

lars of his conduct respecting the Powder Bill? Had he acknowledged the false statements made in that villanous paper the *Patriot*, upon that subject, and how those statements had been forwarded to Carbonar, to be commented on there by a minion—a slave—that he had become a St. John's member? And yet the Doctor had been brought into that house to purify it! He (Mr Cozens) had to complain that he had been, during the last few days, the object of much abuse a good deal of which had been dealt out by a beardless boy, who had insolently inquired who and what he (Mr Cozens) was. Could not the Doctor have told the juvenile legislator who he was? He had been the first to establish Sunday Schools, to promote agriculture, to form roads, &c., and it was well known who he was. The hon. member concluded by supporting the amendment.

The house then divided: for the original motion Messrs Pack, Kent, Carson:— against it Messrs Kough, Martin, Carter, Power, Hoyles, Row.

TUESDAY, FEB. 11.

Mr Secretary CROWDY appeared at the Bar of the House with several financial Documents which, on the motion of Dr. Carson, were ordered to be printed for the use of the members.

THURSDAY, FEB. 13.

Mr BROWN presented a petition from James Sharp of Harbor Grace, praying that the sum of £43 be awarded him for laying out the Streets of Harbor Grace last year.

FRIDAY, FEB. 14.

The House was occupied this day in debating on a petition to the Governor relative to Finance which was ultimately agreed to.

SATURDAY, FEB. 15.

The proceedings of the House to-day are briefly summed up in the resolutions which were passed, as follows:—

*Resolved*—That owing to the deteriorated condition of the Fisheries, the interruption which the trade of the colony has met with in foreign markets, the failure of the Potato Crop, and other unusual causes, the Revenue of the Colony is far below what it was during the last year, and what under other circumstances it might reasonably have been expected.

That over and above defraying the necessary expenses of the Government, the encouragement of the Fisheries and Agriculture, the opening and making of Roads, the more equal, and satisfactory administration of Justice and other objects of great importance demand the early attention and consideration of the Legislature; and that, for the attainment of these objects, a much larger amount of Revenue than that which is at present at the disposal of the House, will be required.

That under the present depressed state of the means of the colony, arising from the failure of the Potato crop, the great deficiency in the amount of Fish taken at the Labrador, in this, as compared with former years, and the unprecedented falling off in the price of the staple commodity of the colony, in the Home and Foreign markets, it would be highly unwise and impolitic, greatly to increase the present taxation of the colony; and that it is advisable, under existing circumstances,

that an early application to the parent government should be made, for a grant of money in aid of the funds of the colony.

That this colony possesses powerful claims upon the bounty of the Mother Country, from the circumstance, that for a period of many years, a large portion of the Revenue collected in this Island, from taxes paid by the inhabitants of the Colony, and amounting, in eleven years, to a sum of upwards of £80,000 was remitted, and paid into the treasury of the United Kingdom, and expended for purposes, totally disconnected with the interests of this island. That it is expedient, that an humble Address be prepared and forwarded to His Most Gracious Majesty, as speedily as possible, praying that he will recommend to the Parliament of the United Kingdom, to grant an annual sum, in aid of the funds of the Colony, to be placed under the controul of the House.

MONDAY, FEB. 17.

An Address to His Majesty, founded on the resolutions of Saturday last, was presented to his Excellency the Governor this day by a Committee of the whole House, to be forwarded to England.

Mr POWER presented a petition from the inhabitants of Harbour Grace, for the Establishment of a Powder Magazine—after which leave was granted to bring in a bill for that purpose.

Upon the motion of Mr PACK, a Bill to limit the duration of the Assembly, was read a first time and ordered for a second reading on Saturday.

Dr CARSON gave notice of his intention to bring in a bill, on the 8th March, to regulate the Police of the town of St. John's.

TUESDAY, FEB. 18.

Upon the motion of Mr KOUGH, a bill to increase the number of the Representatives was read a first time.

Mr P. BROWN rose to move that the bill before the House for the increase of Representatives be read a second time that day six months.—If this bill passed how would that House or the Colony be represented. It would give to St. John's a preponderating power, by the out-ports being represented by the nominees of mercantile houses in this town, and thereby destroy the equilibrium that was so necessary for the welfare of the colony. It would give a preponderating influence which would reduce the present Assembly into nothing better than a St. John's Corporation. He considered if the present bill passed, the influence of this town would return the following members:—Trinity Bay two members—one now at present sitting a resident of St. John's; Bonavista Bay two members—the present member had declared he would not return to this House after this Assembly; one for Twillingate; one for Fogo—which the hon. Speaker, a resident of this town, represented; one for Bay Bulls; one for Fortune Bay—which was already represented by a gentleman of this town; and four members for St. Mary's, Placentia, and Burin, which would be represented by two members from this town; then came St. John's—already represented by three efficient members, sufficient to guard the interest of a town ten times as populous—and by this bill two additional members were contem-

plated. Liverpool, Manchester, and Birmingham, with a population of from 150,000 to 200,000 each, had only two members. If that bill passed, there would be at least fifteen St. John's members, and nine out-port members, who, he considered, would have no business in the House, as they could not counteract the absorbing of the public money, or the increase of taxation for the improvement of this town, which had already received five-sixths of the revenue of this Island, though it did not contain more than one-eighth of the population. There was another objection to the increase of representatives. It was generally supposed that out-port members should receive a compensation for their expenses whilst here following their legislative duties, thereby giving up their time and talent to the public good, to the great neglect of their business. If this should not be the case, scarcely any member would be found to repair from an out-port to that House; and if out-port members were allowed a compensation for their expenses, it would be adding Six or Seven Hundred Pounds annually to the expenses of the Colony, which at present it cannot bear. As regarded the division of Conception Bay into three Districts, he was at a loss to know the hon. mover's views for so doing, unless he thought he could sever some interest that he (Mr B.) was not aware existed. He concluded, by confessing that he was not aware of his views or policy in introducing the present measure, but moved that the bill be read a second time that day six months.

Mr KENT seconded the motion.

Dr CARSON would support the motion for a second reading of the bill being an advocate on the general principle, to an increase in the number of the Assembly—but there were some of its details to which he should strongly object when the proper time arrived.

Mr PACK said, it would be in the recollection of hon. members, that he had on a former occasion opposed the Bill principally owing to the late period of the session at which it was introduced, and there were now two grounds upon which he felt it his duty to dissent from the present Bill. Lord Goderich had stated, in reply to a petition from St. John's praying for a local legislature, about two years before it was granted, that Ministers were disposed to accord with the petition, but they feared the introduction of the measure would give a predominating influence in the assembly to the capital.—Now, in his (Mr Pack's) opinion, the present bill, if passed into a law, would have the very effect contemplated by Lord Goderich.—He was sure that in many districts of the Island, it would be very difficult to find persons disposed to withdraw from their business and devote their time to the services of the public, without some remuneration; and, in that case, the members should be chosen from amongst the inhabitants of St. John's. The time would come, when the members should be remunerated—they could not otherwise afford their time and talents to the public—and an increase in the number of representatives would produce a consequent increase in the expenditure which the country could not afford. On these grounds he