

departure from among them, but all to no purpose, for being myself a small proprietor, and being occasionally obliged to entertain the different officers of government, they always looked upon me with a suspicious eye.

From 1835, till of late, the Escheat question was kept alive by regular general annual meetings, which always took place in the month of November; and by frequent district meetings. In one of those meetings in 1836, resolutions were passed, which were in the highest degree treasonable, and are as follow:

3. RESOLVED, That the representations just read, in the draught of a Petition to His Majesty, and agreed to by this Meeting, are truths which cannot be controverted, and exhibit a scene of fraud, deceit and oppression, on the part of the grantees and land monopolists, against the inhabitants of this Island, which in the opinion of religious and reasonable men, is wickedness in the sight of God, derogatory to the honor and dignity of the King and the British Nation, and subversive of the sacred rights of property; that longer to pay rent to such landlords, under such circumstances, and after our repeated prayers for justice, is to foster oppression and reward crime.

4. RESOLVED, therefore, That this Meeting is moved by the sacred obligations of religion—by the honour and dignity of the King and the British Nation—by the rights of men to the fruits of their labour—by justice and equity (the basis of good government, and civilized society), to preserve from the distress of such landlords the fruits of our industry, raised for the maintenance of our families, and the dwellings we have erected for our homes, until His Majesty is informed of the true situation and condition of his subjects in this Island, and his decision obtained according to the merits of the case.

Consequently Sir John Harvey, the then Lieutenant Governor, ordered the names of all the Magistrates, Officers of Militia, Commissioners of Small Debts and of Roads, who were present at that meeting, to be struck off their respective lists; and the three Members of the House of Assembly who were also present, were put under the custody of the Sergeant at Arms during three sessions. In 1837, the High Sheriff was violently beaten by a party of those people, while in the discharge of his duty; at another time, his horse's ears were cut off, and he himself, although accompanied by forty armed con-