

this Island, by the establishment of local or municipal authorities therein, may not become the law of the Island.

A Petition of divers electors of the Second Electoral District of Queen's County, praying that the Bill to provide for the internal government of this Island, by the establishment of local or municipal authorities therein, and the Bill to provide for the establishment of a Board of Works, may not—particularly the former—become the law of the land.

By the Hon. the Col. Treasurer.—A Petition of divers inhabitants of Kildare, and others, praying that the Bill introduced in the last Session, for the establishment of local or municipal authorities in the Island, may not be passed.

Ordered, That the said five Petitions do lie on the Table.

Then the House adjourned until tomorrow, at ten o'clock.

TUESDAY, February 23, 1858.

THE Hon. the Colonial Secretary, by command of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, presented to the House the following Message :

D. DALY, Lieutenant Governor.

The Lieutenant Governor deems it his duty to bring the system that has hitherto been in operation in this Island, for the collection of the Impost Revenue, under the special notice of the House of Assembly, with a view to its revision.

Bonds at a long date, not bearing interest, are deposited in the Colonial Treasury, in payment of duties; whilst the Money Warrants, issued by the Government for the public service, and bearing interest, are not convertible into money, except at a discount.

The manifest injustice thus inflicted on the holders of the Government securities does not end here; as the parties in whose hands the public revenue is permitted to remain, are enabled to avail themselves of the depreciated Government Warrants, obtained at a discount, to meet their Bonds at the Treasury as they fall due; and frequently, at a further sacrifice of the interests of the public creditor, when Warrants that have not been issued more than a few hours are received as cash in the Treasury, and thus obtain precedence in liquidation over those that may have been issued as many months, and still remain inconvertible.

The Lieutenant Governor is far from desiring to restrict, in any degree, such encouragement as

can properly be given by the Legislature to legitimate enterprise, in all its branches; but he trusts the House of Assembly will concur with him in regarding the importance of maintaining the public credit, and the integrity of the Government transactions, to be paramount to any other consideration, as vitally affecting the honor and interest of the Island.

Government House,
February 23d, 1858. }

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary then moved that the said Message do lie on the table.

Mr. H. Haviland moved, in amendment to the said motion, that after the word "that" all be struck out, and the following inserted in lieu thereof—"the Message be not received."

Ordered, That Mr. H. Haviland have leave to withdraw his motion.

The question being then put on the main motion, it was agreed to by the House, and

Ordered accordingly.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary, by command of His Excellency the Lieut. Governor, presented to the House the following Message :