

Debate, continued from page 307.

the people who could afford to wear a good coat every day. The partition was no loss of respectability—because, while he had been as well treated on the one side—his picket—ad—ever been picked on the other, which was considered the most genteel.

The Speaker and Members generally concurred in the propriety of removing the partition, but other business pressing, the motion on the subject was deferred till the following morning.

The latter part of the day was occupied principally in listening to petitions, complaining of undue Elections, and in appointing days to take the petitions into consideration. Mr Delap petitioned against the return of Mr Thorne; Mr Logan against Mr Dickey's; Mr Fitz Randolph against Mr Whitman's; Mr Ritchie against Mr Robinson's; Mr Hamilton against Mr Spenswater's; Mr McKim against Mr Stewart's; and Mr Church against Mr Rudolf's;—and Flemming against McLellan's.

Mr Doyle presented a bill for limiting the duration of Parliament to four years, which was read for the first time.

Mr Howe stated his anxiety to introduce vote by ballot, and other improvements in the system of Election, but would not couple them with this bill which he meant to support, for fear of impeding its passage. It being late, the House then adjourned.

THURSDAY, February 2.

Mr Morton begged leave to offer a Resolution, the object of which was to convey to the several Clergymen in town, a request to attend the House a week each in succession, to perform the duties of Chaplain. As some gentlemen might have voted against Mr Wilkin's Resolutions on the previous day, because they were unwilling to violate the rule of the House, he was desirous that they should have an opportunity of fairly trying the question—he would himself like to see a chaplain here, and his prayers said every morning, but wanted no preference.

Mr Howe thought that if the House should, in the teeth of their own determination, annul what they had done on a former occasion, the public would be inclined to think their resolution and vacation to be a judgment uttered upon them for venturing to give up their Chaplain. It was true that some of the members were now, and might not be familiar with the forms of the House, but the hon. and learned gentleman from the Wind-or, who had yesterday moved the resolution, was not altogether a novice in Parliamentary rules, and should have given the regular notice. He thought that it was essential to the dignity and character of the House to maintain a consistency in its proceedings, and he did not see what could be gained by reversing their resolution. The question must have been generally understood when it was debated before, and, as it was one on which the minds of members must have been previously prepared, he could not but consider the resolution as the expression of their deliberate convictions. He had not contemplated dispensing with a Chaplain, but, like many others, would rather do without, than foster the old system of exclusion.

Mr G. Smith was surprised to see such a motion brought forward, in violation of the rules of the House. Those rules were passed for the purpose of expediting the public business, and if members were at liberty to depart from them at their pleasure, there would be no end to the difficulties that would ensue. He had no objection personally to the office of a Chaplain, but as the resolution had passed the House, he thought that ought to be decisive.

Mr Fairbanks, though not disposed to subvert the usages of the House favoured the motion, because he thought that the members did not properly understand the full bearing of the resolution at the time it was passed, and felt convinced that the majority of the House would be in favor of a Chaplain, if the question were fairly put to them. He thought the House ought not to be enslaved by its own rules, and where particular circumstances rendered a deviation advisable, the House ought to be at liberty to act independently of them, or thought that the resolution of the House was a reflection upon themselves, and conceived that the appointment of a Chaplain, though not followed by any particular spiritual benefit to members, would at least show that respect and veneration for religion, and the obligations it imposes, which become the members of a body, like that.

After some discussion from Messrs John Young, Dechaves, and others, the resolution was withdrawn.

Mr Stewart moved for the appointment of a Committee to wait upon His Excellency, to ascertain if any answer had been received from His Majesty's Government relative to the Address of the House, upon the subject of Franking; and upon the motion being carried.

Mr Young, Mr Chapman, and himself were appointed for that purpose.

Mr Doyle moved for a general committee to wait

upon the Governor, to ascertain what answers had been received to the various addresses of the last session. His Excellency's speech, which was vague and unsatisfactory, contained no reference to those addresses, and he thought it to be a matter of consequence to the House to be accurately acquainted with the reception His Majesty's Government had given them.

Mr Uniacke thought that, constituted as the government of this Colony was, His Excellency had a right to exercise his own discretion in the selection of the topics for his opening speech, and was unwilling to give his support to a measure that went to charge His Excellency with a culpable omission. The matters mentioned in the resolution might probably be intended to form the subject of a distinct communication, and he would therefore be unwilling to pass such a resolution.

Mr John Young thought that the hon. and learned gentleman from Isle Madame ought to have moved his resolution before the appointment of the former committee, so as to have spared the appointment of a second.

Mr W. Young maintained the great consequence of proceeding regularly. A committee for a particular purpose had already been appointed, now a motion was made for a general committee, who, if appointed would supersede the appointment of the former. But that was not his only objection to the measure. The House had grave and serious duties to perform, and he was unwilling to adopt any step that would have the operation of rendering less effectual the efforts of its members. He was well known to be a determined reformer, but he had no desire to convert questions of principle into questions of feeling.

Mr Howe rose with a view to endeavor to persuade his hon. and learned friend from Isle Madame, to withdraw his resolution for the present. Though his Excellency's speech was not particularly full, he was not disposed to quarrel with it. He had always considered it the great art in such speeches to say as little as possible, and he thought that in the answers to them, the same principle was pretty generally consulted. He was, therefore disposed not to hurry on the measure at once; and although he was particularly anxious to hear the result of the address respecting the Judges' fees, which, it was said months ago, had been received, and which, with every other necessary information, ought to be furnished without delay; he thought it would be as well not to exhibit feelings of discontent and distrust towards the Executive, who, might, perhaps, be disposed spontaneously to communicate the information which it was the object of the resolution to obtain. At a subsequent day, if the answers were not communicated, he would give it his cordial support.

After some further discussion, it appearing to be the general wish of the House that the resolution should not be pressed at that time, Mr Doyle consented to withdraw it.

Upon the motion of Mr J. Young, the hour for the meeting of the House was fixed at half past ten. A motion of Mr Uniacke that a resolution was passed to improve a fine of 20s. upon gentlemen who should fail to be present at the proper hour, without sufficient excuse.

Mr Uniacke obtained leave to present a bill authorising the appointments of Sheriff, in the new Counties that had been created, which was read for the first time.

Mr J. Young moved for the appointment of the joint Committee for examining public accounts, upon which the discussion arose on the first day of the session. Some remarks were made by Mr Doyle, who, withholding his opposition to the present motion, intimated his intention to bring before the House the grounds of his previous opposition in a different shape. A Committee was accordingly appointed for this purpose, and also one to take into consideration the expiring laws.

Mr Doyle rose to move the resolutions, referring to the opening of the Council doors, differing but slightly from those which he had submitted on a former day, and intimated his intention, if the resolutions passed, to move for a free conference with His Majesty's Council upon the general state of the Province, when the substances of the resolutions should be stated to the Council. He said he had expunged from the resolutions the only words which could be considered harsh, and conceived that, as they now stood, they were not so strong, either in language or in spirit, as those of the last session.

Mr Howe seconded the resolution, because by the omission of the words "permanently adhered to" contained in the previous resolutions, the only possible ground of offence was removed, and the measure had assumed such a shape as would become the House to present, and the Council to receive. He said, that there was not a man in the House more disposed than himself to obtain peaceably the improvement which he advocated. He had not desired to

blend this measure with the story of the accounts. So long as the House permitted the Council to pass upon their approbations, it was only right to let them see, by an examination of the accounts, how the money had been spent.

It had been said, that the House ought to pass a resolution to request the Council to open their doors. He was not exactly of that opinion. The Speaker had not requested the Governor to grant the House their usual privileges, he had demanded it as a right; and he, Mr Howe, would be unwilling to pass such a resolution as would make a compliance with the wishes of the House bear the appearance of a favour. These resolutions, however, did not exactly assume the shape of a demand; and were, he conceived, at once consistent with the dictates of courtesy, and expressive of the wishes of the House.

Mr John Young thought that the resolutions, as they were now moulded, would pass unanimously. To the measure, in its present shape, he would give his cordial assent; and, as the language and spirit of the resolutions were calculated to excite no angry collision, if they should be rejected by the Council, it would prove the opposition to be against the measure, not the manner.

The Resolutions were then put, and passed unanimously.

Mr Doyle then moved for a free conference, to consist of a member from each County, to convey to the Council the substance of the resolutions to which the House had given their assent. This being objected to, as requiring an unnecessary number, the following Gentlemen were finally appointed: Messrs. Doyle, Young, Uniacke, Forrester, and Howe.

The bill for limiting the duration of Parliament, was read a second time.

The House then adjourned.

THE WEEK.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, FEB. 15, 1837.

An arrival at New York has brought London news to the 23d December. The following is the only item of interest:—

Great Bank Failure in Manchester.—A gentleman of this city has just placed in our hands a letter from his correspondent in Manchester, (England,) dated December 24th, from which we are permitted to make the following extract:—"One of the largest Banks in England, having its head at Manchester, has just stopped payment. Their liabilities are over £1,500,000—say about \$7,000,000. Manchester will be all in an uproar to-morrow, when it is known, and half the merchants in the county will be ruined. The New York fire was nothing to what this will be, and you have the first intelligence."

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY—OPENING OF THE COUNCIL DOORS.—On Saturday the 4th the Council sent down a Message and Resolutions to the House, in answer to their Resolutions of the 2d, in which the Council denies the right of the House interfering in the internal regulations of their body, and therefore will not hold any conference with them on the subject. They intimate, however, that they have the subject under consideration, and that they will come to such decision upon it, as they shall deem most for the public good. This we conceive to be tantamount to conceding the point.

His Majesty's Council concludes by regretting that the House of Assembly have departed from the ancient and christian practice of their forefathers, in resolving to transact the public business without the benefit of Clergy; we may safely presume, that they would have saved themselves this trouble, had the House resolved to hear a Presbyterian, Baptist, or Methodist minister.

On Saturday and Tuesday the House took up the question of the Council Resolutions. Several members delivered their opinions, and the House finally decided, 26 against 20, that their consideration should be the order of the day for Saturday 11th.—*Times.*

The time limited for the presentment of private Petitions to the House, was ordered to be the 22d inst.