Richard professorship, has given rise to much discussion in England.

The *Edinburgh Review* for January, and *Blackwood's Magazine* for February have also come to hand. We have only space to notice their contents. *The Edinburgh* has articles on Church Expansion and Liturgical Revision, Japan and the Japanese, The Victoria Bridge, Political Ballads of England and Scotland, Ocean Telegraph, Autobiography of Dr. N. Carlyle, Motley's History of the United Netherlands, Forbes and Tyndall on the Alps and their Glaciers, The Kingdom of Italy, Naval Organization. *Blackwood* has articles on School and College Life its Romance and Reality, Carthage and its Remains, Spontaneous Generation, The Transatlantic Telegraph—Iceland Route, Norman Sinclair, Biographa, Dramatica, Judicial Puzzles—Eliza Fenning, The Foreign Secretary.

The publishers of these periodicals are L. Scott & Co, New York. Agent, Charlottetown, G. T. Hazzard. The price of any of the four Reviews or Blackwood is $3; for any of the two Reviews, or one Review and Blackwood $5; for the four Reviews and Blackwood $10. The January Nos. commence a volume.

On Thursday evening last a Deputation of gentlemen from the Fourth District of King's County—Murray Harbour and its vicinity—waited on His Excellency the Lieut. Governor, with a congratulatory Address, informing him that they "reposed unbounded confidence in his personal discretion and entire devotedness to the interests of the Colony." The Address contains the signatures of 410 of the Inhabitants of that section of the Island.—*Isl.*

Young Men's Christian Association and Literary Institute.

A few individuals only faced the severity of the weather on Thursday evening, so far as to come to the discussion on Astronomy. The President, and Secretary, with Mr Leaming, participated in the discussion. Mr Leaming, is hot, delivered quite a lecture. He enlarged upon the countless number of the stars; the heavens, if we could but see it, being literally lined with stars, as a whitewashed ceiling is lined with particles of lime. He dealt with the case of Galileo, in ascertaining that he was indeed persecuted by Rome, assertions to the contrary notwithstanding; and that, not so much for any theological dogmas as for his astronomical doctrines. He gave some details also in regard to recent discoveries; shewing particularly that the discovery of the planet Neptune was one of the noblest intellectual triumphs, ever achieved by astronomy. Those who remained to the close of the evening, were deeply interested in all this, and greatly obliged to Mr L. for his admirable dissertations. The experiment on behalf, not of debate, but of free discussion, seemed to be successful, and one which it may be well to repeat hereafter.

On Monday evening the Association will meet again for discussion, in the Infant School Room. Question, "Is it lawful for Christians to accumulate property?"

On Thursday evening, the Rev. Dr Knox will lecture. Subject, "Philosophers, Literature, and Christianity."

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Charlottetown Debating Club.—The question for decision Friday last as already announced was "Is it the duty of a good citizen to abstain from the use of intoxicating beverages?" The discussion on this occasion was as animated as usual. As the speaking was one-sided and principally in support of the affirmative of the question—and several of the speakers taking the opposite side, did so confessedly for the sake of argument. The question was decided in the affirmative—only one gentleman voting for the negative.

Next subject of debate "Would the passing of a Bankrupt Act benefit this Island?"

M. M'Leod, Sec.

March 9, 1861.

Brackley Point Road Debating Club.—On Thursday evening last, Mr Donald Currie delivered a very instructive lecture on "The Ocean," before the above Institute. After the lecture several questions were proposed in reference to the subject of the lecture, which were replied to with much ability by the lecturer; after which the unanimous thanks of the meeting were tendered to Mr Currie.

Edward Stewart, Sec.

February 28, 1860.

Grain Show.

The Annual Grain Show was held on Wednesday last, at the Temperance Hall. There was a large show of Wheat, Barley, and Red Clover Seed, and but a few bags of Oats. For the first time, there was a bag of White Clover Seed of a good quality.

The following were the successful competitors:—

	WHEAT.		
1st prize—Stephen Boyer, Lot 48, 63lbs. 12oz.		£1 10	0
2d " Edward Woolner, Rustico, 63lbs.		1 0	0
	TWO ROWED BARLEY.		
1st prize—Wm. S. M'Neill, Rustico, 53lbs. 12oz.		1 10	0
2d " Frederick Woolner, Rustico, 54lbs. 12oz		1 0	0
	FOUR ROWED BARLEY.		
1st prize—John M'Gregor, sen., Lot 48, 53lbs.		1 10	0
2d " John M'Gregor, jun., do., 52lbs.		1 0	0
	OATS.		
1st prize—Leonard Wood, Lot 48, 42lbs. 4oz.		1 10	0
2d " John M'Gregor, sen., Lot 48, 40lbs. 12oz.		1 0	0
	RED CLOVER.		
1st prize—William Moore, Crapaud,		1 10	0
John Lanon,		0 5	0
	WHITE CLOVER.		
John Lanon,		1 0	0

Geo. Bagnall, Alex. Stewart, John Bayterton, } Judges.

MARRIED,

By the Rev. J. Davie, on the 21st ultimo, Mr Peter Taylor, of Sedaque, to Miss Charlotte Scott, of North River.

By the same, on the 22nd ultimo, Mr Philip Newson, of Cape Traverse, to Miss Margaret Carter, of this City.

On the 7th inst., by the Rev Thomas Duncan, Mr Allan Mc Donald, Pinette River, to Miss Mary Cameron, Point Prim.

On the 8th inst., by the Rev J. Davie, Mr Abraham Harper, of Suffolk Road, to Miss Susan Souman, of Frinton.

At North River, on the 7th inst., by the Rev D. Crawford, Mr James Stevenson, of Princetown Road, to Miss Catherine Cummings, of North River.

At the Manse, on the 4th inst., by the Rev. T. Duncan, Mr James Phillips, of Montague, to Miss Isabella Jenkins, of Mill View, Lot 48.

DIED,

At Charlottetown, of diptheria, on Sunday the 17th ultimo, William G. Carson, aged 20 years, dearly beloved by all who knew him. Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.

On the 25th ult., of membrane Croup, Jane Theodoria, eldest daughter of Mr William Sweeton, of this City, aged 5 years and 6 months.

In April, 1859, on board Her Majesty's Ship Northumberland at Sooke, Donald, younger son of the late John M'Neill, of New London, aged 19 years. The deceased was a promising young man, and much esteemed by his officers and comrades.

In the 25th year of his age, at Midgells, St. Peter's Bay, on Tuesday, the 26th ult., Mr Kemble Coffin, second son of the late Mr William Coffin. His end was peace.

At Westside, Lot 49, on the 12th ult., Ann Denton, the beloved wife of Mr William Story, in the 75 year of her age, deeply regretted by her relatives and other who had the pleasure of her acquaintance.

On Thursday morning, the 7th instant, of inflamation of the lungs, after a brief illness of eight days, Elizabeth, the beloved wife of Humphrey Williams, North Devon House, Charlottetown, aged 69 years.

On the 4th Feb. last, at Iowa, Wisconsin, U. S., Margery, the beloved wife of James M. Whipple, formerly of Malpeque, P. E. Island.

Memoranda.

Barbadoes, February, 24.—Arrived Sage, M'Donald, Georgetown, 29 days.

Fraternal.

The members of the "Flower of the Forest" Division, Sons of Temperance, Dundas, paid a fraternal visit to their Brethren of the "Diamond of the Desert" Division, Georgetown, on Wednesday evening the 20th inst. Eight well filled sleighs of Sons and Lady Visitors, marshaled under the Banner of Love Purity and Fidelity, took the Brethren in Georgetown by surprise. On arriving at the Division Room, they were welcomed by P.G.W.P., Sandeson—always at his post—whose proposition of "Three cheers for the Sons of Temperance" was duly enchored, again and again, until the welkin rang, and Rumdom echoed back the glorious shout, with a satanic howl. After enjoying the hospitality of the Brethren of Georgetown, the party repaired to the Division room, where the Rev. Mr Waddell, who had been announced to deliver a lecture on the Temperance Reform, was in waiting; where,—the members of both Divisions and the Band of Hope, all clothed in Regalia, and arranged in order under W.P. Brother Easton,—he delivered a highly interesting and eloquent lecture, grounded on an incident from the Book of "Esther;" at the conclusion of which a vote of thanks was duly awarded to the Lecturer, who, in replying stated that he would deliver another lecture in the Division Room, on Friday the first of March next, at 7 o'clock. On the Public retiring, the "Diamond of the Desert" Division was opened in due form, when two new members were initiated; the visiting Brothers taking part in the ceremony. Brotherly kindness and harmony was the reciprocal feeling which pervaded this fraternal gathering of Temperance Reformers—where, in their well decorated Hall, the two Divisions dressed in full Regalia, with a number of Lady Visitors, mostly all in the bloom of youth, made the *total ensemble* a thing of beauty—which is a joy for ever.—Brothers keep the ball moving.

A Son of Temperance.

[For the Protestant.]

Mr. Editor;

Observing a paragraph in the *Monitor*, accusing Mr Gordon of untruth in his statement relative to the Cape Tormentine "fiddle and dance," I cannot refrain from taking pen to give my opinion. The whole statement of Mr Gordon appears to me to carry on it the face of truth; nor can I for a moment believe that Mr G. would make such an assertion, unless it was founded on fact.—It is too much like real life, and the follies of the age too.

The public ought to give Mr Gordon a unanimous vote of thanks for the exposure. What cared the letter-carriers whether a merchant loses a hundred pounds by the non-receipt of a letter in time, or whether any individual suffered by delay, or whether it was of material consequence to the Bank or not—so long as they got their "fiddle and dance?" As to the threat in the *Monitor* that they are about to take proceedings against Mr Gordon, I hope there is not a merchant in the Island but will rally round him and hold him harmless, should they do so or attempt it.

J. Fortune.

[For the Protestant.]

Mr Editor;

In reference to a letter, over my signature, which you inserted in your last issue, I may say I did not suspect it would be necessary to refer to the matter again so soon. I now embrace the opportunity to state fairly and frankly my reasons for writing; these were, 1st, To check immorality; and, 2dly, To bring to the remembrance of some individuals the memorable words of Lord Nelson—"England expects every man to do his duty;" and if either of these objects be effected, even in a slight degree, I shall *never* repent of having penned that communication.

I deem the anonymous article published in the *Examiner* of the 4th inst. unworthy of notice. When the individual who wrote or dictated it, mustere up sufficient courage and manliness to write over his proper name, I may, if necessary, reply. Even the *Monitor*, too, has favored us with a monition.

Perhaps I would not have written quite so severely, if the *gallant* (put the accent on the last syllable, if you please) Volunteer Captain had given the girls their supper. I am never ashamed to espouse the cause of the ladies. Had all the male portion of the company conducted themselves with as much propriety as the young women—saving and excepting the dancing—there would not have been much room for animadversion.

But what do you think, Mr Editor,—the "Committee" after getting up a "Ball," issuing cards, *pro forma*, &c., kept young women dancing eight-handed reels till one or two o'clock in the morning, and then let them go off *supperless!* I thought at the time that was very cruel, and still think it was a great shame. It is somewhat astonishing to me that any one who *stands* upon his dignity would do the like. This too, I suppose, will be a "gross perversion of truth," and "wholly at variance" with verity. Now I think, whatever apology servile Presses may make for this breach of hospitality, that not even pliant lawyers will be found sufficiently flexible to offer a palliation. The *Monitor*, too alludes to "proceedings instituted" against the writer of the letter in the *Protestant* of the 2nd inst. Probably it refers to the following correspondence, which I beg permission to insert, as it may be gratifying to certain parties to let the public know their friends are interesting themselves in their behalf. It was handed to me by a law scion ten minutes before Two o'clock on Tuesday last; and the bearer kindly offered to carry back an answer—an apology I suppose.

Charlottetown, 6th March, 1860.

Sir,—We have been instructed by Capt. Hunter to write you respecting a communication which appeared in the *Protestant* of the 2d inst., over your signature, in which you charge that gentleman and others with being responsible for certain excesses of a most disgraceful and immoral character.

Capt. Hunter conceives that the manner in which you have attempted to connect his name with these proceedings is unfair and incorrect. Our purpose in addressing you is to obtain for Capt. Hunter either an immediate and satisfactory apology, or to compel you to prove your assertions before a Jury.

Unless we hear from you before two o'clock to-day, we shall presume you decline apologizing.

We are, Sir,
Your obed't servants,
Haviland & Breckon.

To J. D. Gordon.

REPLY.

Sirs,—I acknowledge the receipt of your letter of to-day, and in reference to the matter of which it treats—have to state, I have no apology to offer. I see no occasion to offer an apology for telling the truth.

I am, Sirs,
Your obed't servant,
J. D. Gordon.

To Messrs. Haviland & Breckon.

Thanking you Mr Editor, for your indulgence, I add no more at present, as I wish to reserve a few racy incidents for the Jury.

J. D. Gordon.

Charlottetown, March 8th, 1861.

[For the Protestant.]

Mr Editor:

In your issue of the 26th Jan., Mr DeBlois,—in answer to the question from Com. Gray, "How is it, Mr DeBlois, that it has been stated to us that land on the Island is only worth 3s an acre, and here we have a statement that it has been sold in some cases between £1 and £4 an acre?"—in reply, is made to say, "That shows the case has been misrepresented to you," or, "that I, Mr DeBlois, give you correct information; the Delegates, incorrect." Yet he, Mr DeB. informs the court that the Winchester Estate was sold for 3s 9d. per acre.

The Court generally enquired of the Delegates what they valued the lands at in their wild state. Now a reference to the prices which lands have brought in each County for the last ten years, which has been sold under the hammer of the Sheriff for the non-payment of land-tax, will afford such an answer as will show whether Mr DeBlois or the Delegates gave information that was "misrepresented." I have known good land to be bought at such sales for 1s 6d per acre, and am confident that the average price of such sales has not come up to 3s an acre,—and what an article brings in the market, will be held to be its value, Mr DeBlois's opinion to the contrary notwithstanding.

In some few cases, land may have brought the prices mentioned by Mr D.; but such price form the exception, and is no just criterion by which to ascertain the value of wild lands. When lands do bring the prices mentioned by Mr D., it is because their value have become enhanced by the labor of those who cleared them; or a pleasant and agreeable neighborhood, or market, a reluctance to remove, a sense of the loss sustained in moving, combined with a fondness for, home; for, as Mr Howat of Tryon very truly observed, "there is something endearing to a man in the place where he was born, or has brought up his family;" nor has our Creator made the human mind susceptible of such impressions for other than wise and beneficient purposes. Mr Howat (not the member) further said, that if the lands are set at too high a figure, the anticipated boon will become an unexpected burthen.—An observation well worthy of being well considered by the sincere friends of this Colony.

Mr DeBlois, like his friend Captain Orlebar, would, no doubt, like to aid in extricating their proprietory friends out of the mire in which the Royal Commissioners found them, and left them; but all their efforts will be fruitless, for they are too deep in the mire for even the Prince of Wales to draw out. Had Mr DeBlois and Captain Orlebar been made to know what it is to fell the first tree, hoe in their crops for 6 or 7, or even 3 years, and carry their grain to the mill upon their own backs, or drag it on a hand sled, they would not talk so flippantly about what they have now no practical knowledge of.

The proprietory system, at best, is pagan in its origin, feudal in its tendencies, is a great drawback in its results, and very detrimental to the best interests of P. E. Island; therefore I contend that the sooner it is abolished the better.

A Tenant.

Despatch from the Duke of Newcastle.

(Copy.)

Prince Edward Island,
No. 55.

Downing Street, January 2, 1861.

Sir;

I have had under my consideration the two Acts passed by the Legislature of Prince Edward Island, and authorized in your Despatch No. 55, of the 1st of October last, entitled No. 1025 "An Act to authorize grants of the shores of this Island," and No. 1026, "An Act to give effect to the Report of the Commissioners to be appointed on the Land Question."

I feel some doubt as to the object with which the first of these Acts was passed. I do not see what Lands it will effect, at least above high water mark, unless it was intended to operate on the Fishery Reserves.

At the same time, as the reservation of these Reserves is a question on which Her Majesty's Government have expressed a decided opinion, and which at the instance of the Prince Edward Island Legislature, is now under reference to the recently appointed Commissioner, I can hardly imagine that the Legislature would have passed an Act calculated to anticipate the judgement of their own referee, or that you would have submitted it for Her Majesty's confirmation, without any notice of its intended effect.

I have therefore to request that you will furnish me with information on the following points—

1. Whether there is in the Island any land above High Water mark, upon which the Act would operate, except the Fishery Reserves; and, if so, what in general terms may be supposed to be its extent.

2. Whether it is intended, or supposed, that the operation of the Act would be confined to those Lands, if any, and to the Land below High Water mark; or whether the Act was intended to apply to some or all of the Fishery Reserves.

3. What are understood to be the present powers of the Crown respecting those Lands not comprised in those Reserves, and what the additional powers which it is intended to confer, in respect of those Lands by the proposed Law.

4. What effect, if any, the Act is intended to have upon the Fishery Reserves.

5. And lastly, whether there is in the present circumstances of the Island, any ground for expecting that "Commercial enterprise" will be much encouraged (as stated in the Preamble of the Act) by making such grants on the Sea Shore as would be authorized by the proposed Act, and would not be authorized without it.

I must add, however, that whatever answer may be furnished to these questions, I cannot advise the Queen to assent to the Act, while the subject on which it legislates is under the consideration of the Commissioners.

With regard to the Act for giving effect to the award of the Commissioners, I gladly acknowledge the promptitude with which the Provincial Legislature has hastened to give effect to what they have supposed to be the desire of Her Majesty's Government, conveyed in my Despatch of the 21st of March last, and I very much regret that an apparent misconception of my meaning has led the Legislature to pass a Law which appears to me premature.

My object was not to require immediate legislation for the purpose of giving prospective effect to the award of the Commissioners, but only to obtain from the House of Assembly, as representing the whole body of the Tenants, an unequivocal acceptance of the proposed reference, and from the Legislature a pledge that the Laws necessary to give effect to the Commissioner's award should be passed when it appeared what legislation would be necessary for that purpose.

But the present Act, or any other Act which could be passed at the present moment, might in the event prove either too sweeping or too limited for that object. It would be too sweeping if it were found that the referees promulgated decisions respecting lands belonging to persons who have not consented to the reference; or if they made awards respecting questions (like that of orchard) which did not fall within the scope of their enquiry.

It would be too limited, or at least inadequate for its purpose, if it failed to make such provisions of detail as were necessary to give practical effect to the general principles laid down by the Commissioners.

For these reasons it appears to me inexpedient to advise Her Majesty to assent, at the present moment, to any such general Law, as that which has now been forwarded. Nor do I see that any present legislation could be valuable, except such as may be based upon suggestions to be made by the Commission, with the view of defining the persons and questions to which their enquiry was to extend, or of conferring on them the powers (like those of compelling the attendance of witnesses, and examining on oath) which are requisite to enable them to carry on their enquiries to the satisfaction of all concerned.

I trust you will impress upon the Commissioners (if requisite) the necessity of avoiding, as far as possible, any steps calculated to excite unreasonable expectations, or to stimulate agitation. On the other hand, while assuring the Proprietors that the award of the Commissioners will not be enforced by Her Majesty's Government against any persons who have not either personally, or by their representatives, consented to refer their claims to arbitration, I should wish you also to observe to them that their refusal to concur frankly in a measure which was intended to compose existing differences, and which, so far as it has yet proceeded, has been assented to by a large portion of their body, may materially influence the conduct of Her Majesty's Government, if called upon hereafter to support them in any future dispute with their Tenants.

I have the honour to be, &c.,
(Signed) Newcastle.

Lieut. Governor Dundas, &c.

A true Copy.
George D. Atkinson,
Private Secretary.

[COPY.] HALIFAX, January 11th, 1861.

Sir,

We have the honor to report that, Mr. Gray having visited Halifax for the purpose of enabling us to resume our labours in connexion with the Land Commission, we have been engaged during the past fortnight, and though we have thus been enabled to make some progress in the investigation, the mass of materials before us renders it impossible for us to complete our report at the present sitting.

It is not probable that we can meet again till April, as Mr. Howe will presently be engaged in the business of the Session, but in the mean time there is much work that we can sub-divide, and your Excellency may be assured of our anxious desire to resume our labours, and to report as early in the ensuing summer as may be practicable.

We have the honor to be, &c., &c., &c.,
J. Hamilton Gray,
Joseph Howe,
J. W. Ritchie.

A true copy.
George D. Atkinson, Private Secretary.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

DEBATE ON THE ADDRESS.

[Continued from The Protestant Extra.]

The sixth paragraph was then read.

Hon. Mr. COLES.—This paragraph, Mr. Chairman, is in answer to one in the Speech which states that the Land Commission has investigated with the utmost care and diligence those questions submitted to it. Now, Sir, I deny that this was fully done, for the only questions submitted to it by the Government were the resolutions passed by this House two years ago, which were repudiated by the Duke of Newcastle. His Grace stated that he had referred the resolutions to Sir Samuel Cunard, who with other proprietors, was of opinion that the labors of such a Commission as was proposed by the House would be unsatisfactory, as it would terminate only in a report which would not be binding on any of the parties, and suggested that three Referees be appointed with power to hear and determine all the questions in dispute. This proposal was concurred in by the Duke, and the resolutions referred, because they did not include all the questions at issue, and would lead to nothing binding. Still these resolutions thus repudiated, with perhaps the exception of a despatch or two from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, were all that the Government submitted to the Commissioners; and I will undertake to show that if these gentlemen investigated with diligence the questions brought before them, it was independently of any assistance from the present Government. The Duke of Newcastle in his despatch in answer to that of the Lieutenant Governor enclosing the resolutions of the House last session agreeing to the Commission says:—

"It will be desirable that proper arrangements should be made as far as practicable, for having at hand all witnesses, and all documentary evidence which the Commission is likely to require, so that the time needed for their actual sitting in the Island may be reduced within the most moderate compass consistent with the due and complete accomplishment of the enquiry."

Now, Sir, the Government made no preparation of this kind at all. When the Commissioners arrived, instead of any previous arrangements having been made, the Government appeared to be scrupulous to thwart the enquiry. The Royal Gazette announcing the notice of the time that the Commission would commence its sittings, though that paper is usually issued on Monday morning, did not appear until Wednesday, the day on which the Court opened, so that they gave the people no knowledge of the fact. The Clerk, evidently most desirous to aid the whole question. And the Government did that much lower to the liberal party as to appoint Mr. Hensley one of the Counsel for the tenantry. They did not bring forward their own Attorney General, though he is in the receipt of some $200 of the public money, because, I suppose, they considered Mr. Hensley more competent than he to conduct the case. They also procured from New Brunswick the services of another very competent legal gentleman, Mr. Thompson, who gained himself to be very able, and gave great satisfaction. As regards the lawyers retained, Mr. Hensley, if correct in all the conduct of the Government. But what kind of a brief did they place in that gentleman's hands? Nothing but the resolutions referred to. The Speech therefore gave the lie with respect to the Land Commission, if by the expression, "questions submitted to it," be meant from the Government and by the Government. The day on which the Royal Commissioners opened their court, I asked the question whether every person who so desired would be permitted to submit matter for their consideration, and Mr. Hensley replied that he understood the Government had no objections to any individual coming forward to give information.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND.—That statement is incorrect.

Hon. Mr. COLES.—These were the words, as nearly as I can remember, employed by Mr. Hensley. Now, Sir, I would like to ask, what had the Government to do with it? Hon. Mr. HAVILAND—Then why complain that they did not give in a brief?

Hon. Mr. COLES—Their place was to submit to the Commissioners whatever questions were in dispute between Landlords and Tenants, but not to dictate who should be permitted to come forward and give evidence in reference to those questions. Let us see what was the result of the permission granted by the Court. I myself, and others came forward and made statements for the information of the Commissioners with respect to the questions they were called upon to investigate. But opposition was met with from the Government. When my friend on the left, Mr. Cooper, was proceeding with his evidence, he was interrupted by the Colonial Secretary with some statement about a clause in an old Act, which he said could be proved, by reference to the manuscript Journals of the House, and when the particular journal was enquired for, it was ascertained to be at the Colonial Secretary's own house, who had carried it from the Clerk's office, out of which no document of the kind should ever be taken. Another case of opposition to parties desirous of furnishing information to the Commissioners was that experienced by some delegates who applied to the Government for documents containing statistics in reference to the number of paupers, &c., and their request was never attended to.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND—No application was made to the Government for such documents.

Hon. Mr. COLES—Well, it was made to some member of the Government,—I believe to the hon. member himself.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND—No delegate ever applied to me for any documents.

Hon. Mr. COLES—Was there not a letter applying for statistics sent to the Government?

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND—No letter of the kind ever came before the Government.

Hon. Mr. COLES—Nor to any member of the Government?

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND—Mr. Chairman, how can I be expected to negative all his questions.

Hon. Mr. COLES—The application then was made to some of the officers of the Government. Besides this case, one of the Counsel for the tenantry stated publicly here that the offices were closed against them, while the Counsel for the proprietors had statistics and everything at their disposal. Not one figure was placed in Mr. Thompson's hands by the Government. He came to me on the evening after Mr. Haliburton's address was delivered, and asked if I could do anything to assist him, saying that unless positions were furnished him, he would be unable to meet all the arguments of his opponent. And not only were documents withheld, but during the course of the enquiry members of the Government and their officials made statements adverse to the interests of the people. Nearly the only instance of sympathy shown for the tenantry on the part of those connected with the present administration, was the speech of a certain member of the Government to the effect that if the people were privileged to pay nothing for the land, they would prefer to pay it by instalments. I will now advert to the next paragraph of the Speech, which ought to be considered in connexion with the sixth. It states that the Colonial Minister did not anticipate that the House of Assembly would proceed to pass an Act to give effect to the award of the Commissioners antecedent to the making of that award, that such legislation appears to him to be premature, and therefore he does not consider it advisable at present to submit this Act for Her Majesty's assent. Now, if His Excellency has taken a true extract from the despatch it appears very extraordinary that the Duke did not entertain this opinion when he penned the despatch of the 16th of June communicating the information that the Commission was appointed; for that he was aware of the passing of the Act is evident from this passage in the despatch which says:—

"In the second Despatch you inform me that a short Act has since passed through both Houses, giving effect to the foregoing resolution. I cannot do otherwise than express my sense of the promptitude and completeness with which the Houses of Assembly has thus given its support to the plan devised, in the hope of putting an end to the differences which have prevailed in Prince Edward Island."

He have acknowledge the promptitude and completeness with which the House of Assembly acted, and now we are told that such legislation is premature. In a former despatch he stated that as far as possible it was necessary that the Legislature should concur in any measures which might be required to give validity to the decision of the Commissioners; and I presume that on account of this statement, the Act was passed which he does not consider advisable to submit for the Royal allowance. One would have thought that the lawyers on the other side of the House would have been competent to put a proper construction upon a despatch, but here the Duke trips them up a bit and tells them that their legislation was premature. It appears, however, that His Grace was pleased with the passing of the Act, when he wrote the despatch of the 16th of June, and how are we to account for the change in his views? The only inference which can be drawn in the case is, that he has been influenced in withholding the assent by the petitions forwarded by certain proprietors to the Colonial Office. Had the Act been sent home at the proper time, I believe it would have received the Royal allowance. It was possible to have had it prepared and forwarded in the month of May, but I understand it was not sent to England until the month of August, and consequently could not be received by the Duke of Newcastle until after his return from his visit with the Prince of Wales to these Colonies. Had the Government been anxious that the Bill should have obtained the Royal assent, they would doubtless have forwarded it in good time; but everything has been done to favor the proprietors. They gained time to petition after the sitting of the Commission, and now the assent is withheld. If the decision of the Commissioners is unfavorable to the proprietors the assent will never be received; and the Act not being sent home earlier may prove the ruin of the tenantry. When a Bill is laid past in this manner in the Colonial Office, it is generally considered to be completely set aside. It is my firm belief that Mr Howard Cundall knew when this proprietary party was in power, that then was the time to have a settlement of this question; and that, no doubt, was the reason he advised that the award should be binding, for otherwise the tenantry would not submit to it—there might as well be an arbitration without a bond. He knew that there was nothing to fear if the measure or award pleased the Government; and that this view is correct appears from the circumstance that they did not forward the Act to the Colonial Office earlier in the summer, but gave the proprietors time after the sitting of the Commission to petition against it. If the Commissioners are the gentlemen I take them to be, they will at once throw up their commission, for why should they continue the investigation when there is no law to render their decision binding. One clause in the Act reads thus—"Be it therefore enacted by the Lieutenant Governor, Council and Assembly, that the report or award, or one out thereof to be made by the three Commissioners" &c. This shows I think that if the Commissioners could not give to a binding award they should make a special report. This they ought to have done; it would have given the people some idea of the result of the Commission, and would have led to allay the excitement in the country. The tenantry have made great sacrifices to pay their year's rent according to the recommendation of the Commissioners, but the proprietors in

[To be continued.]