of the Grammar Schools of Georgetown and Summerside; and also the report of the Committee of Management of the Government Stock Farm.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Davies, the House went into Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. McLennan in the Chair.

Hon. Mr. Davies then submitted a resolution making certain alterations in the tariff, the principal of which was the levying of a duty of one shilling and six pence on every barrel of flour imported from countries not reciprocating with this Island. On the subject a discussion took place, which will appear in the extended debates; the said resolution was then agreed to.

The resolution placing the whole of the revenues of the Colony at the disposal of the Government, for military defences, was also agreed to in Committee.

After which progress was reported.

House adjourned.

FRIDAY, April 20.

Hon. Mr. Davies reported to the House several resolutions agreed to in Committee of Supply. Said resolutions were adopted.

Hon. Mr. Longworth presented to the House from the Minister and others of Bonshaw Presbyterian Church, a petition asking for an Act of Incorporation. Referred to Committee on Private Bills.

Hon. Solicitor General presented and read a petition from inhabitants of King's County, touching the necessity of compelling parties having Mill Dams to erect Waste Gates or Slips, suitable for floating logs and timber through the same; and to cause said Waste Gates to be opened when required, on the payment of a small fee by those requiring the use of the same. Referred to a Committee of the whole House to report thereon.

Hon. Mr. Coles presented a petition of the inhabitants of Bunbury School District, Lot 48, setting forth their inability to keep open their school, owing to the small number of children in that District. Petition having reference to the granting of money, was ordered to be withdrawn.

Hon. Mr. Coles presented a petition from J. R. Bourke, jun., and others, touching the erection of a wharf. Ordered to be laid on the table.

Hon Mr Coles asked for the detailed accounts touching the expenditure of one thousand pounds towards the Volunteer Movement last year.

Hon Leader of the Government in reply said the accounts alluded to would be laid on the table.

Hon. Mr. Davies submitted the Revenue Bill for the current year. Received and read; and the rule touching the second reading of a Bill without the usual notice, having been suspended, the bill was read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole House. Mr Yeo in the Chair.

After some time spent in Committee, the Bill was reported agreed to without any amendment, and ordered to be engrossed.

Mr Conroy presented a petition from certain inhabitants of the Western section of Prince County, touching the destruction of sheep by dogs running at large. The hon. member, in submitting the petition, observed that for the past two or three years large numbers of sheep had been destroyed in that part of the County by dogs, and that during the past year the number of valuable animals so destroyed had greatly increased. The said petitioners prayed for the protection of that valuable animal from the ravages thus committed.

Ordered to be referred to a Committee to report thereon.

Hon Col Gray submitted a petition from the Minister and Elders of St. John's Church, Belfast, asking for an alteration in their act of incorporation, of the time for holding their Annual Meeting for the election of Trustees. Received, read, and referred to Committee.

Hon Mr McEachen presented a petition from divers inhabitants of Bay Fortune, praying for the appointment of a Commission for the purpose of assessing damages that might be sustained by parties through whose farms a road would be opened, leading to the shore of Howe Bay; and also a subscription list accompanying the said petition, towards the erection of a wharf at the terminus of said road.

Ordered to be laid on the table

Hon Col Gray submitted a bill to amend the Incorporation Act of St. John's Church, changing the time of holding annual meetings of that body from the first Tuesday in January to the first Monday in August. Bill received and read.

Mr Brecken presented a petition from divers merchants and others of Charlottetown, praying for an Act. Referred to Committee.

Hon Col Gray presented a petition, very numerously signed, from the northern portion of his constituents, and others, relating to the Hillsborough Ferry. Petitioners complain of mismanagement and the violation of the rules and conditions of the contract of that Ferry, on the part of the contractor. They pray for a redress of the grievances complained of, and also for an increase of accommodation for the public on said Ferry, by placing an additional steamboat thereon, or by causing the present boat to ply every quarter of an hour between Charlottetown and Southport, especially on market days.

The said petition was received and read.

Hon Col Gray observed that there were upwards of five hundred names attached to the petition, that such a large portion of the community must, doubtless, have strong grounds for their allegations, which he hoped would be duly inquired into and investigated. He, therefore, submitted their petition to the favorable consideration of that hon. House.

After some remarks from Hons Messrs Hensley, Pope, and Davies, the petition was referred to a Special Committee as follows:—Hons Col Gray and Hensley, and Mr. Brecken.

On motion of the Hon Mr Davies, the Revenue Bill was then read a third time and passed.

Hon Mr Longworth presented a petition from William McNail and other school teachers, praying for amendment of school Act—which, having for one of its objects the imposition of an additional tax for the purpose of increasing the salary of teachers, could not be entertained, not having been submitted through the Executive Government in accordance with the rule of of the House touching the initiation of money votes. It was therefore ordered to be withdrawn.

Mr Brecken presented a petition from Belmont School District, which was rejected on similar grounds as above.

Mr Brecken presented a petition to incorporate St. Andrew's Church, Brackley Point Road. Received, read and referred to Committee.

Mr McLennan presented a petition to incorporate the Summerside Fishing Company. Referred to Committee.

Hon Mr McEachen presented a petition from Abercrombie Willock, setting forth that he, the said petitioner, had discovered veins of Coal on parts of Lot 50, in this Island, specimens of which he deposited with the Clerk of the Council for the inspection of that body. Petitioner also alleges that he has discovered on said Township metallic substances, and also a perfect metal which he believes to be Copper. He therefore prays that a scientific survey and exploration of the lands of said Township be made, and that the appropriation of the Legislature for the discovery of Coal be not revoked to his prejudice.

Ordered that said petition do lie on the table.

Mr Haslam presented a petition from certain inhabitants of Crapaud, complaining of the decision of the Supreme Court in January last, relating to a road over the lands of William Dawson.

Ordered to be withdrawn on the ground that it would be dangerous to establish a precedent interfering with the decisions of the Jury and Court.

Hon Solicitor General submitted a petition from members of the Provincial and Subordinate Lodges of the British Order of Good Templars, on this Island, praying for an act of incorporation. Referred to Committee.

Hon Solicitor General also presented a petition from Francis Hyde, of West River, setting forth certain alleged grievances therein named, relating to the mode of conducting the Ferry between McEachen's and McEwen's Wharf on said river, of which the petitioner is the lessee.

Ordered that said petition be withdrawn on the ground that the petition contemplated an interference with the existing contract touching said ferry.

Mr Brecken presented a petition from inhabitants of Charlottetown Royalty, touching the burden imposed upon them by having to turn out and remove the pitches and heavy snow-drifts, during the winter months, in the Royalty aforesaid—the roads therein, owing to the great thoroughfare approaching the City, being more subject to such pitches and cradle-hills, after heavy snow-storms, than any other portion of the Island. Petition received and referred to committee.

Hon Leader of the Government moved for a Committee of the whole House on the second reading of the Bill transferring the fund raised by the sale of the military barracks in Charlottetown, towards the erection of the new barracks.

Hon Mr Coles moved in amendment that the said Bill be read that day three months, on the same grounds that he objected to the introduction of the bill—namely, that it was an appropriation of money, and should therefore have originated in a Committee of the whole, in accordance with the constitutional mode of procedure.

A debate then ensued, when it was contended by the supporters of the motion to go into committee, that the bill only contemplated the transferring or placing of certain moneys to the credit of the colony, and was not, therefore, an appropriation.

After which the House divided as follows—

For the amendment of the Hon Mr Coles—Hons Coles, Whelan, Laird, Thornton, Warburton, Kelly, Hensley; Messrs. Howat, Howlan, Walker, Conroy—11.

Against it—Hons Pope, Kaye, Davies, McEachen, Solicitor General, Longworth, Gray; Messrs. Montgomery, McLennan, Green, Duncan, Yeo, Brecken, Haslam—14.

The bill was then committed to a committee of the whole, and reported agreed to.

Hon Mr Longworth submitted the bill to incorporate the Presbyterian Church at Bonshaw.

Referred to committee to report thereon.

Mr Brecken introduced a bill to incorporate a Woollen Factory in Charlottetown.

Read and referred to Committee.

Reported from committee, read a second time and ordered to be engrossed.

Hon Col Gray submitted a bill to incorporate the Church at Cascumpec.

Read and agreed to.

The House, at a later hour, waited on his Excellency at the bar of the Council Chamber, when his Excellency was pleased to give his assent to the Revenue Act for the current year, which had passed both branches of the Legislature with unprecedented despatch.

The following is a list of the alterations in the tariff for the current year—caused by the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty. viz.—

Pitch, tar and rosin, Two per cent.
Leather, of all kinds, (except sole leather,) reduced from Six and a quarter per cent. to Five.
Rice, Five per cent.
Fruits and Vegetables, undried, Five per cent.
Bar and Spring Steel, Five per cent.
Gypsum, ground and unground, Five per cent.
Butter, the cwt., Ten shillings.
Bread, ship and pilot, the 100lbs., one shilling.
Bacon, the cwt., Ten shillings.
Beef, the barrel, Six shillings.
Flour, wheaten and rye, and Cornmeal, the barrel, one shilling and six pence.
Hams, the cwt., Ten shillings.
Lard, the cwt., Ten shillings.
Onions, the 100lbs., Three shillings.
Pork, the barrel, Six shillings.
Tobacco, unmanufactured, the lb., Three pence;—duty on same to be levied on the quantity imported, without any deduction for stems.

The several articles above enumerated, being the growth or production of the British Provinces, shall be exempted from the duty imposed as above, when imported direct from any of the said Provinces reciprocating with this Island.—House adjourned.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

(Continued from last week.)

Hon. the PRESIDENT: His honor from the first district of King's County (Mr. Dingwell) has repeatedly said, and has endeavored to make it appear, that members of his House wish to deprive the people of this Colony of the privelege of meeting in a constitutional manner to consult together and devise means to advance their own interests; but will his honor stand up here and say that the resolutions of the Tenant League are constitutional? I am sure that nothing has emanated from any member of this House which could be construed into the expression of a desire to prevent the people from meeting, in a constitutional manner, to devise means for the redress of grievances; and it is quite improper for any gentleman to make such insinuations. I do not see the propriety of discussing the question further, as the amendment has been lost.

Hon. Mr. RAMSAY: I did not endeavor to show that the Tenant League organization had no existence in resistance to the law.

Hon. Mr. WALKER: Then I would ask your honors if the league had an existance in Queen's County, and if it filled Rose's Weekly with resolutions, would that justify the Government in sending for troops?

Hon Mr McDONALD: I would remark, in reply to his honor from the first district of Queen's County (Mr. Henderson), with reference to the purchase of the Montgomery property, that I understood it was negociated for by the tenants, and then, from some circumstances, they had to withdraw. Now, I believe, the parties who were negociating from first to last were the same men: whether they were leaguers or not I cannot say, but, if they were, and if their principles are the same throughout the Island, I would be a supporter of the league.

Hon Mr. GOFF: During this debate certain facts have been brought to the notice of your honors, which prove that the tenant league organization had an existence in Prince and King's Counties, though the people were not brought into collision with the authorities so as to render themselves liable for the consequences of resisting the law; but in whatever County they were, there is no doubt but they were prepared to support the head centre of the league, for it is evident that they were identified with that organization, and I do not see that we can exonerate them from a participation in those disturbances. When I spoke at a former period of this debate I was not aware that the organization had any existence in Prince and King's Counties.

Hon Mr HENDERSON: In reply to his honor from Georgetown, I have to state, once and for all, I hope, and on good authority too, that the tenants on Mr. Montgomery's estate were very desirous of becoming freeholders: the portion of them who belonged to the Tenant League were desirous of having it their own way, but the majority, I believe, wished the Government to purchase the property, and when the leaguers offered undue opposition, the majority threatened to deal with them in a summary manner. They had thus to give way, and the purchase was completed by the Government. I think your honors must see from these facts, that the organization had an existence in King's County at the time indicated; and further that the majority of the tenants, in the locality referred to, gave an emphatic verdict against them, because they deemed their conduct not a benefit but an obstruction. I ask then can any of their honors of the opposition make these, or any previous remarks of mine, by any amount of contortion, to say that I would deprive any portion of the people of their constitutional right to meet and discuss whatever they may feel an interest in, and resolve to do whatever is lawful and constitutional? Would any of your honors, were it in your power, prevent any portion of the tenantry from successfully negociating, even now, with their landlords for their farms, as the tenantry of Mr. Haythorn and the Rev. Mr. Montgomery did? For my part I do say that few things could give me more pleasure than to see such negociations multiplied and successfully carried out. On the other hand, I cannot but feel deeply pained to see any class or body of men cabaling about or obstructing any lawful scheme or process that would even help to put a final end to the leasehold system in the Colony.

Hon Mr McDONALD: I would ask his honor who he means in regard to cabaling respecting the existence of the tenant league; does his honor mean me?

Hon Mr HENDERSON: I hold it to be tantamount to cabaling when baseless fabrications are attempted to be put forward, or retracted again and again in the face of unquestionable facts. I did not mean his honor from Georgetown.

Hon Mr DINGWELL: Then I suppose his honor referred to me.

Hon Mr HENDERSON: Yes, I did.

Hon Mr DINGWELL: All I wished to say was that when the people met together they could not be called an unlawful assembly as long as they did not resist the law, but it is hard to make his honor understand what I mean.

Hon Mr HENDERSON: If his honor finds it hard to make me understand him, or consent to his resolution, he will find it still harder so to twist my remarks as to make them say that the people have not a perfect right to assert and exercise every privilege which belongs to them, or that is within the bound of our broad and free constitution.

Sixth paragraph.

Hon Mr McDONALD: Before that paragraph is agreed to I think there should be some explanation given as to the promulgation of the act here referred to; His Excellency says—"In the preamble of the act under which the barracks in this city were sold you pledged the Colony to provide suitable accomodations for any troops that might be stationed here." Now we know that the new Barracks have cost a much larger sum than was realized from the sale of the old barracks and the land together, and the additional appropriation has been made without the consent of the Legislature. At the time the act was passed to authorize the sale of the old barracks, it was stated and understood that the interest of the money arising therefrom would be devoted to the maintenance of the volunteers, and the principal was to go into the general revenue, till required for the purpose of general defence, or to provide accommodations for troops. But the volunteers have been disbanded, for the arms have been taken from them, and this paragraph points us to a measure to appropriate the whole of that money towards the expenses of the new barracks. At the time the act was passed for the sale of the old barracks it was agreed that it would be better to repair and rent them till they would be required, and if that had been done it would have saved £5000 or £6000 to the Colony.

Hon Mr HENDERSON: In reference to the old barracks it is my decided opinion that it would have been no advantage to the Colony to have had them on hand when the troops arrived here last year; for it is evident that one fourth of their original cost would not have been sufficient to put them in such a state of repair as to have made them fit for any portion of Her Majesty's forces. But in addition to this consideration, the locality is a most unfit one for barracks in many points of view; but especially in regard to an attack from the harbor. In that case, instead of their being a protection to the city, they would draw an enemy's fire upon it. Taking these views and facts into consideration, together with the additional light which forthcoming despatches will give on the whole question, I trust that your honors will be fully convinced, that the new barracks—both site and buildings—will be a decided improvement upon the old ones.

Seventh paragraph.

Hon Mr McDONALD: I am glad to see such a paragraph in the address, and to find that the Government have purchased even that small portion of the townships alluded to, and that they intend to carry out the provisions of the "land purchase act," which is one of the best measures yet adopted to convert the leasehold tenures into freehold. The tenants, under that bill, can obtain the fee-simple of their farms at a cheaper rate than under any other law on our statute book. And though the price paid for the recently purchased property is higher than that paid for any estate purchased under that bill,—higher than even the Worrell Estate, yet I believe the Government will not sustain any loss by it.

Hon. the PRESIDENT: I am glad that there is one paragraph in the address on which we can all agree. For my part I cordially agree with it, and am happy to hear that the Government are determined to go on purchasing proprietors' estates wherever an opportunity offers. And, if the present Government continue in power, I think there will be many more estates in their offer. I believe some of the largest estates in the Island will be offered to them before many months. In my opinion it is the best way of converting leasehold tenures into freehold.

Hon. Mr. DINGWELL: I think we will be a "happy family" on that paragraph—more so than in condemning the whole country for the faults of a part, and I am glad that, after a many years' experience we can all agree as to the utility of the "land purchase bill." I am most happy to think that the Liberal Government have passed such a popular measure; and I am also glad to say that I was among the first who were appointed to investigate estates to be purchased by the Government.

Hon. Mr. McLAREN: It is a good measure and operates well, but we need not give the liberals credit for it, for they will take it themselves. But one of your honors said it was the only measure calculated to relieve the tenantry. I am aware, however, that there was an estate sold under the operation of the "fifteen years' purchase bill." An estate was offered to the tenants, and they were told that if they could make up a part of the money, the Government would advance one half. They did so, and bought their farms, but not as tenant leaguers; they bough them under the "fifteen years' purchase bill."

Hon. Mr. BEER: I would certainly, as other members of this House, give the Liberal Government credit for having introduced that bill; but at the same time I must confess that they did not show very able statesmanship under the first operations of it. But the present Government have shown that it can be worked satisfactorily, with proper men at the helm of affairs. There were other estates which the Government wished to purchase and, I am sorry to hear that the consequence of the resistance to the payment of rent has been to raise the price which the proprietors set upon them. There was some difficulty in collecting rent before, but the law has had to be put in force.

Hon Mr RAMSAY: I am happy to see such a paragraph in his Excellency's speech. I am a farmer myself, and I think it is for the interest of all farmers on the Island, whether freeholders or leaseholders, to see their neighbors free from the burdens of the rentpaying system. But, if the people of any of the Counties had reason to complain, I think those of Queen's County should have been the last to rebel when the Government is doing so much for them. Look at all the land that has been purchased in Queen's County, and only one township, Lot 11, purchased in Prince County. But I do hope that the proprietors of Prince County will offer their land to the Government and that it will be accepted.

Hon Mr HENDERSON: It should be satisfactory to both sides of the House to reflect upon the fact that whenever any measure, or clause in an act, or paragraph in a speech, or whatever it may be that comes before us, has a direct bearing on the interests of the country, we all agree upon it. I am always ready to give the Liberal Government due credit for the "land purchase act," and I also make due allowance for the first estate purchased under it not doing so well as some others, because it was to a certain extent an experiment.

Seventh, eight, and ninth paragraphs greed to.

Tenth—

Hon the PRESIDENT: The stock imported, or at least some of them, are the finest I ever saw, and especially the sheep. They are beyond any I have ever seen in this or any other country. I have been told that some of the sheep produced twenty-three pounds of wool at one year old. The heifers were also very fine. The horses did not look so well after coming off the water but I have been told that they have improved very much.

Hon Mr BEER: I am perfectly satisfied that the stock will be of great service to the Colony unless some untoward circumstances should transpire to prevent it. It is, I think, the best lot of stock that ever came to this country. Some would have been better pleased if the blood horse had been taller and more bony, but he is improving very much; and we must remember that a first class blood horse cannot be purchased in England for less than £1000 of our currency. Mr. Longworth was instructed to purchase a certain number of sheep, pigs, and heifers; two cart horses and one blood horse, and the funds at his disposal would not admit of paying a very high price; but I hope that at some future time the Government will grant a sum sufficient to purchase a first class blood horse.

Hon Mr DINGWELL: I would ask your honors if any arrangement has been made for the distribution of young stock?

Hon Mr BEER: To do so would be "counting the chickens before they are hatched," but after the young stock accumulate, they will be distributed to the different Counties, and I trust that justice will be done to the whole Island.

Hon Mr RAMSAY: We hear something about the stock on the model farm, but I was waiting to hear something about the farm itself. I said last year that I did not believe in a model farm. Situations have a good deal to do with farms, and no general rule will apply to farms in Prince Edward Island. But there is something which I do believe in, and that is, an experimental farm. Some crops have been failing in the country of late years, and especially the wheat crop; and if fifteen or twenty different samples were selected, and sown in the the same field, so as to ascertain which would be the most successful—which was the best adapted to resist the attacks of the weevil or midge, and rust, it would be a benefit. The insect which is destroying the wheat crop is very small, but it has a peculiar taste of its own, for it will visit some kind of grain more than others. Similar experiments might be tried with other kinds of grain and with potatoes. But a better way to benefit the farmers is to give them information; and if the Government would give a small grant to publish some work on farming, and distribute it through the country, I think it would have a very good effect. I believe in a stock farm or an experimental farm, but not in a model farm.

Hon Mr BEER: It is quite an oversight to have the word "model" in his Excellency's speech. Those in charge of that farm do not set it up as a model; it is called a stock farm. Some years ago, when that farm was under the management of the Liberal Government, it was called a "model farm," but the term is inapplicable now.

Hon Mr M'DONALD: Some of your honors spoke last year, when this subject was before us, on the cultivation of flax, and I am glad to observe that a good deal has since been said on the subject and may have taken its rise from what was said here, and I also trust that the light which has been thrown on the subject will have the effect of inducing a number of farmers to try the experiment for I am convinced that it would be a benefit to the country.

HON MR DINGWELL: I think it would be satisfactory to have the way in which the Government intend to dispose of the stock made known as soon as they have their minds made up.

HON MR GOFF: With respect to the cultivation of flax, I wrote to a gentleman in the United States enquiring about a machine required for its manufacture, and received a very satisfactory reply, with plans of two machines the cost of which is $400 and $800 respectively. The one costing $400 will clean a top of flax per day, and it is done in such a complete way that there is very little tow, and the value of the flax is much greater than when it is cleaned by hand. I think it would be advisable to introduce a machine into each county; and I feel satisfied that if the farmers found their flax could be prepared by machinery from the rough material, and made fit for spinning there would be ten times as much raised for home consumption, for the greatest objection to the raising of flax is the trouble and labor of preparing by hand.

Paragraph agreed to.

The House was then resumed, and the chairman reported the address agreed to without any amendment.

The committee who prepared the address was then appointed a committee to wait upon His Excellency to know what time His Excellency would recieve it.

PETITIONS PRESENTED.

By the Hon Mr Palmer,—of Daniel Griffith, soap and candle manufacturer, of Charlottetown, praying to be protected from unfair competition in the prosecution of his business. Of Malcolm McLeod, Orwell, Master Shipbuilder, praying compensation for the model of a ship of two thousand tons, composed of eleven different species of native woods, sent by his colony to the London Exhibition of 1862.

By the Hon Mr McLaren,—Of James Dewar, and other inhabitants of Brudenell and vicinity, praying for an amendment of the School Act.

By the Hon Mr Beer,—of Bruno Gallant, and other inhabitants of Rustico, praying that measures may be adopted for the better protection of the cod-fisheries, by preventing the practice of taking fish with trawls or set-lines.

Hon Mr Beer, on rising to move that the last named petition be laid on the table, said:—I will not give any opinion on the subject, as I am not sufficiently acquainted with the fishing business to enable me to do so, but those who do understand the business say that the taking of cod-fish by those set-lines destroys the mother fish, and that, if the practice is continued, the total destruction of the fish in those places will be the result.

Hon Atty Gen: The statements in that petiton, if founded on fact, are well worthy of the attention of the Legislature, but, like his honor who presented the petition I am not sufficiently well informed to express an opinion on this subject. However the subject should be enquired into at once, so as to ascertain whether the practice has a tendency to cause such an evil as the petitioners complain of. We cannot be too jealous of the protection of our fisheries.

Hon Mr Anderson: I cannot see why set-lines should destroy the fish any more than the common way of fishing, but I know that in Newfoundland the practice was complained of.

Hon Mr McDonald: There is a great difference of opinion as to whether the set lines have this tendency, and I dare say it is a difficult question to decide. I have heard it stated by experienced men that in places where a great number of set lines were used the fish did not become any scarcer than when they were taken in the ordinary way. But I have noticed that persons who were not engaged in the fisheries at all were prejudiced against those set lines. I am not sufficiently well acquainted with the subject to give an opinion, but I will endeavour to inform myself upon it.

Hon Mr Goff: I have often heard it said by experienced fishermen that those set lines destroyed the fish; and though I cannot explain how it is, yet I think they have that tendency. At the same time, it is a question whether we should prevent our own people from taking as many as they can.

PETITION LAID ON THE TABLE.

Hon Mr McLaren presented to the House the sixteenth Annual report of the medical superintendent of the Lunatic Asylum, which was ordered to be laid on the table.

Adjourned till four o'clock to-morrow.

Friday, April 13th.

Hon Mr Goff, from the committee appointed to wait upon his Excellency to know what time he would be pleased to appoint to be attended with the address in answer to his speech, reported that they had discharged the duty assigned them, and that His Excellency had been pleased to say that he would receive the address of the Legislative Council on Monday, at twelve o'clock, in the Legislative Library.

Adjourned till Monday next at eleven o'clock.

MONDAY, April 16.

At twelve o'clock this day, the Council waited upon His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, in the Legislative Library, and presented their Address, to which His Excellency was pleased to make the following reply:

Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

I thank you for your address, and for your congratulations on again meeting me after my temporary absence from this Government.

May your endeavors to promote the welfare and prosperity of the Island be blessed with success.

PETITIONS PRESENTED

By the Hon Mr Henderson.—Of John Corbitt and others, praying for the establishment of a Post Office at or near the cross roads, in the centre of Granville, Lot 21.

By the Hon Mr Palmer.—Of Honora McCarthy, of Charlottetown, a poor widow, praying relief.

By the Hon Mr McDonald.—Of Sarah Power, of Georgetown, in destitute circumstances, praying relief.

The Hon Mr Henderson, by command of his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, laid before the House the Blue Book for the year 1864.

All the above named petitions, and the Blue Book, were ordered to be laid on the table.

Adjourned till to-morrow at eleven o'clock.

TUESDAY, April 17th.

PETITIONS.

Hon Mr Dingwell, on rising to move for leave to present a petition of William S. McGowan and other inhabitants of Souris and vicinity, praying for an Act to incorporate a public Bank, said—I know that there is an objection to having so many banks established on the Island within a few years, but I think your honors will admit that there is a necessity for one at Souris, when you consider that the people in that part of the country are fifty miles from any bank at present. I think there should at least be one in each County so as to save the inconvenience of travelling so far. I hope the petitioners will be successful in getting their bank established on good sound principles, which I have no doubt they will.

Hon Mr Beer presented a petition of certain inhabitants of Lots 33 and 34, praying that steps may be taken to arrest the encroachments of the shifting sands at the northern extremity of Lot 33, which are threatening to overwhelm and destroy several valuable farms in that locality; and also suggesting that the Government do procure a dredging machine, for the purpose of dredging and keeping open the various harbors on the coast of this Island.

Presented by the Hon Mr Walker.—Of Ann Dogherty, a poor widow, praying relief.

By the Hon Mr Yeo,—Two petitions of divers inhabitants of Prince County, praying for an amendment of the law authorizing the sale of lands for the non-payment of land tax.

Also, a petition of Herbert Bell, and other inhabitants of the western section of Prince County, praying that an act may be passed to prevent the destruction of sheep by vicious dogs.

The last named petition was referred to a special Committee, consisting of the Hon. Messrs. Yeo, Anderson, Walker, Palmer, and Goff, to report thereon by bill or otherwise. The others were ordered to be laid on the table.

The Hon Mr Henderson, by command, laid before the House the public accounts for the financial year ending 31st January, 1866.

Hon Mr Yeo, by command, laid before the House the impost and excise accounts for Charlottetown and the several outports of this Island for the past year. Also, the Auditors' classification of the public accounts for the year ending 31st January, 1866.

Hon Mr Henderson acquainted the House that he had a message from His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor transmitting a large number of public despatches and other documents, which were received and ordered to be laid on the table.

Adjourned till to-morrow at eleven.

WEDNESDAY, April 18th.

PETITIONS PRESENTED

By the Hon Mr Walker.—Of Sarah Greenan, an aged and infirm pauper, praying relief.

By the Hon Mr Beer, a petition of divers inhabitants of this Island, praying that a sum of money may be granted to defray the expenses of importing boring apparatus and making the necessary experiments to ascertain whether coal or any other valuable mineral can be found beneath our soil.

The Hon Mr McLaren, by command of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, laid before the House the accounts of the Commissioner of public lands for the year ending 31st January, 1866.

The above documents were ordered to be laid on the table.

House adjourned.

THURSDAY, April 19th.

PETITIONS PRESENTED

By the Hon Mr McLaren.—Of Mary Martin, a pauper, praying relief.

Hon Mr Henderson, on rising to move for leave to present a petition of Theophilus Desbrisay, and divers inhabitants of this Island, praying that a bounty of one dollar per barrel may be granted on all mackerel exported from this colony, said:—This is a petition, your honors, praying for a bounty upon mackerel, so that those who engage in that important business may do so successfully, and, according to the views of the petitioners, put them in a position to enable them to export their fish to the United States, which is the only market that requires any considerable quantity to supply it. I do not deem it necessary to make any lengthened remarks at present, because I think your honors will agree that it is a subject of such importance as to demand the attention of the House at some future day. It relates to what is evidently an important branch of business, and if judiciously prosecuted, will be a source of revenue to the colony. And I may add that I hope the day is not far distant when politicians will be valued by the people, not as warriors on behalf of the tenantry on the one hand, or of the proprietors on the other, but as they will be found qualified to give encouragement to the development of the resources of the colony. These remarks imply that I am looking forward to the day when our bone of contention, the land tenures of this Island, will be put out of the way.

The petitions above named were read and ordered to be laid on the table.

House adjourned.

The Herald.

Wednesday, May 2, 1866.

A FEW PLAIN WORDS.

THE Hon. W. H. Pope is paid a large salary by the people of this Colony for being its Secretary. He has been absent from his office all winter on some wild goose chase or another, and the only return he has made for the money he received during the period just indicated, has been two letters published in the *Islander* newspaper. In the first, he graciously condescended to inform his employers—the people of this Island—that he has been "chasing butterflies" in the Island of St. Thomas. In the second, he has written a disquisition on the free negroes of Santa Cruz, and on the management of bees; but for all practical purposes, these letters are utterly worthless. Indeed, his mission to the West India Islands cannot be otherwise truthfully characterised, and he tells his readers so very plainly. If the office of Col. Sec'y. is a sinecure; if its incumbent can be absent for six or nine months out of the year; if its duties can be performed by a deputy, without any superintendence or control on the part of a principal, then, we say, the sooner the appointing of a principal is abolished, and the money saved to the Colony, the better. We think it would be well for the people's representatives to take this question into their serious consideration. They have been torturing their faculties during the past week on all manner of subjects. Here is one upon which to try their common sense, and it is not at all so ridiculous as many upon which they have been engaged.