

recommend any others at discretion, and that the Governor General in deciding, after taking their advice should not make any appointment prejudicial to their influence. In other words, that the patronage of the Crown should be surrendered to the Council for the purchase of Parliamentary support, for if the demand did not mean that, it meant nothing, as it cannot be imagined that the mere form of taking advice, without regarding it, was the process contemplated. The Governor General replied that he would not make any such stipulation, and could not degrade the character of his office nor violate his duty, by such surrender of the prerogative of the Crown. He appealed to the number of appointments made by him on the recommendation of the Council, or to the members of it in their new departmental capacity, and to instances in which he had abstained from conferring appointments on their opponents, as furnishing proofs of the great consideration which he had evinced towards the Council in the distribution of the patronage of the Crown.

He had at the same time objected, as he always had done, to the exclusive distribution of patronage with party views, and maintained the principle, that office ought, in every instance, to be given to the man best qualified to render efficient service to the State, and when there was no such pre-eminence he asserted his right to exercise his discretion.

He understood from Messrs. Baldwin and Lafontaine that their continuance in office depended on his final decision with regard to their demand, and it was agreed that at the Council to be assembled next day the subject should be fully discussed. He accordingly met the Council on Saturday, convinced that they would resign as he could not recede from the resolution which he had formed, and the same subject became the principle topic of discussion. Three or more distinct propositions were made to him over and over again, sometimes in different terms but always aiming at the same purpose, which in his opinion, if accomplished, would have been a virtual surrender, into the hands of the Council, of the Prerogative of the Crown; and on his uniformly replying to those propositions in the negative, his refusal was each time followed by "then we must resign" or words to that purport from one or more of them. After the discussion of this question at so much length, being, as he has hitherto been convinced, the one on which the resignation of the Council rested, he is astonished at finding that it is now ascribed to an alleged difference of opinion on the theory of Responsible Government. In the course of the conversation which both on Friday and Saturday followed the explicit demand made by the Council regarding the patronage of the Crown, that demand being based on the construction put by some of the gentlemen on the meaning of Responsible Government—different opinions were elicited on the abstract bearing of that still undefined question as applicable to a Colony, a subject on which considerable difference of opinion is known every where to prevail, and the Governor General during those conversations protested against its being supposed that he is practically opposed to the working of the system of Responsible Government, which has been established, which he has hitherto pursued without deviation and to which it is fully his intention to adhere.

The Governor General subscribes entirely to the Resolutions of the Legislative Assembly of the 3rd September, 1841, and considers any other system of Government but that which recognizes responsibility to the people and to the Representative Assembly as impracticable in this Province. No man is more satisfied that all Government exists solely for the good of the people, and he appeals confidently to his uniform conduct here and elsewhere in support of this assertion. If, indeed, by Responsible Government the gentlemen of the late Council mean that the Council is to be supreme, and the authority of the Governor a nullity, then he cannot agree with them, but must declare his dissent from their perversion of the acknowledged principle. But if they mean that Responsible Government, as established in this Colony, is to be worked out by an earnest desire to ensure success, he must then express his surprise at their arriving at conclusions which he does not consider to be justified by any part of his conduct, and which he conceives his repeated declarations ought to have prevented. Allusion is made in

the explanation of the gentlemen of the late Council, to the Governor General's having determined to reserve for the consideration of Her Majesty Government, the Secret Society Bill.—If there is any part of the functions of the Governor, in which he is more than in any other bound to exercise an independent judgment, it must be in giving the Royal assent to acts of Parliament. With regard to this duty, he has special instructions from Her Majesty to reserve every act of an unusual and extraordinary character; undoubtedly the Secret Society Bill answers that description, being unexampled in British legislation. The gentlemen of the late Council had heard his sentiments expressed on it; he told them it was an arbitrary and unwise measure, not even calculated to effect the object it had in view. He had given his consent to its being introduced into Parliament, because he had promised soon after his assumption of the Government, that he would sanction legislation on the subject as a substitute for Executive measures which he refused to adopt on account of their prescriptive character, although he deprecates the existence of societies which tend to foment religious and civil discord: the gentlemen of the late Council cannot fail to remember with what pertinacity those measures were pressed on him, and can hardly be unaware of what would have followed at that time, if in addition to rejecting the proscriptive measures urged, he had refused to permit legislation on the subject. Permission to introduce a Bill cannot be properly assumed fettering the judgment of the Governor General with regard to the Royal assent, for much may happen during the passage of the Bill through the Legislature to influence his decision. In this case the Bill was strongly opposed and reprobated in the Assembly, but when it went to the Legislative Council many of the members had seceded, and it did not come up from that House with the advantage of having been passed in a full meeting. Taking these circumstances into consideration, together with the precise instructions of Her Majesty, and the uncertainty of Her Majesty's allowing such a Bill to go into operation, the Governor General considered it to be his duty to reserve it for Her Majesty's consideration, as it was much better that it should not go into operation until confirmed by Her Majesty's Government, than that it should be discontinued after its operation had commenced.

In conclusion, the Governor General protests against the explanation which those gentlemen propose to offer to Parliament, as omitting entirely the actual and prominent circumstances which led to their resignation, and as conveying to Parliament a misapprehension of his sentiments and intentions, which has no foundation on any part of his conduct, unless his refusal to make a virtual surrender of the prerogative of the Crown to the Council for party purposes, and his anxiety to do justice to those who were injured by the arrangements attending the Union, can be regarded as warranting a representation which is calculated to injure him, without just cause, in the opinion of the Parliament and the people on whose confidence he places his sole reliance for the successful administration of the Government.

Government House, }  
Nov. 28, 1843. }

#### THE HON. ROBERT JONES' REGISTRY BILL:

The first section of the new Bill repeals those portions of the Ordinance constituting the present Registry Districts; the second section provides for the establishment, in lieu thereof, of Registry Offices in each County, in the Eastern part of the Province.

The third section leaves it optional with parties to register by memorials, or by simply handing in the document for registration by transcription, at full length.

The fourth and fifth sections provide for the necessary documents being furnished to the new County Registry Offices, by the Registrars of the present Districts.

The sixth section legalizes the creation of a Mortgage on real property, held in free and common socage, in any part of Eastern Canada, and on property held under any tenure in certain counties, (viz.—Missisquoi, Sherbrooke and Drummond,) by a simple Act executed before witnesses; giving such Acts the same force and effect as if executed before Notaries.

The seventh and last section is for the purpose of granting a further extension of time for the registering of old Deeds, after which period they will forfeit their privilege.

#### LATEST FROM EUROPE.

**IRELAND.**—The Dublin papers contain another address by Mr. O'Connell to the people of Ireland, which, like his other recent ones, inculcates peace, order, and loyalty.

The Roman Catholic clergy second Mr. O'Connell's present efforts to preserve the peace. "I have learned," says a letter from Dublin, "that the Rev. A. O'Connell, parish priest of St. Michael and St. John, the district in which Dublin Castle is situated, preached a most admirable sermon on Sunday morning, from the text, 'Many are called, but few are chosen.' The reverend gentleman dwelt with great energy and effect on the duty of obedience to the laws, and the necessity of strict attention to spiritual duties on the part of the people. He implored his very numerous congregation not to allow themselves to be carried away by excitement of any kind, but to live in peace and charity with all men. I have heard that similar sermons have been preached in other Roman Catholic churches, with the view of allaying the present excitement."

We are happy to announce that it is the intention of the Executive to put down all Repeal bands in Ireland, no matter whether existing under the convenient name of Temperance bands or not—as experience has proved that they were established for political purposes, and their green liveries were adopted as the symbol of revolution. What will they do with their national uniform?—*Drogheda Conservative.*

**SOMETHING OMINOUS.**—Last night, between the hours of seven and eight o'clock, the entire country was literally covered with fires. From every eminence throughout the counties of Limerick, Clare, and Tipperary, a fire blazed, and all shot into light almost simultaneously. In several instances the fire blazed on the public roads, and torches were to be seen borne along by the people in every direction. It was really wonderful to witness the exactness with which each fire, for miles round, blazed into light, almost at the same moment. The meaning of these fires we cannot ascertain.—*Tipperary Constitution.*

**GOOD LANDINGS.**—Colonel Green, of Kilmalian Castle, in the county of Waterford, has given an abatement of 30 per cent. to his tenants at Kilmalian, county Waterford. Sir John Power, of Kilsane, in the county of Kilkenny, Bart., has reduced his rents 25 per cent. for his tenants in the counties of Tipperary and Kilkenny, and is besides draining the lands for his tenants.—*Cork Examiner.*

The Canada Corn Bill came into operation on the 10th instant; and under its provisions is a quarter on wheat, and about 7½d. per barrel on flour, are to be the permanent duties on the wheat and flour of Canada. There has been a moderate arrival of Canadian flour since the act came into operation, and very considerable supplies are expected before Christmas.—*Liverpool Times.*

A special commission has been opened in Wales by Mr. Baron Gurney and Mr. Justice Cresswell, for the trial of the parties connected with the late Rebecca riots. The proceedings occupied three days. One of the singleaders was found guilty, and sentenced to twenty years transportation, the others to small terms of imprisonment. The punishments have all been mild, with the exception of the principal offenders.

The government of France, according to the *Journal des Debats*, is about to undertake the project of connecting the Atlantic and Pacific Ocean by a canal across the Isthmus of Panama. The King, it is said, is building a royal yacht, in which he means to return the visit of Queen Victoria next summer.

From a report to the Royal Cornwall Polytechnic Society, it seems that, out of a population of 300,000, 728 children are accidentally burnt to death in a single year, giving an average of 3.50 for the whole kingdom. To check this waste of life, the society recommends children to be clothed in woollen or stuff pinafores, which, whilst it would promote health and comfort, would protect them from fire, to which cotton is peculiarly liable, and is the cause of the greater number of the deaths.

A dreadful storm has destroyed Porto Leon, in Florida, with twenty lives, and an immense amount of property in the surrounding country, and at St. Mark's.

A letter from Gratz (Styria) states that a vulture lately pounced down on an infant, ten months old, which a woman had left for a moment on the grass in a field near Waiz. It carried up its prey, and alighting fifty yards off began to devour it. Some farmer's men ran up and frightened it away; but the child was so dreadfully torn that it died immediately.