

It is for you to consider the propriety of introducing this system.

A measure will therefore be proposed to you for vesting in the Lieutenant Governor and His Responsible Advisers the exclusive power of introducing measures for the appropriation of the Revenue.

Correspondence on the subject will be laid before you.

The Act changing the Constitution of the Legislative Council, by rendering it Elective, has received the sanction of Her Majesty and has been carried into operation.

The Constitutional position and functions of the Council remain exactly what they were: Its deliberations will be strengthened by a consciousness of popular support, while its construction is such as to reflect the settled wishes, rather than the transitory impulses of the People.

The qualification of Electors under the present Law renders it advisable that the Electors should be registered, and a measure to that effect will be brought before you.

I with confidence commit to you the important business which will come under your consideration in the course of the Session now opened.

The Members of the House having returned to their own Room, and His Excellency's speech having been again read, the House then proceeded to the choice of officers as follows:—

John McNeill, Esq., Clerk of the House,
Mr. William McLean, Clerk Assistant,
Benjamin DesBrisay, Esq., Law Clerk,
Albert H. Yates, Esq., Sergeant at Arms,
Mr. Angus McKinnon, Messenger,
Mr. William Birch, Door-keeper,
Mr. John Passmore, Assistant Door-keeper.

Hon. Col. Gray then rose in his place and stated to the House that he deemed it but right and proper to announce to Mr. Speaker and to the House, that His Excellency's late Ministers having tendered their resignation on the 23rd ultimo, and having recommended to His Excellency to undertake the task of forming a new Administration, which instructions he, the Hon. Col. Gray, had fulfilled. His Excellency's responsible advisers

John Hamilton Gray, President of the Council,
Edward Palmer, Attorney General,
James Yeo,
John Longworth,
James C. Pope,
David Kaye,
James McLarren,
Daniel Davies,
William Henry Pope, Colonial Secretary.

The usual Committees were then appointed.

The Committee to prepare the draft of an Address in answer to His Excellency's speech, were Messrs. Haslam, Duncan, Howat, Hon. Mr. Laird, Mr. McLellan, Mr. Yeo, and Mr. Brecken.

Committee on Public Accounts—Messrs. Yeo, McLennan, Duncan, Ramsay, Hon. Messrs. Thoratou, Warburton, Coles.

After the appointment of Committees, Mr. David Laird was appointed first Reporter to the House, and Mr. James Charles Cox, second Reporter.

Mr. Duncan then moved that Rev. George Sutherland be Chaplain to this House, and the Hon. Mr. Coles moved in amendment to the motion, that the Rev. Dr. Jenkins be the Chaplain.

On the question been put there appeared for the amendment—Hons. Messrs. Coles, Kelly, Whelan, Beaton, Warburton, Hensley, Laird, Messrs. Sutherland, Walker, Howlan, Conroy, Muirhead—12.

Against it—Hons. Col. Gray, Colonial Secretary, Pope, Longworth, Kaye, McAulay, Davies; Messrs. Brecken, Yeo, Ramsay, Montgomery, Howat, Haslam, McLennan, Duncan—15.

When the question was put on the main motion that Rev. Mr. Sutherland be chaplain, it was carried 16 to 11. Mr. Laird voting in the affirmative.

It was then resolved that no petition praying aid for Roads, Bridges, and Harbours, or for any object of a local or private nature, be received after Wednesday the 18th March inst.

It was further resolved, that the postage on all letters and

printed papers both foreign and inland, to Members of this House, and the postage on the same, when inland only, from Members of this House, shall be charged to the contingent accounts of the House.

The House then adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, March 4.

Mr. Sinclair, who was not present at the opening of the House yesterday, appeared at the bar, and having been led in and introduced to the Speaker by Messrs. Muirhead and Howlan, two of the Members, took the oaths and his seat.

In the afternoon, as it was stated that two of the Members of the House had been assaulted while coming into the Building, on motion of the Hon. John Longworth, the House resolved itself into a Committee of privileges, Mr. Yeo in the chair. After some time spent in Committee the House resumed, when the following resolution was reported:

WHEREAS it appears from the evidence given before this Committee that two Members, the Hon. Daniel Davies, and James Duncan, Esq., while entering the House of Assembly this day, and within the precincts of the House, for the purpose of discharging their public duties as Members of the Legislature, were grossly insulted, and one of said Members, James Duncan, Esq., violently knocked down, and assaulted by Doctor John T. Jenkins, without any just cause, and solely in consequence of, or retaliation for, the discharge of a public duty on the part of the said two Members, namely, a vote given by them in this House on the previous day, and by reason of such outrage and offence so committed by the said John T. Jenkins in reference to the said two Members, he the said John T. Jenkins has been guilty of a high breach and invasion of the privileges and rights of this House, Resolved, therefore, that the Honorable the Speaker of this House do forthwith issue his warrant for the apprehension of the said John T. Jenkins, in order that the said offender may be brought to the Bar of this House to answer for the offence and breach of privileges aforesaid.

House adjourned.

THURSDAY, March 5.

The Speaker took the chair, at 11 o'clock, and, after the usual formalities the Hon. J. C. Pope presented a petition from Daniel Green, Esq., against the return of J. Muirhead, Esq., for the Fifth District of Prince County. The petition was received and read, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of Privileges.

Mr. John Yeo, in the chair.

It was resolved that the allegations in the petition warranted an inquiry, and after considerable discussion, the Poll Books and documents relating to the election were placed upon the table, by the Colonial Secretary, and Wednesday next, the 13th instant, was appointed as the day for the House to investigate the matter.

Mr. Haslam, from the Committee to prepare an Address in answer to His Excellency's Speech, reported a draft, which was made the order of the day for to-morrow.

Mr. John T. Jenkins was brought to the Bar in custody of the Sergeant-at-Arms, charged with having assaulted two Members of the House, the Hon. D. Davies and James Duncan, Esq. Mr. Jenkins carried in his hand the stick with which he said the assault had been committed; he said he did not assault or insult either as Members of the House, but as members of the community. As to inflicting personal injury on Mr. Duncan, it was far from his thoughts—all he intended was to shew his thorough contempt for him, on account of some approbrious epithets that Mr. Duncan had used, and he merely intended to knock his hat off. Mr. Duncan's hat was produced, and the triangular incision showed that great force must have been used.

An examination and cross-examination then followed, the questions being put in writing, and the answers taken down *verb et lit* by the Clerk. This occupied the whole forenoon, and in the afternoon sitting it was resumed. Mr. D. J. Roberts was called as a witness, but in answer to a certain question he said that he declined to violate the privileges of social life. He was cautioned and warned to no effect, and upon a motion being made, and carried, he was also handed over to the Sergeant-at-Arms. W. A. Johnston, Esq., was the next witness. He had seen a portion of the affair, and deposed to what he had seen, corroborating Mr. Jenkins' statements.

The Hon. Mr. Dingwell being required as a witness, a message will be sent to-morrow to the Upper House requesting his attendance.

The House adjourned at 7 o'clock, leaving Messrs. Jenkins and Roberts in custody of the Sergeant-at-Arms.