

BRITISH NEWS.

LONDON, Jan. 2.—The continental papers received this morning contain news from Poland. The Diet met on the 18th, and to them the dictator laid down his authority. Wladislaw Ostrowski was elected marshal of the Diet, and when the staff was presented to him, he laid on the table 30,000 florins, as his individual contribution to the necessities of the state. The deputies followed his example, and a similar subscription was raised by the senators. The first act of both Chambers was formally to recognise the insurrection. The second, to resolve themselves into a body of workmen, and to pass over in civil uniform to the suburbs of Praga, and there each to lend his own hands in the intrenchments and works for the defence of the city of Warsaw. A more solemn, devoted, or truly patriotic commencement of a session, has not been recorded, even in the annals of Poland. The Diet has already received assurances of support from the provinces; five new battalions of field artillery are in organization, and the defences of Warsaw are carried beyond the Viatsla. Generals Szebenek, Woyczyński and Palkowski, divide amongst them the powers lately borne by the dictator himself.

One of the most beautiful incidents in history, is that which our paper of this day records as having taken place recently at Warsaw.—The Chamber of Deputies, in civil uniform, went in procession to assist the workmen in throwing up the entrenchments round the suburbs for the defence of the city; so that each representative of the people should have a share in the great work of national liberty. The activity, zeal, and union of the Poles, promise well for a cause that has the best wishes of the best part of Europe. At present the prospect is cheering; and there is good reason to hope, that the liberation of Poland may be ultimately effected without the aid of foreign interference.

DECEMBER 23.—Mr. Home rose to bring the matter of the Recorder of Dublin before the House, and to show that the duties of the office were incompatible with those of a member of Parliament. It was impossible that he should preside as judge in Dublin, and sit as a representative in London at the same moment. The public paid £1,600 a-year, and had a right to have the duties performed. He moved for a return of criminals in Dublin, and of the sittings of the late and present recorders. Returns ordered. The hon. member then moved for returns of pensions and allowances to persons holding offices in the Colonies, granted since 1815.

REFORM IN PARLIAMENT.—The Ministers are said to be divided upon this question, some advocating a more sweeping measure than others. Among the moderates, the Premier is named, and the Duke of Richmond, and Lord Palmerston. It is clear, that they must be agreed upon their plan, or one party must get out of office. It is not likely, probably to come to that; and then the trial in Parliament is yet to take place. If Parliament reject the project, a dissolution is threatened; if it be carried, we do not see how that can be avoided; for all the advocates of the measure will be anxious to see it reduced to practice without delay. We hope we are to have no extension of suffrage until the mob in any place. The disgraceful example of Preston, one should suppose, would be sufficient to guard against this. It has operated powerfully upon the public mind, and will not be lost on Ministers themselves.—Liverpool Courier.

The Glasgow Bank has been robbed of £20,000.

Prayer on account of the National troubles.

The London Gazette of December 23, contains an order of the Privy Council, that the Archbishop of Canterbury shall "prepare forms of prayer to Almighty God on account of the troubled state of certain parts of the United Kingdom." It was subsequently ordered, that these forms of prayer shall be read throughout England and Ireland; and that the Established and Episcopal Churches of Scotland shall also put up their prayers respectively because of the same troubles.

THE PRAYER.

O God, our Heavenly Father, who art rich in mercy and grace towards all who obey Thy will, and has promised forgiveness and remission of sins to them that truly repent and unfeignedly believe Thy holy Gospel, we humbly beseech Thee to look with compassion on Thy servants, and relieve their afflictions. We have sinned, grievously sinned, and transgressed Thy holy laws; we confess our iniquity, we lament our unrighteousness, and meekly acknowledge that by our manifold offences we have justly provoked Thy wrath; yet deal not with us, O Lord, according to the multitude of our transgressions. In Thy judgment remember us. For Thy dear Son's sake, O Lord, give ear to our prayer, and vindicate Thy chastening hand from us. To Thee alone we look for deliverance; without Thy help and direction the power and wisdom of man are of no avail. Restore, O Lord, to Thy people, the quiet enjoyment of the mercy and great blessings which we have received from Thy bounty; defeat and frustrate the malice of wicked and turbulent men, and turn their hearts; have pity, O Lord, on the simple and ignorant, who have been led astray, and recall them to a sense of their duty; and to persons of all ranks and conditions in this country, vouchsafe such a measure of Thy Grace, that our hearts being filled with true faith and devotion, and cleansed from all evil affections, we may serve Thee with one accord, in duty and loyalty to the King, in obedience to the laws of the land, and in brotherly love towards each other; and that pressing constantly forwards towards the high prize of our heavenly calling under the guidance of Thy Holy Spirit, we may finally attain to life everlasting, through the merits and mediation of our only Redeemer and Advocate, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our only Saviour, the Prince of Peace, give us grace seriously to lay to heart the great dangers we are in by our unhappy divisions, and to be united in love and concord; that, as there is but one Body, and one Spirit, and one Hope of our Calling, one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism, one God and Father of us all, so we may henceforth be all of one heart, and of one mind, united in one holy Bond of Truth and Peace, of Faith and Charity, and may with us mind, and one mouth, glorify Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

IRELAND.—The Marquis of Anglesea's administration has commenced vigorously. He arrived on Thursday. Friday and Christmas-day were occupied in consulting with the law officers as to the course to be adopted with regard to the threatened meeting of trades, convened for Monday, to present an address to the "Liberator;" and the result has been a proclamation prohibiting the meeting.

Immediately after the publication of the proclamation, there was some confusion in Dublin,

and something serious was expected; in the course of Monday, however, Mr. O'Connell published his proclamation to the trades, as follows:—

"Do not meet this day. Take my advice—let there be no meeting of any kind this day.

The proclamation has an act of Parliament to sustain it. Do not this day discuss that act.—It is law at present.

ONEY THE LAW.

We can—we must repeal the Union. That baneful measure must and will be repealed, provided the people obey the law.

Take, then, my advice—obey the law. Our course to the repeal of the Union is a legal, peaceable, and constitutional course. That, and no other, is the course followed and advised by one who feels he is your faithful friend.

DANIEL O'CONNELL.

A KINGLY EXAMPLE.—His Majesty was solicited the other day to patronise the Russian horn-players, who had the honor of performing at the Royal Palace, when His Majesty replied that "These were not times to bestow his patronage upon every novelty of foreign birth."—London paper.

FRANCE.

The Speech of M. Lafitte in the sitting of 30th Dec. in answer to M. Mangin, was essentially pacific. "I declare," he says, "if France preserve peace with dignity, if France can cause her rights to be respected, we must not awaken recollections which are far from us. Peace is the want of France and of all Europe." Here some one exclaimed: "And Poland?" M. Lafitte continued:—"The obligation to Government is not to sacrifice the dignity of France. We have the means of making war if France were under the necessity of going to war; we should conduct the war in a victorious manner, I doubt not; but our first duty is to preserve peace [fresh exclamations.] I speak, you see, with frankness. France will go to war if her dignity requires it, but there is no appearance of war; France thinks not of conquests, she is occupied only with her prosperity and her internal tranquillity. If this were not the opinion of France, she would not be worthy of a good Government." [universal marks of approbation.] This speech has an evident reference to what is going on in Poland. The Poles must trust exclusively to themselves.

THE EX-MINISTERS.—The trial of the Ministers of Charles X. was concluded on the 21st of December, they were found guilty of treason, and condemned to perpetual imprisonment, with the forfeiture of their titles, rank, and orders. The Prince de Polignac was moreover declared to be "civilly dead," a sentence, which in France, deprives a man of every civil and social right. It conveys his property to his heirs, dissolves his marriage, so far as respects his civil consequences, and takes from him all control and direction in the education of his children.

M. M. Cauchy and Saizjou, commissioned to read the verdict of the Court of Peers to the four ex-ministers, went to Vincennes on Wednesday morning, the 22d, at six o'clock. Having arrived at the castle, they were obliged, in order to obtain admittance, to convey a letter to the Governor, which they attached to the chain of the drawbridge employed for that purpose. The bridge was immediately lowered, and they were conducted to the dungeon by General Daumesnil, who alone has possession of the key of the gates. The four ex-ministers, and even the Governor himself, were entirely ignorant of the result of the trial, for the bridge had been raised the previous evening, immediately on the entry of the prisoners, and no person whatever had from that moment been admitted into the castle. M. M. Cauchy and Saizjou were first introduced into a large antichamber, communicating with the apartments of the ex-ministers, who were still in bed.—M. M. de Chantelauze, and De Guernon Ranville were quickly dressed and in attendance; in half an hour Peyronnet appeared, and the three then proceeded to the chamber of Prince Polignac, who had intimated, that being extremely unwell, he was desirous of remaining in bed. In the room, therefore, M. Cauchy, greffer, read to them the decree of the Court. Such had been their blindness, such their confidence, that they all evinced great surprise and disappointment; though there appeared a remarkable contrast between the firmness and resignation displayed by M. M. Chantelauze and Guernon Ranville and the deep affliction and humiliation of Peyronnet and Polignac. The latter especially heard with the utmost consternation that part of the decree which says that civil death is involved in the sentence of transportation. During the reading of the verdict the four prisoners kept silence. One sentence was only uttered afterwards, and that was addressed by Chantelauze to Guernon Ranville:—"Well my friend," said he, "we shall have plenty of leisure to play at chess." (Eh bien, mon cher, nous aurons le temps de faire des parties d'échecs.) There appears to have been some difference made in the punishment of the ex-ministers; for Polignac is destined for the bleak fortress of St. Michael, on the coast of Normandy, whilst the other prisoners are to be transferred, as stated previously, to Ham, in Picardy.

The votes upon the sentence of the French Ex-ministers were divided as follows:—There were 156 votes. M. de Polignac—128 votes for transportation, the rest for perpetual imprisonment, except four Peers, who wished for the application of capital punishment. At the first ballot, it is said, there were eight, namely, one Duke, one Marquis, five Counts, and one Baron. It has been remarked, that none of them pronounced the fatal word. The vote was expressed thus:—"The severest punishment provided by the Penal Code. M. de Peyronnet—87 votes for imprisonment for life, and 68 for transportation; one vote for imprisonment for a time. M. de Chantelauze—138 votes for imprisonment for life, 14 for transportation, and 4 for imprisonment for a time. M. Guernon de Ranville—140 votes for imprisonment for life, and 16 for transportation.

Resignation of Gen. Lafayette.—The sitting of the Chamber of Deputies on the 27th Dec. was unanimously attended in consequence of the extraordinary degree of interest excited, owing to the resignation of Gen. Lafayette of the command of the National Guards. The Chamber were proceeding to the discussion of the law relative to the National Guard, when Lafayette entered, and was received with universal applause, upwards of one hundred members going up to him and shaking his hand. The General then went to the President, and after a short conversation with him, addressed the Chamber as follows:—

"In a neighbouring nation it is the custom when a citizen retires from a distinguished office, for him to come before his fellow citizens, and explain the cause, and I am sure the Chamber will grant me the same favour.—I always have considered that the post of Commander-in-Chief of the National Guards of France was incompatible with a constitutional monarchy, except under circumstances of the most absolute necessity. It was this conviction that led me, in 1790, when 3,000,000 of National Guards wished to elect me their commander, at the Federation by 14,000 Deputies, to apply in opposition to this desire. Such still was my opinion when the Lieutenant General of the Kingdom, who has since become our King, wished me to accept it, but always retaining the intention of laying it down, as soon as I was satisfied that it was no longer necessary for me to retain it, either if peace should be declared, or at a later period had war ensued.—The declared opinion of the Chamber has hastened the period, and out of respect for it I have not waited till the law was submitted to the other branches of the State. It is merely a matter of date; but I should be deeply hurt if any one imagined—and so one, who has been acquainted with me during the last fifty years of my life, can believe that my conduct has been dictated by any personal feeling. I will go further and say, that this opinion of the Chamber has afforded me an opportunity. The high authority with which I was invested has given me an opportunity, gentlemen, must have held of my own accord, and I have now no other honor than that of being one of your colleagues. One word more, gentlemen. I should not have given in my resignation, which the King has accepted with all that goodness he has ever shown towards me, before the crisis we have now happily got over was at an end. At this time my conscientious love of liberty, and my conscientious love of my country, are united. We must all recollect the programme announced at the Hotel de Ville—a popular throne, supported by republican institutions.—It was accepted, but we have not all put the same construction upon it. It has not always been interpreted by the same sense in the same sense in which it was understood by me; who am more impatient than others that it should be realized; and whatever may have been my personal motive in all situations, I feel myself at the present moment more at ease in discussing my opinions with you. For the rest, there are only two points which I wish to mention. One is, that I shall ever be united against our enemies, whether at home or from abroad. I still think, that in the measures taken in the revolution of July, we not only did that which was really believed was for the best, but that we did all that was possible to be done. I am the more convinced of this, since I have become intimately acquainted with the persons who have placed on the throne. On throwing off my uniform, I have not changed my motto. LIBERTY—PUBLIC ORDER."—He then, in a few words, expressed his feelings on the subject of the National Guards, and of the manner in which he wished to see them reformed. He then, in a few words, expressed his feelings on the subject of the National Guards, and of the manner in which he wished to see them reformed.

The Monitor contains an address from His Majesty Louis Philip, to the National Guards, in which, after expressing his regret at the retirement of General Lafayette, he notifies the appointment of Count Lobau, as commander-in-chief of the National Guards, in his stead.

New Election Law.—The new election law of France has been presented to the Chamber. It doubles the number of electors, making them 180,000 instead of somewhat above 80,000; and it reduces to 500 francs of direct taxation the qualification for eligibility to vote. This will fall far short of the hopes of those who calculated on the extension of votes to 400,000 electors.—24,000 citizens are now eligible to occupy seats in the Chamber of Deputies.

NEW-BRUNSWICK. LEGISLATIVE DEBATES. (Continued from Supplement.) Frederic—Tuesday, February 15. Mr. Wyer presented a petition from the Chamber of Commerce of St. Andrews, praying a continuance of the fish bounty, and its more effectual extension to the shore fisheries.

Mr. Cunard (who spoke so low that we could scarcely catch any connected observations) opposed this petition on the broad principle, that he (Mr. C.) was unfavourable to the continuance of fish bounties at all.—We understood the hon. gentleman to say, that if a bill to repeal the fish bounty were brought in, he would support it. But if the bounty existing were continued, he thought the provisions of the existing act sufficient, and he did not wish them extended. He hoped the house would consider as to the expediency of doing away with the bounty altogether, instead of making further and further additions to it. He (Mr. C.) did not know anything of the mode of carrying on trade in St. Andrews. Perhaps no place in the whole province possessed greater capabilities for carrying on the West India Trade. Lumber could be had there in no abundance than in any other part of the province. It was no doubt a small advantage, to mix with their lumber cargoes for the West Indies. Cured fish was a very common article of trade with the West Indies, and, therefore, would always fetch a fair price. On this account, the hon. member thought a fish bounty unnecessary.—There was one objection which he (Mr. C.) did not know in the existing laws on this subject. The present system of fish-bounty allowed vessels from Nova Scotia as a sister Province, and in all respects entitled to the same bounty as the vessels of the West Indies. What was the consequence? Their doing so might perhaps be a little beneficial to the fishery here, but it was taking away the productive labourers from the other Province. No doubt the exportation of fish was very conducive to the benefit of the province; but the fish bounty was merely a taxing of one branch of the provincial industry to support another, which he could not conceive to be a good policy.

Mr. Simonds was opposed to the extension of the bounty as prayed by the petition. By the present laws the shore fisheries had all the encouragement they ought to have. They were now entitled to a very liberal bounty if they performed their business well, and produced merchantable fish; but if they neglected so to do, they were certainly not entitled to the bounty. He (Mr. S.) thought it a very mistaken policy, to allow fishermen to be allowed to obtain a bounty, where they did not produce merchantable fish.—It was well known that the greater part of the produce of the coast fisheries in Charlotte County was not available to this province. The poor fishermen got but little benefit from their labours. They were so close to the American shores, that the dealers there would every night purchase from them a great quantity of fish in a green state, and then they always got so many of them on hand, that it was impossible that they could export them properly. They were fit only for the West India market. The poor men were paid principally in rum; an article of most pernicious tendency. This practice, the hon. member thought a most injurious one, and it was the reason why the provincial bounty was not obtained by the poor fishermen. He (Mr. S.) thought it would be very wrong to extend the present bounty. There was no doubt that a great portion of the revenue of this province was already, by the bounty act, thrown into

the hands of foreigners. The poor fishermen have no benefit of it. These Americans, who get the fish every night from the fishermen, hardly cured them, and were enabled to get the bounty on every inferior fish.—It was the duty of the house to take care that the bounty should not be thus bestowed. He (Mr. S.) would therefore oppose the prayer of the petition; the injury would so appear. He (Mr. S.) thought the hon. member must, on consideration, himself perceive it. Mr. Cunard, though there was no great necessity for much discussion on the subject at present. He had no objection to extending the privilege of receiving the fish bounty to every inhabitant of the Province. The fishermen of Campo Bello and the West Isles were as much entitled to it as any other inhabitant of the Province. Mr. Cunard hoped that the house would receive and consider the petition. Instead of agreeing with Mr. Simonds, he (Mr. C.) was convinced that the best fish in the country were those brought in from the neighbourhood of St. Andrews. It was not the fish that were cured in vessels that were the best. (We could not clearly hear the hon. gentleman's observations, but we understood him afterwards to say, that—Small craft, such as those of the fishermen in question, made better fish than those vessels that receive the bounty. The county of Charlotte had a great range of coast, and yet that range of coast received no bounty. This was a great injury, and those fishermen should get the bounty, its effects would be very beneficial to the Province.)

Mr. Partelow, did not rise to object to the reception of the petition. He thought, however, it would save time if the hon. member withdrew his motion that it should lie on the table, and let it be referred to the Committee of Trade.—As to the fish caught in the immediate vicinity of St. Andrews, the house might not be aware that 7-8ths of the fish caught on that coast always go to the American market. The object of the present bounty is, to encourage the catching of fish for the West India market. As an article of trade, the fish were of course intended to be mixed with lumber cargoes for the benefit of the Province. The prayer of the petition tended to put the bounty into foreign hands.

Mr. Wyer said a few words in defence of the petition; tending to show that the fishermen of the Charlotte County coast were sober, industrious, and valuable men. He contributed greatly to the manufacture and trade of the province, by consuming great quantities of merchandise, and that the fisheries paid about half the entire revenue of the province.—Petition received, and laid on the table.

On the motion of Mr. Weldon, the house went into a committee of the whole, in consideration of the Bill to repeal all the Acts in force relating to Trespasses, and to make more effectual provision for the same.—Mr. J. Humbert in the chair.

After a very interesting discussion of the Bill, respecting the Trespasses, it was agreed to, with some amendments, and ordered to be read a second time.—On the reading of the 7th section of the Bill, respecting the rescue of cattle which were being conducted to a pound.—Mr. Brown thought the word "driving" insufficient. He proposed "driving or leading"; as he had known an instance of a horse being led towards the pound, by a halter, which certainly was not driving; and a rescue was effected by cutting the rope & releasing the horse. On a charge of rescue being brought before the magistrates, the defendant pleaded, that he had not infringed the law, as the act took cognizance only of cattle being driven to the pound. The magistrates were puzzled, and could not give a verdict under the act.

Mr. Weldon thought the phrase in the new bill sufficient, as it had the words "setting at large"; and surely cutting a rope in the manner mentioned would be setting at large.—Mr. Brown would not press it, if it thought unnecessary.

Mr. Cunard, in speaking on this subject, became so animated, as to speak with such rapidity, that it was only possible for us to obtain a few unconnected sentences.—We understood the hon. gentleman to say, it was the duty of every nation to foster their trade. The merchants of this Province wanted fishermen on the north side of the Bay of Fundy, to catch the fish, and bring them to the market. For this purpose, encouragement must be given, and if this is not done, our fishermen will not be induced to exert themselves. The present law was found to be ineffectual. There was no mode of getting fish to our harbours; no means of getting fish but by sending cash to the merchant or elsewhere, to buy the fish, and then to send it to the West India market. It was necessary to take some steps to alter this.

Mr. Partelow registered the necessity, but he was himself bound to oppose this bill. He felt it to be a duty owed the province, to do so. The Bill would have the effect of putting bounties into the hands of the hon. member's own agents, but would have the direct effect of giving the trade to the Americans. The trade was already much engrossed by them. A great proportion of the fish actually taken were caught on the shores of Mosquit Island, and then a bounty obtained for them from the Province.

Mr. Cunard could not understand the matter in this light. He (Mr. C.) should support the bill. He conceived that small vessels of 10 or 20 tons burden were quite as much entitled to the bounty, as larger vessels of 30 tons or upwards. The best fish were those cured in small craft, and a bounty on them should be made in the same ratio, as a qualification of the bounty, he should certainly support such opposition, but he would strongly contend that small vessels should have the bounty.—Mr. Clinch considered that a bounty on fish, or on any thing else, was only a forcing of business. Every article that was sold by itself, if necessary, should be sold at a price to the consumer. If necessary cargoes, such fish would always fetch a fair price, by reason of the demand for them. Fish are always to be had in abundance. A small increase of price on the article was, in the hon. member's opinion, far better than a bounty. But, however strongly he (Mr. C.) was opposed to a fish bounty on general principles, yet as the house might perhaps entertain the present bill, he would make two or three remarks on it.—The original bill was intended to benefit all classes of the people; but the present bill names only 2 or 3 places in the whole province; and this virtually excludes many respectable merchants, possessed of every advantage for carrying on the W. India trade, from receiving the bounty. If, therefore, this act should be sustained, such persons should surely have the benefit of it.

Mr. Partelow assured that it was only from the peculiar situation of the merchants that they were thus excluded. He was certainly unfavourable to fish bounties. He had expressed himself so in the session of last year. It was well known that, in the West Isles, not a shilling per barrel duty was paid for any barrel of flour consumed there. Smuggling was carried on to a great extent, and was a great part of the West India Trade under British names.

Mr. S. Humbert briefly defended the bill, but too rapidly to give us the benefit of his observations. We, however, understood the hon. member to observe, that these appropriations were the best ever given by that house.

Mr. Simons supported the bill. Small vessels ought to have equal privileges with larger ones. The trade of the province at large is certainly greatly benefited by the fisheries. The bill, with some amendments, will be a very good one. The people of West Isles have great means of carrying on the fish business, and ought to be encouraged.

Mr. Cunard said, it was quite as necessary to extend the benefit of the country to those who might be benefited by the bounty, as to those who already were so. The fisheries were a great support to the lumber

trade. Small craft, catching and curing fish, were more entitled to the fish bounty than those now enjoying it. Mr. Wyer added a few words in defence of the Bill. The bounty had a great effect on trade. It was the means of ensuring an ample supply of fish for the West India market.—The fisheries were an excellent nursery for seamen. There were no better seamen existing than those hardy fishermen.

Mr. Brown listened to what had been said, but still had his doubts on the question. He however thought it very proper that the principles of the bill, if sustained, should be general in their effect, and not confined to the county of Charlotte.—As to Mr. Clinch's objection, that the principle of the bill tends to encourage one part of the industry of the province at the expense of another; he (Mr. B.) was more inclined to think his ideas right. At this time, however, it might not perhaps be so proper to take such objections into question; but it may be better to give some time to see the effect of the measures proposed. Fish is a very essential article of food to all the labouring classes of this country. The source whence that article is derived, is inexhaustible. It is also, a valuable article of trade, and a revenue of considerable amount may be derived from it.

Mr. Simonds observed, that every gentleman who understands the matter, will be well aware that it is the shore fisheries on which merchants depend for the supply of the W. India market. The fish caught there may very well be made marketable, if proper pains are taken. But what is the effect of this bill? It is, to give a bounty to fishermen, for their carelessness in curing the fish! If the bounty is extended to the West Isles, it will be still more objectionable. Such a measure will exactly enable our neighbours, the Americans, to enjoy a great part of the bounty. There can be no question that it would be a very dangerous measure. We do know, that they already have a great proportion of the benefits of the fisheries. They have a large population on their shores, who can successfully come in, & enjoy a great proportion of those benefits. There can be no necessity for this bill. Very little of the business carried on in the West Isles, is carried on with British capital. The house ought to be very careful how it opened a door to the evasion of the laws. Every one must be aware, how very difficult it is to prevent such evasion on the borders of any country; and more particularly so in the Bay of Passamaquoddy. The laws are now greatly evaded, and if this bill pass, they will be so in a tenfold degree.

Mr. Scott thought it, perhaps, better to let the old law remain as it is for the present. He would move that the consideration of this bill be postponed to this day three months; which motion, however, was not seconded.

Mr. S. Humbert thought this subject of very great importance, and requiring much consideration. He inquired, how any other merchants of this Province would like to lie under disabilities, which did not affect the rest of their brethren? He (Mr. H.) was as aware as any man to give exclusive privileges to the county of Charlotte, but why should any of our merchants be tied down, more than those of other parts of the Province? It was true, he was sent there as a member by the County of St. John; but he did not confine his views to the County of St. John. He was for the country at large, and would exert himself for the benefit of any part of the country. He thought that the law was increasing in respectability and in commercial consequence. [The hon. member also named a town of that island, which we could not hear.] The merchants of that town carried on a great trade. Should these merchants continue to be tied down by such disabilities as now affect them? They demanded only their rights, rights as indisputable as those of any other inhabitants of the Province. As to the plea, that the merchants of the West Isles did and would evade the law, he (Mr. H.) thought it the duty of the house to give them their privileges, and then to make provisions to prevent their evading the law. It would, in his opinion, be better to let the house, if it should leave people privileged, because it could not make a law to prevent the evasion of the existing laws. He would therefore move, that the Chairman do now leave the chair, report progress, and ask leave to sit again.

Mr. Cunard considered that the hon. Member who had just sat down, entertained very proper views on this subject.—I do not see an act, that would do the benefit of the bounty. He says he is entirely of the contrary. He says he comes from St. John, but he extends his views over the whole country. He does not come as a mere advocate for the fish bounty, but he declares his desire, as the fish bounty is in existence, to have it fairly distributed. He would give the counties of Northumberland, Gloucester, and Kent a portion of the fish bounty, and would bestow it on small, as well as large vessels.—As to this matter, some members from St. John would not venture to contend with him (Mr. C.) but would merely say, "This bounty on large vessels suits us," for him, (the hon. member), he would be, either for the bill as it now exists, or for reporting progress. While large vessels have the bounty, and while the bounty exists, he would contend for extending it to every class vessel.

Mr. Simonds said a few words in support of his former views; and recommended the House to turn its attention to making some further guard to the present law, but not to open a further door to smuggling.

Mr. Cunard replied, and hinted that local prejudices had influenced the opposition of some hon. members to this measure. As to the County of St. John, he was of the house, his local prejudices had always taken a wide range. He had never opposed any measure calculated to promote the public good. (The hon. Member made reference to some occasion, during a former session, in which he had been opposing, by Mr. Simonds and others, the extension of the bounty to the West Isles; but he would not say, that he was bound to certain rules in speaking, but in a Committee, he would use his privilege, and express his sentiments freely.)

Mr. Allen was sorry to rise, in dissent from the matter before the committee. He was quite unprepared to say any thing to any current session, as a former house. There was no necessity for using the term "local." (The hon. gentleman briefly followed the sentiments of the supporters of the bill, and gave his concurrence to it.) He hoped he should not hear the term "local" used again.

Mr. Weldon said a few words on the same side.—After which, Mr. Simonds rose, to observe, that as the Chairman had not called the hon. member for Northumberland to order, he felt himself bound to give way to him. He was irregular in any hon. gentleman to give way to position. His (Mr. S.) conduct since he had had the honour of sitting in that house, would bear examination as well as that of any hon. member of that house. If it should not, he would be ashamed to appear there. The hon. member had accused him, in direct terms, of being guided by local prejudices.

Here Mr. Partelow hastily rose, and moved the standing order of the house, relative to offensive matter uttered in debate.

Stangers were ordered to withdraw; but were re-admitted almost immediately, the standing order not being enforced. Some little further discussion, however, took place, in the course of which Mr. Simonds took occasion to express his contempt of the language which he had been compelled to utter.—Chairman left chair, reported progress, and asked leave to sit again, which was granted.

Mr. Simonds presented a petition from the Rev. R. Williams and others, Wesleyan Methodist Missionaries in this Province, praying that an Act may pass to authorise them to solemnize Marriage. The hon. member briefly stated the claims of the petitioners to the right they prayed for, and advised the Act lately passed by the Legislature of Lower Canada, granting the same right.

Messrs. Chandler, S. Humbert, Taylor, and Brown, also said a few words on the same side, but also recommending that the proposed Bill should be so constructed as to include all classes of dissenters, who were, of course, equally entitled with the Wesleyan Missionaries; and moreover, if being but common fairness that this privilege should be extended to all, as the Roman Catholics and Quakers had long enjoyed it.

Still there could be no objection to the extension of the bounty to the West Isles, but it would be better to give some time to see the effect of the measures proposed. Fish is a very essential article of food to all the labouring classes of this country. The source whence that article is derived, is inexhaustible. It is also, a valuable article of trade, and a revenue of considerable amount may be derived from it.

Mr. Simonds observed, that every gentleman who understands the matter, will be well aware that it is the shore fisheries on which merchants depend for the supply of the W. India market. The fish caught there may very well be made marketable, if proper pains are taken. But what is the effect of this bill? It is, to give a bounty to fishermen, for their carelessness in curing the fish!

Mr. Scott thought it, perhaps, better to let the old law remain as it is for the present. He would move that the consideration of this bill be postponed to this day three months; which motion, however, was not seconded.

Mr. S. Humbert thought this subject of very great importance, and requiring much consideration. He inquired, how any other merchants of this Province would like to lie under disabilities, which did not affect the rest of their brethren?

Mr. Cunard considered that the hon. Member who had just sat down, entertained very proper views on this subject.—I do not see an act, that would do the benefit of the bounty. He says he is entirely of the contrary. He says he comes from St. John, but he extends his views over the whole country.

Mr. Cunard replied, and hinted that local prejudices had influenced the opposition of some hon. members to this measure. As to the County of St. John, he was of the house, his local prejudices had always taken a wide range.

Mr. Simonds said a few words in support of his former views; and recommended the House to turn its attention to making some further guard to the present law, but not to open a further door to smuggling.

Mr. Cunard replied, and hinted that local prejudices had influenced the opposition of some hon. members to this measure. As to the County of St. John, he was of the house, his local prejudices had always taken a wide range.

Mr. Weldon said a few words on the same side.—After which, Mr. Simonds rose, to observe, that as the Chairman had not called the hon. member for Northumberland to order, he felt himself bound to give way to him.

Mr. Allen was sorry to rise, in dissent from the matter before the committee. He was quite unprepared to say any thing to any current session, as a former house. There was no necessity for using the term "local."

Mr. Weldon said a few words on the same side.—After which, Mr. Simonds rose, to observe, that as the Chairman had not called the hon. member for Northumberland to order, he felt himself bound to give way to him.

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