

had come to two Resolutions, which he was directed to submit to the House whenever it shall be pleased to receive the same.

Ordered, That the report be received to-morrow.

Mr. Gorman also acquainted the House, that he was directed by the Committee to move for leave to sit again.

Ordered, That the said Committee have leave to sit again to-morrow.

Then the House adjourned until to-morrow, at Eleven o'clock.

SATURDAY, February 6, 1841.

A MOTION being made, that the Report of the Committee of the whole House, to inquire into and take into consideration the State of the Colony, be, according to order, now received, the following Resolutions were accordingly reported:—

1. WHEREAS this House, in its last Session, passed a Bill to enable the Crown to purchase the Township Lands of this Island, and settle the Inhabitants: and whereas the Legislative Council have declared its opinion of the said Bill as follows:—“That it is the opinion of this Committee, that any equitable arrangement, by voluntary sale on the part of the Proprietors, by which the Crown can be reinvested with the said Lands, so as to enable the Crown to sell the same at a reasonable rate to actual occupiers, would tend greatly to increase the settlement of this Colony, and advance its prosperity, and would be considered as a boon calling for the utmost extent of gratitude from its inhabitants: That although this Committee thus far recognize the principle of the Bill, they cannot concur in its details; and, in fact, they deem any enactment on the subject not only premature, but inexpedient and unnecessary, until the consent of the Crown and Proprietors to the measure contemplated by the said Bill shall be first obtained.” And whereas the Right Honorable Lord John Russell, Her Majesty’s Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, by a Despatch bearing date the 22d September, 1840, has declared, that “Although this question originates in motives of private interest, shared equally by Landlords and Tenants, it assumes, in effect, the character of a public question, and as such must be treated. It is Her Majesty’s earnest desire, to remove every just cause of complaint in all parts of her dominions, and Her Majesty has been accordingly pleased to desire me to enter into communication with the resident Proprietors in this country, with a view to learn whether, by any further proposition on their part, means may be found to determine a question which has, for so long a period, agitated the Colony.” And whereas the former offers of these Proprietary claimants to the Tenantry were most unreasonable; and as the whole conduct of the Association of these Claimants, styling themselves the Proprietary Association, has been most decidedly hostile to the interests of the Colony: therefore this Committee has no expectation that any proposition which said Association may make, in consequence of the communication to be held by the Secretary of State for the Colonies and said Association, will be such as the Country could accept; but that such negotiation, on their part, will be industriously prolonged, with a view, by delay, to break the opposition to their tyrannical proceedings: **THEREFORE RESOLVED**, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that it

is expedient to pass a Bill of the same tenor as that passed last year by this House for the Settlement of the Colony, in the hope that the Imperial Government will either accede to that, or by some other reasonable measure, decide satisfactorily this question.

2. **RESOLVED**, That with a view to prevent the evils which may result from misrepresentation, and to establish, by further evidence, the statements contained in the Addresses and Petitions forwarded by this House, a Committee be appointed, to take such evidence, with power to send for persons, papers and records.

And the said Resolutions being again read throughout, were, on the question being separately put thereon, agreed to by the House.

Ordered, That Mr. D. Macdonald, Mr. Montgomery, Mr. Rae, Mr. Clark, Mr. Le Lacheur, Mr. Fraser and Mr. Gorman be a Committee to prepare and bring in a Bill in conformity with the first of the above reported Resolutions.

Ordered, That Mr. Rae, Mr. Fraser, Mr. Le Lacheur, Mr. D. Macdonald, Mr. W. Dingwell, Mr. Clark and Mr. Dalziel be a Committee for the purpose mentioned in the second of the above reported Resolutions.

Ordered, That His Excellency’s Message of the 3d instant, transmitting copy of a Despatch from the Secretary of State, accompanied by a copy of a Description of this Island, drawn up by Mr. Holland, in October, 1765, be referred to the Committee of the whole House, appointed to inquire into and take into consideration the State of the Colony.

The Bill for ascertaining the population of the Island, and for obtaining other statistical information, was, according to order, read a second time.

A motion being made, that the said Bill be now committed to a Committee of the whole House;

Mr. Rae moved, in amendment, that the word “now” be left out, and at the end of the question, the following words added, “this day three months.”