

consider it. The third, also from Sir William Molesworth, contained this sentence:—"I have just received a letter from the Queen entirely approving of your being appointed to the office of Governor of Barbadoes." (Cheers.) The next was dated 9th October, 1861, from the Duke of Newcastle, the distinguished nobleman who, they would recollect, had accompanied the Prince of Wales to Canada. It offered Sir Francis the government of British Guiana, and said:—"I trust that this appointment will be acceptable to you, as affording, on the one hand, a wide and important field of activity and usefulness, and on the other a token of Her Majesty's approval of the energy and ability with which you have administered the Government of Barbadoes and Windward Islands." (Cheers.) Then followed one from the same nobleman, dated 1st July, 1862:—

"DOWNING STREET, 31st July, 1862.

"MY DEAR MR HINCKS,—It gives me very great pleasure to inform you that the Queen has been graciously pleased, on my recommendation, to confer upon you the distinction of the Third Class of the Order of the Bath. Your name appeared in a recent *Gazette*.

"I assure you I consider this mark of Her Majesty's approval honorably won by very valuable and continued service in several colonies of the Empire.

"Believe me,

"Yours very sincerely,

"NEWCASTLE.

"Governor Hincks."

The next was from the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, and shows that Sir Francis had been asked to retain the government of British Guiana beyond the usual period. Then follows one dated 8th December, 1868, from the same nobleman, announcing that the Queen had been pleased to enlarge the existing Order of St. Michael and St. George, and to extend it to all the British colonies, and adding: "I have had great pleasure in submitting your name to Her Majesty for the dignity of a Knight Commander of that Order. Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to approve that recommendation. It has been very satisfactory to me to mark my recognition of your services in more than one important position by including your name in the first list of appointments which has been submitted to the Queen on the extension of the Order." (Cheers.) Next in this interesting series is a despatch from Earl Granville, from which I take the following extract:—"The records of this department