

House last Session, a trustee of St. James' Church was seated behind him, and he also understood that the resolution only applied to members of the Legislature.

Hon. Mr. COLES said the best way to understand the matter was to go back to the speeches of hon members in former years. He read an extract from Hon Mr Haviland's speech in 1863, which he said showed that the late Speaker's desire was to do away with legislative grants for Church pews in every form; and he (Mr C.) contended that this was the intention of hon members—except it might be the hon leader of the Government—in passing the resolution of last Session.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND.—Mr. Chairman, —If this matter be painful to other parties, it must be much more so to me, as it was the reason of my vacating the Speaker's chair. I was not aware that this subject was to be brought up again, and I think that probably under all the circumstances it would have been best to have passed it over now in silence. But the more I consider this matter the more firmly do I believe that I was right, and the more proud do I feel of my position. Sir, I would never retain a position where I would be bound to pay obedience to the dictatorial commands of any Government. A speech which I made in this House several years ago has just been read, and though I had forgotten it, it still expresses my present views. The more, however, that I look at the resolution of last Session, the more clearly am I satisfied that it bears out the interpretation which I put upon it, and that as Speaker I was bound to carry it out as a rule of this House. All this difficulty appears to have arisen because a trustee of St. James' Church happened to be sitting on the red benches when the resolution was brought forward, and happened to view it as not interfering with the grant for His Excellency's pew in that Church. To please this trustee we are now forced to submit to dictation. The majority of this House have carried this matter against me, and have voted in opposition to me; but, Sir, I believe my star will be in the ascendant when theirs is sunk for ever in darkness. All this difficulty might have been avoided had they only given 24 hours' notice; but no, they were bound to sacrifice me and get a Speaker more pliant and obedient. They went into caucus to plot my overthrow, for not one of them ever came to me to say, "Haviland is there any way that this difficulty can be got over." Even a blood relation of my own voted against me. And when the question came up yesterday, instead of moving the House into a Committee of privilege, and allowing me an opportunity of defending myself, they left me in the chair. I have not had fair play. But, Sir, I knew that my days as Speaker were numbered, ever since I had the boldness to speak and vote against a Government measure relating to the currency. When I was speaking on that question the hon leader of the Government looked as black as thunder. Other Government questions I also opposed, and now I have been sacrificed; but I feel that I occupy a prouder position to-day than I ever did during all my past political career.

Mr. BRECKEN.—The hon member who has just sat down has spoken feelingly on this subject, and were it not that he has made allusion to me I would have allowed his remarks to pass in silence. I have no doubt felt deeply on this subject, because I look upon him as

a brother. But, Sir, though he had been my brother, or even my father, I would have voted as I did yesterday. I heard him give his decision, and it made an impression on my mind; but when I heard him say that if the question was moved he would not put it from the chair, I thought he went a little too far. In regard to the merits of the question itself I must say that it admits of argument, that because a vote of £72 was to be done away with, no part of it ought to be brought up again. It seems fair, however, that the Lieut. Governor should have a pew in St. James' Church. Members only were mentioned in the resolution, and if His Excellency is allowed a pew in the Episcopal Church, why not one also in the Church of Scotland?

Hon. Mr. COLES.—The pew in the Episcopal Church was given to him.

Mr. BRECKEN.—Then in the name of justice, and for the sake of peace let it be taken from him. Sir, I take it to be the duty of the Speaker to give his opinion on any question of dispute; but when it is decided against him, to submit to the vote of the House. I felt yesterday so strongly in this matter that I wished I had never entered political life, and had it not been for the respectable constituency which I represent, I would gladly have retired therefrom. But I say here to-day that if this question had to be gone over again, I would do as I did before. I feel that the constitution of this House must be upheld, and the wish of the majority carried into effect.

Messrs. Duncan, Longworth, Davies, and Pope also spoke in favor of the resolution, and in defence of the course which the majority had adopted.

Messrs. Conroy, Hensley, Warburton and Howlan spoke against the grant, and contended that the resolution of last Session was intended to put an end to all such votes for the future. They also defended the course pursued by the late Speaker, and expressed their regret that the House should lose his able and impartial services in the chair.

When the question was put on the resolution there appeared for it—Hons J. C. Pope, Gray, Kaye, Davies, Longworth, Laird, Col. Secretary; Messrs. Green, Duncan, Howat, Brecken, McLennan, Montgomery, Haslam—14.

Against it—Hons Coles, Beaton, Hensley, Warburton, Haviland; Messrs Walker, Yeo, Conroy, Howlan—9.

Progress was reported.

An engrossed Bill from the Council relative to the office of Surrogate and Judge of Probate was taken up. After some debate thereon, in which it was objected that being a Money Bill it ought to have originated in the House, Hon Mr Haviland moved that it be read this day three months—carried unanimously.

Some other Bills having been read a second time, the House adjourned.

SATURDAY, APRIL 30.

The report of the Committee on public accounts was agreed to. It being generally admitted that the system of allowing the different Collectors to deduct their commissions would be advantageously superseded