

near, in favour of the Carbonear Powder Bill. Ordered to lie on the table.

House adjourned until 7 o'clock.

The House resumed its sittings at 7 o'clock agreeably to adjournment.

Mr. PACK presented a petition very numerously signed, from Carbonear, praying for an enactment to establish Fire Companies in the said Town; also, for an act to regulate the cutting out through ice of vessels engaged in the Seal Fishery, when such vessels are frozen up in harbor.

The Carbonear Powder Bill was read a third time and sent up to the Council.

Mr. CARTER moved the second reading of Bill to amend an Act of the Imperial Parliament, entitled "An Act for the better administration of Justice in Newfoundland," and for other purposes.

The House resolved itself into a Committee on Bills, Mr. HOOPER in the chair.

The speaker resumed the chair.

The Chairman of the Committee reported progress, and intimated that several amendments had been made. The amendments were read and agreed to.

The House adjourned until to-morrow, at 11 o'clock.

Saturday.

On the motion of Mr. PACK, seconded by Mr. POWER, the amended Harbour Grace Fire Companies Bill was read a third time, and finally passed for the consideration of the Council.

On the motion of Mr. KOUGH, seconded by Mr. POWER, the St. John's Watch and Police Bill went through the same form and passed.

On the motion of Mr. CARTER, seconded by Mr. KOUGH, the Judicature Act, to amend the 5th Geo. IV., was also read and passed.

Mr. PACK said it was understood when the amended Street Bill for Harbour Grace was read a first time on Thursday, and ordered to be printed, that it was with the intention that it would have time, when printed, to go to Harbor Grace for the consideration of the inhabitants there, and to return hither with their suggestions thereon, in time for it to pass this session; but now, finding that they were only just printed, he was afraid there was not enough time for that purpose, and concluded by moving it be read a second time, which was agreed to, when it was read by the Clerk, and committed.

Mr. KOUGH, seconded by Mr. BENNETT, moved "that this House do resolve itself into a Committee on bills."—Agreed to.

Mr. HOOPER in the Chair.

Mr. PACK, seconded by Mr. POWER, moved that the first clause of the amended Harbour Grace Street Bill be read.—Agreed to.

Mr. PACK then moved that it do pass, remarking that his reason for repealing that part of the first Act by which the last Commissioners took upon themselves to act, was grounded upon a petition from upwards of a hundred respectable landholders, which he presented and read.

Mr. KENT said, however much he regretted the hurried manner in which the former Act was passed, still he thought that Mr. Brown, the mover of that Act, ought in justice to have legalized therein the proceedings of the Commissioners appointed in 1832.—After some further remarks thereon, he seconded the motion that the first clause do pass. Agreed to.

After some desultory conversation, Mr. KOUGH, seconded by Mr. PACK, moved an additional clause to the latter end of the bill, which was agreed to.—The Chairman then reported progress, the Speaker resumed, the bill then passed to be engrossed.

Mr. PACK, seconded by Mr. POWER, moved for a copy of it to be furnished him as soon as possible to forward it to Harbour Grace.—Agreed to.

Mr. HOYLES, after some prefatory remarks, said that he was aware that they had passed a resolution that no bills be introduced this session after Thursday last, but hoped they would, under the peculiar circumstances of the case, indulge him in moving that that motion be withdrawn, so that he may be enabled to bring in a bill to alter that part of the Charter which relates to the office and duty of High Sheriff, which part of it has been construed by the Judges here to compel the constant residence in the island of the person filling that high station; although he could assure the House that the authorities at home regretted the hardship of the same, and said it must have crept into the Charter unperceived, as such could not have been intended, and moved that it be withdrawn.

Mr. PACK seconded the motion.

Mr. KENT, after some allusions to the office of High Sheriff, opposed the motion.

Mr. POWER briefly did the same.

Mr. CARTER rose, and after making some pertinent remarks thereon, said he should give his most decided opposition to such a bill being brought in. If it had been a bill for the interest of the Colony he would not object to it.

Mr. HOYLES thought Mr. CARTER had gone into the merits of the bill before it had really been presented.

Mr. BENNETT said he was aware a long time ago of the unpleasant situation of the present Sheriff in this respect, and greatly regretted it had not been brought before the

House earlier, and if Mr. Hoyles would, at some future period, resume the subject, it should have his most cordial support.

The SPEAKER then divided the House on the motion.—Ayes, Hoyles, Pack, and Kough, —Noes, Kent, Hooper, Cozens, Martin, Bennett, Power, and Carter.—Majority against the motion, 4.

Mr. HOYLES then presented a Petition from John Howley, praying "that, as he understood a bill was about becoming a law, compelling all Houses that may hereafter be built in Water-street, on the south side to be built of Stone, for assistance to be granted him in so doing, on the site of his late dwelling, his recent loss being so great that he had not the means to do so, although he could contrive to build one of wood."

Mr. KENT bore testimony to the contents of the petition, but deeply regretted, with other members, that they had no funds at controul wherewith to assist him.

Adjourned at three o'clock, p. m.

Monday.

A Message was received from the Council stating that the Council had agreed to the bill for regulating Buildings in St. John's, with certain amendments, to which they desired the concurrence of the House.

The Bill to amend an Act for regulating the Streets of Harbour Grace, was read a third time, and sent up to the Council. The House then resolved itself into a Committee on the consideration of the amendments proposed by the Council to the St. John's Building Bill, and after some deliberation it was resolved, that a conference should be asked with the Council on the subject of the said amendments.

The House having resumed, adjourned until to-morrow.

Tuesday.

Mr. KOUGH moved that a Committee be appointed to wait on his Excellency the Governor and respectfully request, that his Excellency would be pleased to direct, that the proper officer may take immediate measures for carrying into effect the clauses and provisions of the Imperial Act 1, Geo. 4, cap. 51, so far as they relate to buildings of Wood being erected between Water-street and Duckworth-street, in the town of St. John's, which manifestly endanger the safety of the said town.

The motion having been agreed to, Messrs. Kough, Kent, Thomas, and Hoyles, were appointed a Committee for the purpose.

A message was received from the Council stating that the Council had agreed to a conference on the St. John's Building bill, and Messrs. Thomas, Kough, Kent, and Carter were appointed to conduct the same, and were instructed to state that the Assembly could not concur in the amendments proposed by the Council.

[The Bill as sent up to the Council was drawn up in conformity with the report of the select Committee of Thursday last, and the principal amendment proposed by the Council was, that the *whote* of the Buildings on both sides of Water-street should, in future, be built of stone. A petition signed by a great number of the inhabitants was presented to the Council against this measure, and praying they would agree to the bill as sent up from the House of Assembly. The Council, therefore, finding the House determined to adhere to the original bill, agreed to rescind their amendments rather than it should be lost altogether. The clause, however, which went to compel the granting of Leases for not less a term than 40 years, was struck out by consent of both Houses, and the bill then pass.]

Thursday, Aug. 1.

The Legislative Session concluded this day, when his Excellency the Governor, delivered the following address:

"Mr. President and Gentlemen of His Majesty's Council,

"Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

"I am happy to have it in my power to release you from your Parliamentary duties, which have, from various circumstances, been extended to a period which, I fear, must have proved inconvenient to you, and to which you have devoted yourselves with a zeal and attention, which cannot but reflect much credit upon you, and convey to the people an assurance that their representatives have been anxious to fulfil the trust confided to them.

"Mr. Speaker, &c.

"It is satisfactory to think that the question as to your powers to levy local duties, is now finally set at rest; and I thank you for the promptitude with which you have devoted your attention to the improvement of the Revenue, and I will not omit this opportunity to reiterate the sense I entertain of the anxiety you have evinced to obviate any inconvenience that might arise from the loss of the Revenue Bill, in placing the growing duties at my disposal; and, I trust, you will not upon this, or any other occasion, find reason to regret the confidence you have reposed in me.

"Mr. President, &c.

"Mr. Speaker, &c.

"It has afforded me much gratification to

perceive, that neither on the difference, which occurred between the two branches of the Legislature on the subject of the Revenue Bill, nor on any different view taken by them in the course of the Session, on points of minor importance, has there been any interruption to that harmony and good understanding, which ought, at all times, to exist between two such important bodies.

"It is only by collision of opinion that truth is elicited; and, were one or other branch of the Legislature implicitly to follow the views of the other, the great advantage to a sound decision, derived from separate discussion, would be entirely lost.

Though it may be said that your labours have not been proportionate to the length of time you have been in Session, yet it is neither a proof of a want of exertion, or of the exercise of a sound discretion on your parts. On the first establishment of a new institution, like the present, it is more desirable to take time, and to weigh and consider the various duties it imposes on you—and rather to search into and discover the defects in your local polity, than hastily to apply remedies which, the probabilities are, would prove ineffectual. At the same time, it is no less true, that many important matters await your grave consideration; and that, on re-assembling, your undivided attention will be required to be given to them. Let me, therefore, express a hope that, during the recess, you will each, in your different districts, devote as much of your time, as your personal affairs will permit, to the state and condition of the people within your reach—ascertain their local wants, as well as the best method of relieving them; also, inform yourselves on those general laws which, in common with the rest of their fellow-countrymen, will best promote their happiness and welfare; and you may rest assured that, on our meeting again, you will find in me the same anxiety and disposition to further that object of all good government which has ever regulated my actions since my first arrival among you.

[The Members of the House, in St. John's, were in attendance at the delivery of the above address, with the exception of Mr. Pack, who declined being present on the plea of its being contrary to parliamentary usage and derogatory to the House, to be prologued in any place but that in which the business of the colony had been transacted.]

Foreign Intelligence.

London dates June 17—27.

Portugal.

From the Sun of the 27th June.

At a late hour this afternoon we received the following highly gratifying news from Portugal, and we sincerely hope that the enterprise, which is conceived in a bold spirit, may be crowned with success. We may expect to hear the important result in a few days:—

Falmouth, June 26.

His Majesty's steamer *African*, Lieutenant Harvey, has just arrived with mails from Portugal. She left Lisbon on the 18th, and Oporto on the 21st inst. She brings intelligence of the utmost importance. On Friday last, Capt. C. Napier, who had been appointed to the command of Don Pedro's naval forces, sailed from the Douro, with three ships of war, two brigs, and five steamers, having on board between 3,000 and 4,000 men of spirit, with an intention of effecting a descent on the coast, having a march on Lisbon as their ultimate object. Aveiro, some 30 miles on the south of Oporto, is supposed, by some, to be the intended place of landing, while others suppose Capt. Napier will at once enter the Tagus; but the first named place, it is thought, will have the preference, as a large body of guerillas was there waiting to join them. All the officers and men were confident of a favourable issue attending their bold enterprise, the Portuguese having lately manifested a most favourable disposition towards the cause of Donna Maria. Miguel's men, too, had lately deserted in considerable numbers, among whom were several officers.

Miguel's squadron remained in the Tagus. It consists of three two-deckers, a frigate, and seven or eight smaller ships. They were all ready for sea, and only waiting for orders to proceed on active service; but both officers and men were disaffected; several of the former had left, and the latter were deserting as often as opportunities occurred. On Sunday morning, the 16th a fire was discovered on board the *Queen*, refitting in the harbour; it did considerable damage, which will probably detain her in harbour some time longer. It is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary. The cholera rages much in Lisbon, but there are no official accounts published of its progress.

Provisions were plentiful in Oporto, and the best understanding prevailed throughout every class of persons engaged in the service of the Constitutionalists. The best results are anticipated, from the bold demonstration which Captain Napier has made. The gallant Captain had excited a general feeling of confidence, in his ability, judgment, and courage.

The retainers of Don Miguel in this country are not altogether inactive. The steamer *George the Fourth*, of Bristol, has been purchased by the Miguelite agents, and is to sail, armed for the Tagus immediately. She was disposed of by a Bristol merchant, who intends accompanying her to her destination.—*Morning Herald*.

Don Carlos and the Duchess of Beira sailed from the Tagus, on board an English vessel, for Naples, on the 2d. inst.—*Id.*

The Paris Papers of Sunday and Monday which have been received in their due course, are not without interest. As respects the affairs of the East, the Ministerial Journals admit that a French galliot was fired upon by one of the Turkish forts at the entrance of the Dardanelles (as stated by the *Augsburg Gazette*), but describes the affair as an insignificant incident, originating in error, and for which full satisfaction had been made by the Porte to Admiral Roussin. These journals deny, formally, that any change has taken place in the state of things in Constantinople, down to the 23d ult., to warrant the inference that a misunderstanding between France, England, and Russia, was probable; but they do not deny the assertion that the passage of the Dardanelles by British and French ships had been interdicted.—*Id.*

UNITED KINGDOM.

THE POST-OFFICE.

We recur again to the regulations of our Post-office department, as a matter which still, and is likely to occupy the general attention, as well as to affect the interests of several classes most seriously. We believe that we were the first Journal to lay before the public the attempt at this time making by the heads of the Post-office to increase the revenue of that department by every method, however severe, annoying, and harassing; we at the same time expressed a hope that much of what we heard was exaggeration. We do not, however, find this to be the case; and the manner in which these grievances have at length been taken up by the public Press of the metropolis show that there is something novel, at least, in the proceedings of the Post-office. The provincial papers are also full of the same matter; Manchester, Bristol, and Glasgow, are complaining of the unusual severity; if not of actually illegal proceedings emanating from that department. The newsmen of London are petitioning Parliament; the Law Society have appointed a Committee, as well as the merchants of Greenock. We do not pretend that offences contrary to the statutes have not been committed in many instances, but we do assert that practices which have been maintained for years, and which have not been considered illegal, have recently been stopped, to the great detriment of trade; that proceedings have been instituted, or sought to be instituted, against individuals, the names of whom can only have been got at by opening letters by the Post-office department, the legality of which we greatly doubt; that bags of letters for places abroad have been put on board foreign vessels, over which there is no control, and for the conveyance of which the Post-office are at no expense, but on which letters they have not only charged inland postage, but also half the packet-postage, while no security has been given of the same letters going by the vessels by which they are addressed, or that they shall not be at the mercy of any curious passenger on the voyage.

As to newspapers, the Post-office, under some by-law of their own, we presume, charge 11d. each from the United States, whilst by Parliament law they are only entitled to 3d. from the colonies; indeed, the whole arrangement of the Post-office, in respect of newspapers, pamphlets, price currents, &c., is monstrous; their own clerks are allowed to become dealers, and have by their situation an unfair advantage over booksellers and newsmen. The amount so collected, as profit to the individuals, or as fees to the department, must be enormous. We have heard that a Deputy Post-Master in our colonies, whose salary is stated to be £500 per annum, is reputed to have made an income of as many thousands by the "candle-ends and cheese-parings" of office. We mean not in the least to disparage this gentleman, whose talents and tact are alike of the first order, but we mention it to show that, in our opinion, as well as of many of the mercantile public, the system requires looking into. In one position we think we are invulnerable—viz., that if Government charges any postages on letters going to foreign parts, the Post-Master-General is bound to give perfect security in the delivery, and that if merchants are willing to run the risks of exposure by sending their letters by foreign vessels, *not under the control* of our Post-Master-General, and not at any expense to the Government, they are entitled to do so. It is, however, clear, that this business will shortly be taken up by Parliament; and as matters progress it may yet be necessary that we should occasionally refer to it.—*Morning Herald*.

A notice from the castle, that all prosecutions for arrears of tithes are to be suspended