

The memorial was referred to a select Committee—comprising the Hon Col Secretary, Dr Kaye, and Mr. Brecken. By the Hon Col Gray, from Patrick McCarron, for aid on account of old age and the want of friends. Hon Col Gray, in presenting this petition, said that last year, at page 112 of the Journals, the christian name had been wrongly given, instead of James, it should have been Patrick.

Hon Mr Davies supported the prayer of the petition, believing it to be a case well worthy of sympathy and relief.

Referred to the Pauper Committee.

By the Hon Mr Kelly, from James Ross and others, on Lot 37, for the establishment of a Small Debt Court at Mount Stewart Bridge. The hon member proposed that the petition should be referred to a special Committee.

Hon Mr Coles believed that before they sanctioned an increase of Small Debt Courts, it would be their duty to amend the Small Debt act itself.

Hon Col Gray was opposed to the establishment of too many Courts of the kind.

Mr Howat moved, in amendment, "That it is inexpedient to grant the prayer of the petition."

A division was then taken, when the amendment of Mr. Howat was adopted by a majority of nine. Sixteen for and seven against.

Several petitions respecting Roads, Bridges and Wharves, were referred to the members of the respective Districts for consideration; others were referred to the various Committees.

The petition of Mr. H. N. Pope, and other residents, praying for a grant in aid of the Grammar School in Prince County, was referred to the Committee of Supply, after a slight discussion.

Hon J. C. Pope remarked that King's and Queen's County obtained grants, but that Prince County had none.

Hon Mr Coles gave his hearty support to the prayer of the petition. It was absolutely necessary that they should support Grammar Schools in each County of the Island; for the present Normal School, in Charlottetown, was almost, if not quite worthless.

Messrs McLennan and Conroy, and Hon Mr Longworth each briefly supported the prayer of the petition.

Hon J. C. Pope presented to the House a detail of the Public Accounts for the past year, which was referred to Special Committee on Public Accounts.

The House then resolved itself into a Committee of the whole to consider further of a supply. Mr. McLennan in the chair.

It was moved that the sum of £7,165 be voted for the payment of salaries, and allowances by Statute, &c.

The Chairman of the Committee read the various items, many of which were passed unopposed and without remark.

Hon Mr WARBURTON took objection to the amount of expense incurred to the Colony in connection with the Prince of Wales College. He thought that the salary of the Professor should be reduced, for it would be a manifest injustice that, if Country Teachers were to receive reduced salaries, no alteration should be made in the expenses that the Country had to meet in connection with the Prince of Wales College. He objected particularly to an item for rent on account of the Professor.

Hon Col GRAY said that the Professor was engaged for a given term; and he believed that the present arrangements would be found the best that could have been made under the circumstances. In fact, he wondered that, with such small emoluments in view, gentlemen, possessing the testimonials they did, would cross the Atlantic to accept of them.

Mr CONROY objected to the item, for the salary of the Professor was the highest in proportion to that of any other official in the Colony, with the exception of that of the Lieut. Governor. In addition, the general complaint was that the advantages offered by the College were monopolized by the sons of people who could well afford to pay for the education of their children.

Hon Mr McAULAY said it had been stated that the sons of some of the hon. members of that House were sent abroad to be educated; but he believed that they might obtain quite as good an education at home as they were likely to get elsewhere. For his part, he was strongly of opinion that the expenses incurred upon the College was money well laid out.

Hon Mr WARBURTON had no doubt but that the Professor at the Prince of Wales College was fully competent for all the services he had to perform, but that the great question was, could the Island afford such an annual outlay?

Hon Mr LONGWORTH defended the vote. It was always understood that the Professor should live in the College; the rooms, however, had been occupied by Students, that should have been occupied by the Professor.

Hon Mr COLES was of opinion that the agreement with the Professor should be fairly carried out, even if it was too expensive for the Colony. Notwithstanding the increased expenses, there seemed to have been no increase of scholars or students; he believed, there were only fifty-three at the present time, while the old Academy used to send out from 130 to 150 good scholars annually. The charges at the Prince of Wales College were £23 per annum, while at St. Dunstan's, including board, it was only £17 10s. Now, he was of opinion that neither of them should run before they were able to walk. He found that a charge had been made of £63 for wood, an amount which ought to have been charged to the fees.

Hon J. C. POPE—The sum of £132 from that source had been paid into the Treasury last spring.

Hon Mr McAULAY supported the claims of the College and its Professors. It would give the Island both name and fame, for it was well known that young people from all parts of the Island studied there.

Hon Mr LONGWORTH said that the want of funds was the only cause that more efficiency had not been given to the Education Act, but under the proposed new Education Act, if adopted, it would give Grammar Schools in each County, each of which would supply "feeders" for the College, which was at the present time a credit to the Colony, no matter what would be said against it.

Hon Mr COLES—One Professor is enough.

Hon Mr HENSLEY should support the grant. The College had been of considerable expense to the Colony and he, for one, would like to see its usefulness increased and extended. Upon questions affecting education, he would neither exhibit himself as meagre or backward.

A slight desultory conversation here ensued.

Mr HOWAT moved that the sum for rent should be struck out.

Mr CONROY seconded the proposition.

The Hon the SPEAKER opposed the amendment. The Government had done their best, he believed, to provide the materials for a good education in the College; and, he believed, that notwithstanding what had been said upon the subject, there could be no doubt but that the Prince of Wales College was a credit to the Colony.

Mr DUNCAN opposed the amendment, not only from the fact that it would be a breach of faith if carried, but that on the ground of economy it would be the course for them to continue.

Mr HOWAT did not object to the amount proposed; his objection was that it should not come out of the general revenue, but that the expense should be borne by those who received the advantages of the education.

Hon Mr LONGWORTH endorsed the opinions of the hon the Speaker.

Mr HOWLAN believed that the educational interests of the Island had been much better served under the Central Academy than they had been since the establishment of the Prince of Wales College, and should, therefore, support the motion.

Hon Mr COLES thought the motion of the hon. member (Mr Howat) somewhat extraordinary, considering that he had always been a supporter of the Government.