary where the proprietors could not give good titles for the land, and were then required to take it back again. In cases in which parties settled on land would not attain, the only way was to hand them back to the proprietors, and allow them to deal with the parties.

House in Committee on the Bill.

Hon. Mr. PALMER remarked respecting one of the clauses, that there was a part of it which he did not exactly comprehend relating to various contingencies that might exist in the agreements made under the Land Purchase Bill. It was a retrospective and prospective clause; and therefore legislation on the subject should be approached with extreme caution. He moved that it be struck out.

Hon. COL. SECRETARY offered some explanation on the subject, that the Bill would not place the people in a worse position than they would have been, provided the property had never been conveyed to the Government.

After a few additional observations had been made, progress was reported, and leave granted to sit again.

The chairman of several Committees presented the drafts of addresses to His Excellency on subjects on which they had previously reported, which were agreed to by the House, and the same Committees appointed to wait on His Excellency with them.

House adjourned for one hour.

R. LAIRD, Rep.