

and the statement corroborated by the observations as to this Colony embodied in the Report drawn up by that nobleman—from the distress and anxiety which members know to exist, and from the petitions numerously signed and urgently praying for relief from the oppression of the Proprietary Claimants, which have this Session been presented, it is impossible for men thus informed, and unbiassed by interest or prejudice, to avoid concluding that Proprietors who have demanded high rents for wild lands, or have let such lands on short leases, with the certain result of absorbing the tenants' improvements, have produced distress and consequently discontent among the people, and have retarded the improvement of the Colony. That if the rents were limited to from sixpence to one shilling currency per acre, according to the quality of the land and local advantages, and that rent to be taken in merchantable produce at fixed prices, or at the option of the tenant in money, and claims for arrears to this time cancelled, the Committee are of opinion the tenantry would make great exertions to keep the rent paid up. That to give the tenant that interest in wild land to which he is entitled if he improve it, the lease should extend to 999 years, "or otherwise the proprietor should pay the tenant for his improvements, or sell the fee simple to the tenant at a price not exceeding twenty years' purchase;" and that in all such sales or leases, due allowance should be made for the rights of the Crown, or of all British subjects to the land, for 500 feet from the sea shore or coast, for the purposes of a free fishery."

The House divided on the motion of amendment:

## YEAS:

|                 |                   |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Mr. Rae,        | Mr. D. Macdonald, |
| Mr. A. Maclean, | Mr. Cooper,       |
| Mr. Macintosh,  | Mr. Macgregor,    |
| Mr. Montgomery, | Mr. Dingwell,     |
| Mr. Dalziel,    | Mr. D. Maclean.   |
| Mr. Fraser,     |                   |

## NAYS:

|                       |                |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| Hon. Mr. Palmer,      | Mr. Cambridge, |
| Mr. Hudson,           | Mr. Yeo,       |
| Mr. Longworth,        | Mr. Douse,     |
| Mr. Thornton,         | Mr. Coles,     |
| Hon. J. S. Macdonald, | Mr. Wightman.  |
| Mr. Macaulay,         |                |

The votes being equally divided, Mr. Speaker gave his casting vote in the negative.

The question of concurrence being then put on the said Resolution;

The House again divided:

## YEAS:

|                   |                       |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Mr. Rae,          | Mr. Hudson,           |
| Mr. A. Maclean,   | Mr. Longworth,        |
| Mr. Montgomery,   | Mr. Thornton,         |
| Mr. Dalziel,      | Hon. J. S. Macdonald, |
| Mr. D. Macdonald, | Mr. Macaulay,         |
| Mr. Cooper,       | Mr. Cambridge,        |
| Mr. Macgregor,    | Mr. Yeo,              |
| Mr. Dingwell,     | Mr. Douse,            |
| Mr. D. Maclean,   | Mr. Coles,            |
| Hon. Mr. Palmer,  | Mr. Wightman.         |

## NAYS:

|                |             |
|----------------|-------------|
| Mr. Macintosh, | Mr. Fraser. |
|----------------|-------------|

So it was carried in the affirmative.

Mr. Douse, from the Committee appointed to report upon the expediency of amending the Laws regulating the inspection of Pickled Fish, and to report thereon by Bill or otherwise, reported a Bill, as prepared by the Committee, to alter and amend the Acts relating thereto; and the same was read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time on Monday next.

Then the House adjourned until Monday next, at Ten o'clock.

## MONDAY, April 3, 1843.

**MR. MONTGOMERY** laid before the House certain vouchers from George Campbell, Esq., Collector of Imposts for the District of New London, connected with a seizure made by him in November, 1841.

*Ordered*, That the consideration of the said vouchers be deferred until next Session.

*Resolved*, That a further Conference be desired with the Legislative Council, on the Bill intituled *An Act to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to Statute Labour, and the expenditure of public moneys on the Highways.*

*Ordered*, That Mr. Coles do go to the Council, and desire the said Conference.