

ed, thus casting a stigma upon this House and the Premier of the country, which cannot be effaced whilst he lives. Why refuse this select committee. Is it not the province of the House to examine into and scrutinize the acts and doings of every department of the Government service. He did not altogether blame the hon. Premier, because he was under the control of others. He was no longer Premier, and he did not hold the reins of power; but was under the influence of parties who were using him for their own purposes. What an inquiry into the public expenditure to be voted down by the House of Assembly, aye, by the hon. Premier himself!

Hon. the Premier denied the correctness of any such imputation as that by the hon. and learned gentleman. Hon. Mr. Carter—You cannot deny it. Hon. the Premier most emphatically denied it as he had offered the hon. and learned gentleman and his party every facility for the investigation of the public expenditure, but the hon. and learned gentleman was misrepresenting and mistating the facts, but it would not serve him. It would damage himself more than the Government, for every man would perceive his object, and that object was most unworthy of him.

Hon. Mr. Carter was not in the habit of mistating facts. What he had stated were matters of record, and these would sustain him in his statements, as they were more authentic than some records which were well known to be falsified. (Here the hon. and learned gentleman read the notice given by the hon. member, Mr. Warren, and continued.) This was the motion made yesterday by the hon. member, Mr. Warren, and which was opposed by the hon. Premier, and by the hon. Chairman B. W., and was voted down by all the members of the Government party, except one, the hon. member for Bonavista, Mr. Winton, thus refused to permit the necessary investigation of the Board of Works accounts.

Hon. Premier had again to deny the correctness of the statement of the hon. and learned gentleman, that he (hon. Premier) had opposed an investigation of the accounts of the Board of Works. On the contrary, he had offered every possible facility for such investigation.

Hon. Mr. Carter had for many years highly respected the Premier, in his old character, as the respected Charles Fox Bennett of former days, until he had placed himself in his present position. The hon. gentleman had told him, that he (Hon. Mr. C.) had not stated the truth; but here was the notice of motion, and on the journals was recorded the refusal of the Hon. C. F. Bennett, and of the hon. Chairman of the Board of Works, to grant that investigation.

Hon. Premier—I deny the fact of such refusal.

Hon. Mr. Carter—Previous to the establishment of Responsible Government, and to the creation of the office of Financial Secretary, the appointment of a Committee of Audit was the usual occurrence of every session. In the year 1859 or 60, he (hon. Mr. C.) could not tell which, a committee of audit had been appointed, and he was not aware that any objection had been urged against its appointment. There was a change of Government in 1861, and he (hon. Mr. C.) was not aware of any refusal to grant such a Committee from that time up to the retirement of Sir Hugh Hoyle. During his (hon. Mr. C.) administration, the present Chairman B. W. (hon. Major Renault) had asked permission, and had obtained it, to examine the accounts in the several public departments. This privilege he continued to enjoy up to the end of the session of 1869, at one time into the expenditure of the Lunatic Asylum, at another into that of the Poor Asylum, for the purpose of obtaining some little material for a speech, respecting the amount of burgoe, &c., used in either institution. It was customary in the Colonies to look into the practice of the Imperial Parliament for precedents. In the British Parliament they have their annual committees of investigation into their public expenditure; but here in the Commons House of Newfoundland, because the government have the power, they will not permit such a necessary inquiry for the permission offered is not sufficient. It was, no doubt, very well for such as the hon. Chairman B. W. to vote against the appointment of such a Committee; but could other hon. members who had done so say that they had acted honestly to their constituents, and were not corrupt representatives? As to the treatment of outport representatives by the Government, he (hon. Mr. C.) had been for five years connected with the late Government, and during that time he could solemnly declare that outport members, no matter which side of the house they sat on, had received every attention, when the wants of their constituencies were made known to the Executive. How now, were some of them treated? With contempt. Such had even been the case as regarded his (hon. Mr. C.) own constituency. He cared not how it might be viewed by any party, but this he could say, that the government of the hon. Mr. Bennett had treated the majority of the people most contemptuously, whereas his (hon. Mr. C.) administration had always treated them with respect. The matter for consideration with the present government appeared to be the conservation of the interests of their own constituencies, and of their own supporters, to the neglect and injury of the general interests of the country. Take up, for instance, the expenditure under the head of flood and fire, the claims for which were well known in many instances to have been without foundation, and to have been made for the purpose of retaining the support of certain individuals for the sustentation of the party of the day. (The hon. and learned gentleman here proceeded to review the expenditure in the several districts, instituting a comparison between the several amounts as

he proceeded and continued) not one penny for Burin or Bonavista, the amounts received by any but the pet districts of the Government were far beneath what they should have been from a government anxious to do justice to all. Why, he (hon. Mr. C.) would ask, had not the hon. Premier seen that justice was done to all the districts? Every one knew why he had not done so. That hon. gentleman said,—I am representative for Placentia and St. Mary's and from thence I shall take my cue. Where, then, was the hon. member, Mr. Warren's dishonesty, and how did he stand with regard to the question upon which the vote was taken last evening? The only thing that could be brought against him was, that he took his seat at the end of the last session, and had received his sessional pay. But who were they who molested the poor officials? Who reduced the pay of the door keepers and messengers of the House, while their own pay was untouched? What, he would ask, should the hon. Premier fear on the present occasion? What diabolical charm of fear was come over him, who once knew no fear? We gave him a challenge and he would not accept it, he who of old would bend the oak, and would heed not the freon— that hon. gentleman, who had done all for the country, who had made every suggestion for its good, who had left nothing undone for its benefit, who had conferred upon it: people the blessings of civilization, and did everything calculated to render them prosperous and happy. Then there was the hon. Chairman Board Works who ruled all, and who cared not for the law or constitutional usages, but had a will of his own. That hon. gentleman could tell what services he had rendered to the state in connection with the Volunteer organization, more particularly in 1871 and 1872, when there was no volunteer force in existence. It had been said that the expenditure in connection with that service had been according to law; but if his Excellency had sanctioned its appropriation, he had not the responsibility, for it lay with his Government who advised him that the expenditure was according to law, and an amount of money was therefore filched out of the public purse, for the purpose referred to. The expenditure upon the Volunteer service was simply a waste of the public money; the service for the latter years of the expenditures charged had no real existence, and the money spent under that head was simply given to private individuals who gave nothing whatever in return. He (hon. Mr. C.) at one time regarded the Volunteer movement with favour, for it promised to be of some value, particularly at a time when the withdrawal of the Imperial troops deprived the Colony of its only military protection. But just at the time when it might have been of some practical value, the movement collapsed, and still the country continued to expend money upon what had become useless and extinct. There were other votes which required examination. What had been done with the moneys charged to the accounts of fire and flood? A large sum had been voted for the deepening of Rensu's gut, and what had been done with it? What had become of the grant for Ferryland Pool? These were proper subjects of inquiry for a Committee of Audit, such as had been asked for, and the information on these and similar matters, which such a committee could collect, and place before the House, could not be so collected by a single private member, and his bare statements, however accurate they might be, could not command the ear of the House, nor demand its attention, in the full and effective manner that the report of a Select Committee would. The Government had chosen their own course upon this matter, and by their actions they would be judged.

Hon. Receiver General said this constant repetition of the same old story was tiresome and useless. The house might adopt the language of the man who had been fed on rabbits until he got thoroughly tired of them—
"Of rabbits young and rabbits old,
Rabbits hot and rabbits cold,
Rabbits tender, rabbits tough,
We thank the Lord we've had enough."

This cry about the refusal of an audit committee was mere clap-trap. No such a committee had been appointed for the last fifteen years, and it was not wanted. The public accounts would be laid on the table of the house, and would show the expenditure of every farthing of the public money. It would have shown more decency on the part of hon. members opposite if they had waited for a few days till the public accounts were furnished, instead of rushing forward with demands for returns and committees on the first day of the session. The usual course was for any hon. member who wished it to ask to be allowed to examine the accounts, and the application was never refused. He (hon. Mr. C.) had himself done so when the present Chief Justice was leader of the Government, and the same thing could now be done by any member of the house who wished it, and every facility would be afforded him, and every paper and voucher produced. This outcry about the committees was, of course, a legitimate political move, and as such the country would understand it. The personalities and recrimination between hon. members were most discreditably, both to themselves and to the house, and proceeded from motives and feelings which were anything but what should be entertained by gentlemen. The outcry on the subject of the Volunteer expenditure proceeded from nothing but envy towards the Major, who had always distinguished himself as an efficient officer, but who was personally obnoxious to some hon. members by reason of his not moving in a social circle high enough to suit their taste. The irregularity in the expenditure for Volunteer service, without the sanction of any Act of the Legislature was not discovered by any one till after the money was expended; and even the lawyers employed on the consolidation of the laws

did not discover till afterwards that the law providing for the expenditure had expired, so that it was incorrect to state that His Excellency had been led astray designedly, when he was advised to give his warrant for the expenditure.

Mr. Warren would state, in reply to the hon. Receiver General, that he (Mr. W.) himself was appointed an auditor of the public accounts without any refusal, under a former administration, of which the present hon. Receiver General was a member.

Mr. Emerson said the lecture delivered by the hon. Receiver General to hon. members for unpatriotic conduct would have been more effectual had it been supported by former practice on his own part, consistent with his present preaching. With regard to the appointment of a Committee of Audit, there was a direct conflict between members of the Government who had spoken on this question, and members of the Opposition, the latter asserting that such Committees had always been appointed when asked for by the Government on the other hand, supported by their organ the "Chronicle," stoutly denying that such a Committee had ever been appointed since the introduction of responsible Government. Between such contradictory statements who was to decide? Both could not be right. One or other of the two parties must have been stating what was not correct. In such a case the only authority that could decide were the records of the House, and to them he (Mr. E.) would appeal, to refute the assertions of hon. members of the Government. He (Mr. E.) would challenge an examination of the records of the Assembly to show that on any former occasions such a decision had been come to as yesterday disgraced the house. Up to 1859 a Committee of Audit was the invariable rule, as hon. members opposite well knew. From the time when the Chief Justice came into power no such Committee was ever asked for; hon. members contented themselves with personally inspecting the accounts, which they were always permitted to do. If a Committee of Audit had been asked for, it would not certainly have been granted; for the right to demand it was constitutional and parliamentary. A Financial Secretary was appointed for the purpose, among others of saving the expense of Committees of Audit, who were generally paid. But during the time when there was a Financial Secretary, there was no necessity for a Committee of Audit, for the Financial Secretary was a member of the Legislature, was responsible to the country for its acts, and was personally present to account to the house whenever called upon. This was not the case at present, and the usage which prevailed when there was a Financial Secretary, was no argument against the necessity for a committee now. The control of very large sums of money was now in the hands of an individual, the Chairman of the Board of Works, and surely the right of the house to demand an investigation into his accounts could not be questioned. Such an investigation would not necessarily imply suspicion of that officer, or any want of confidence in him, but on the contrary might be regarded by him as an additional support and a confirmation of his acts and his position. We had, moreover, the example which in all such matters we professed to follow, that of the British House of Commons. In that body a Committee of Audit was not merely granted when asked for, but it was a standing committee, regularly and invariably appointed. In this, however, as in many other matters, this House pretended to be above any servile obligation to follow the example of the British Parliament, and its great wisdom preferred its own course of action. The inquiry sought for ought rather to have been conceded to, and even courted by the Government. It would have placed their conduct in relation to the public expenditure above suspicion, if there be no misconduct, and would have effectually silenced anyanders which might proceed from the Opposition, and which the report of such a committee would show to be unfounded. The official character of the holder of the Chairmanship of the Board of Works would then have stood out pure and untarnished; but what is now the fair inference to be drawn from this refusal to grant the Committee of Audit? The public, no doubt, draw their inferences, and the Government and the House, whose characters were at stake before the country, must suffer the consequences if these inferences, whether true or false. Every independent member must feel the reproach which the vote of yesterday must entail upon, not only the Government, but the whole body, which now must be tinged with suspicion and contempt, a reproach which ought to fall upon those only who deserved it, and not upon others who had not participated in the line of conduct which had been the occasion of it. Surely there is some certain way of arriving at the truth in this matter. If it be correct that no such motion was ever entertained, or passed here before, then the public ought to have the means of ascertaining the fact.

THE SUCCESS WHICH HAS ATTENDED OUR efforts since our first appearance on the stage of journalistic life, is very encouraging indeed. Notwithstanding numerous almost insurmountable difficulties at the outset, thanks to the hearty support of our fellow-countrymen, we have succeeded in making the "Star" a highly interesting and useful paper, with a circulation nearly equal to any journal in the country. Never before

had a paper been so widely circulated in this district. As an advertising medium the "Star" possesses an advantage hitherto without the reach of business men in this vicinity. It now finds its way to almost every family, and is eagerly asked for and perused by all. Since the first of January a large number of new subscribers have been enrolled, and we require but a few more to make our circulation in Harbor Grace alone, TWO HUNDRED COPIES. The neighboring towns are not—comparatively speaking—far behind in contributing to the success of native enterprise in this respect. This is, to say the least, gratifying to us, and we cannot but reiterate our thanks to our numerous patrons for the support they so heartily accord us. We shall continue to devote our limited ability to the interest of our native land, hoping that, by the increased liberality of our friends, we will in course of time be in a position to furnish them with a daily paper instead of a semi-weekly.

"It is not in mortals to command success, But we'll do more—we'll deserve it."

Two or three of our sealing vessels have already taken their departure for the scene of the coming fishery, and the remainder will probably set sail tomorrow. What the result of this voyage will prove, it is impossible to say; but we earnestly hope that Providence will smile upon the bold and intrepid sons of Terra Nova in this perilous enterprise, and bless their efforts to their own benefit and the benefit of all. The seal fishery is indeed a hazardous undertaking, and seldom terminates without a sad record of loss of life, and never without disastrous results to property. Nor is it any wonder, when we consider the dangers attending, and the numbers engaged in, the prosecution of this voyage. Let us, however, trust that no serious misfortune will befall our friends during the seal fishery of 1873; and that the God of both sea and land will watch over and protect them from all dangers. We are confident that the prayers of those left behind will be for their welfare; and hope that—with propitious weather and other favorable circumstances—they will meet with that success which they deserve, and at the proper season return in safety and health to their friends and families, having sufficient to make all who are near and dear to them happy. God speed them, one and all!

NOTHING is more useful in the family circle than a good Sewing Machine. Those of our friends who wish to possess articles of this description would do well to send on their orders immediately to Mr. F. W. Bowden, "Ledger" Office, St. John's, who has recently been appointed sole agent in Newfoundland for the celebrated "Favorite" Shuttle Sewing Machine. A large consignment of these first-class articles has just been received by Mr. B. W., and, as the manufacturers stand high in the estimation of many who are competent to judge of their ability as machinists, we have no hesitancy in recommending the "Favorite" to the public generally.—[Wide advertisement.]

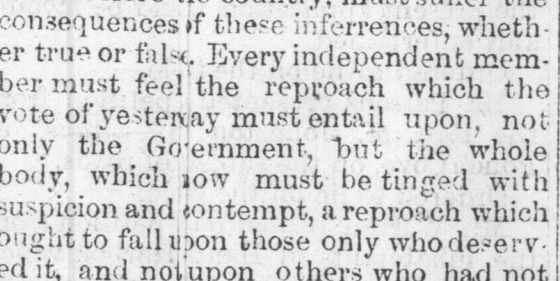
THE Northern overland mail arrived on Saturday, bringing us news from Bonavista to the 23rd February. On the 2nd inst., two sons of Mr. John Spurrell, of Pool's Island, were crossing the ice, carrying some dinner to a sick person on another island, when they fell through and were drowned. One was seven and the other nine years of age. A third boy was with them, who managed to scramble out and run to the nearest house for help, but before assistance reached, the two Spurrells were dead.

A few bedlamer seals had been killed in the neighborhood of Greenspond. Turns very plenty, as many as 2500 having been brought in by the Greenspond boats in one day. These birds are of great assistance to the poor, and of benefit to the inhabitants generally. The weather was fair but very frosty—thermometer down to twenty below zero on the morning of 3rd inst.—Chronicle.

His Excellency the Governor in Council has been pleased to appoint Alexander Cliff, Esq., to be Acting Sub-Collector at Harbor Grace, in the room of the late Henry T. Moore, Esq., deceased; James Moran, J. P., Esq., to be a Member of the Board of Commissioners of the Church of England Commercial School at Burin, in the room of F. Galton, Esq., left the place; and James P. LeGros, Esq., to be an additional Member of the Protestant Board of Education and of the Road Board of Burgeo.

The Receiver General has approved of, and appointed, in accordance with the 27 Vic., Cap. 2, Sec. 39, a Store at Harbor Grace, belonging to P. Devereux, Esq., to be a Bonded Warehouse, for the purposes of the said Act. Secretary's Office, St. John's, 25th February, 1873.—Gazette.

[TO BE CONTINUED]



HARBOR GRACE, FEBRUARY 28, 1873.

THE two most precious things this side the grave are our reputation and our life. But it is to be lamented that the most contemptible whisper may deprive us of the one, and the weakest weapon of the other.

Latest Despatches.

LONDON, Feb. 22. The trouble between the Orleanists and Legitimists has broken out with increased bitterness. The Report of the Committee of Thirty was read. The Constitutional project is being discussed. Much space is devoted to the proposal for a second Legislative Chamber. The reading of this portion was interrupted by disapproval from the Left. M. Thiers is eulogized in the report for his administration and services to the country. The report will be considered next Thursday.

Don Carlos is said to have entered Spain three days ago. The travelling on the North Spanish railroads has been restored by the government troops.

NEW YORK, 22. More fires occurred yesterday. The Calcutta Hotel, New York, was burned down; loss \$75,000. At Savannah, Ga., two stables and five buildings were destroyed; one fireman was killed, and another mortally wounded. The main part of St. Petersburg, Ohio, was also destroyed.

OTTAWA, 22. The following gentlemen are appointed Queen's Counsel:—C. B. Omen, S. H. Moore, N. Stone, and M. H. Richey, all of Nova Scotia. Messrs. Haythorn and Laird, delegates from the government of P. E. Island, to negotiate terms for the admission of the Island into Confederation, arrived here this afternoon.

An order of the British Board of Trade is abolished, concerning the registry of ships.

LONDON, 22. The Imperial Parliament of Germany is convoked for 10th March. Madrid is tranquil. A grand Republican mass meeting is called for to-day.

The Comte de Chambord has written a letter to Bishop Dupanloup declining to follow the latter's advice to work a compromise with the Orleans Princes. The Count upholds the hereditary principle.

LONDON, 23. Special advices report that the Spanish Republic is a source of uneasiness at Berlin. The Emperor now regrets his false step in France, and is sorry he did not re-establish Napoleon or some other monarch and accept the payment of slight indemnity, rather than let things take their course. He regards the Spanish Republic and is uncertain where the desire for Republics will stop.

MADRID, 22. The excitement is increasing, particularly among the working men. There is an apprehension of barricades appearing, and the Red Republicans are urging extreme measures.

The Carlists in their operations and intrigues are very active and the army is dissatisfied.

NEW YORK, 24. The weather is extremely cold. President Grant has called an extra session of the Senate to assemble on March 4th. The President also in a special message, urges immediate action of Congress upon the fishery clause of the Treaty of Washington.

Gold 114. Thermometer at zero. Exchange steady. Consols 92.

A Pathetic Picture. George William Curtis paints the following pathetic picture, which every one could wish were less true to nature: "I think of many a sad-eyed woman I have known in solitary country homes who seemed never to have smiled, who struggled with hard hands through melting heat and pinching cold, to hold back poverty and want that hovered like wolves about an ever increasing flock of children. How it was scourg in the morning and scrub at night, and scold all day long. How care blurred the window like a cloud, hiding the lovely landscape. How anxiety snarled at her heels, dogging her like a cur. How little she knew or cared that bobolinks, drunk with blithe idleness, tumbled the song in the meadows below, that the earth was telling the time of year with flowers in the woods around. As I think of these things, of this solitary, incessant drudgery, of the factitious husband coming in heavy with sleep, too weary to read, to walk, to think, I do not wonder that mad-houses are so richly recruited from the farm-houses as the statistic shows.