

work. (Mr W. Young suggested that the language of the Resolution could be altered, and that instead of the words 'carry on a survey,' the words 'institute inquiries' should be inserted, by which every thing might be avoided that would appear to pledge the House to further grants.) Mr Smith continued—It did not matter. The principle was the same, and if Doctor Gesner should, under the authority of the Legislature, be engaged in the investigation, it might be expected that the enquiry would not cease till the whole geological survey was finished. If, therefore, the state of the funds would not permit the devotion of a sufficient sum to do this effectually, members ought to pause in the outset. Besides, it was useless to conduct these researches, while every mineral substance almost that we possessed, was under the control of others.

A Slate quarry had lately been opened by a gentleman at Rawdon, who thought he was the proprietor of it, but he soon learned, from an agent of the Company, that if he was allowed to work the mine, it was only by sufferance, and that he must be prepared to give it up when the Company wanted it. If the lease from his Majesty included, as the company seemed to imagine, the quarries of slate, he was afraid that there was very little on which Doctor Gesner's energies could be employed, which was not included in the comprehensive terms of the company's lease. If the house were inclined to give a sum of money to Doctor Gesner as a compliment, and to shew how they appreciated his talents, he would be willing to join them, but not otherwise.

Mr Doyle said, that he would trust to events to shew that those who differed with the Hon. gentleman from the County of Sydney, on the present question, were as desirous as that gentleman of encouraging the development of the Provincial resources. As to the salt, that was thrown in at the tail of the Resolution, it was something like the salt thrown on the tail of a bird, for the purpose of catching. He concluded by moving, as an amendment to the question, that the following words should be added thereto, and stand part thereof, viz:—for although this House highly appreciate the devotion of time and labour of Dr Gesner, to the development of the Mineral resources of the Country, yet amidst the many urgent claims upon the Treasury of the Province, this House does not deem it expedient to commence any Geological Survey of the Province, especially while the General Mining Association assert their present claims to the Mines and Minerals thereof; which being seconded and put, and the House dividing thereon, there appeared, for the amendment, twenty three; against it seventeen.

On a subsequent part of the same day, Mr Howe brought in the following Resolution, which he submitted to the house:—

Resolved, That His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor be requested to advance £100 to Dr Gesner, as a testimonial of the value which this House set upon his labors as a Geologist, and the character of the work recently published by him, on the Geology and Mineralogy of the Province, and that this House will provide for it next session.

He accompanied his Resolution with some observations upon the motives of the opposition, which he had offered to the resolution, stating that he was anxious to foster native genius, and to encourage persons to go on, at their own expense, to prosecute scientific investigations; but that he was not desirous to allure any man away from his profession, and to engage him in the service of the Province, at a time when the depression of our funds would not warrant the House in bestowing upon him an adequate compensation.

Mr J. Young stated, that if he had properly

understood Doctor Gesner, that gentleman had expressed his unwillingness to receive any thing from the House in consideration of past exertions. His honorable mind rejected any idea of that kind but he was willing, if the house should think it worth while to be at the expense of instituting a geological survey, to contribute the aid of his talents and experience to that object. As they had determined not to do so, he (Mr Y.) thought he was bound, on the part of Doctor Gesner, to decline the bounty which the House seemed disposed to confer.

Mr Doyle expressed his regret that the Doctor had been led to entertain such an idea of this resolution. He thought that no greater compliment could be paid to science, than to show the esteem in which one of its assiduous cultivators was held by the House, by a testimony of this nature. If however Doctor Gesner was disposed not to receive any sum of this kind, he would be unwilling to vote it to him contrary to his inclinations.

Some further conversation ensued, after which the question being taken upon Mr Howe's resolution, it passed 19 to 18.

Tuesday, April 11.—The following Resolution was laid before the house by the Committee of supply; *Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that there should be granted and paid to the proprietors of the Eastern and Western line of Stage Coaches for three years, from and after the end of the present year, by quarterly payments, such sum as will, with the allowance now made from the General Post Office Fund, amount to the Annual sum of Three Hundred Pounds to the former, and four Hundred Pounds to the latter, to ensure, by each, the transmission of the mails between Halifax and Pictou, and Halifax and Annapolis twice in each week; the above granted amounts to be included in the Post Office accounts.

Mr McLellan moved that the Resolution be not received by the House; which, being seconded and put, passed in the negative.

The following is the Address to His Majesty on the Grievances of the Province, as finally adopted by the House of Assembly:—

TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

The humble Address of the House of Representatives in General Assembly, for the Province of Nova Scotia.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY:—

We, your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Representatives of Nova Scotia, while approaching the Throne for a redress of Grievances, tender the assurance of the unabated attachment of those we represent, to your Majesty's person and government. The people of Nova Scotia, when any thing touches upon their rights, or retards their prosperity, turn to their Sovereign, as the Father of all his People, wherever their lots may be cast; and whose affection is not diminished by distance, nor bounded by the four seas of Britain, but extends to the most remote limits of his Empire; rearing, wherever practicable, Institutions favorable to freedom, fostering that love of justice—that nice sense of relative duties of the Government and the governed, which distinguishes the Parent State. Nor is their confidence in your Majesty diminished by the reflection, that in early life you visited Nova Scotia; and, in maturer years, have sanctioned those vast reformatory changes at home, which embolden them to seek for a revision of their Institutions, and the introduction of those checks and guards, without which they feel that private happiness and public liberty can never be secure.

In the infancy of this Colony, its whole Government was necessarily vested in the Govern-

ment and Council; and even after a Representative Assembly was granted, the practice of choosing Members of Council almost exclusively from the heads of Departments, and persons resident in the capital, was still pursued; and, with a single exception, has been continued for the last thirty years. The practical effects of this system have been in the highest degree injurious to the best interests of the Country; inasmuch as one entire branch of the Legislature has generally been composed of men, who, from a deficiency of local knowledge, or from the natural bias incident to their official stations, were not qualified to decide upon the wants or just claims of the people; by which the efforts of the Representative Branch were, in many instances, neutralized, and rendered of no avail.

Among the many proofs that might be adduced of the evils arising from the imperfect structure of the Upper Branch, it is only necessary to refer to the unsuccessful efforts of the Assembly to extend to the outports the advantages of Foreign trade—to the enormous sums which it was compelled, after a long struggle, to resign, for the support of the Customs Establishment—to the difficulties thrown in the way of a just and liberal system of education—and to the recent abortive attempts to abolish the unconstitutional and obnoxious fees, taken by the Judges of the Supreme Court.

While the population of this Province is composed, as appears by the last Census, taken in 1827, of 28,659 Members of the Epis. Church, and 115,195 Dissenters, which proportions may be assumed as fair at the present time, the appointments to the Council have secured to the Members of the Church, embracing but one fifth of the population, a clear and decided majority at the Board. They have now in that Body nine Members. The Presbyterians who outnumber them about nine thousand, have but two—the Catholics, who are nearly equal, but one—while the Baptists, amounting by the Census of the same year, to 19,790, and the Methodists to 9,498, and all other Sects and Denominations, are without any of their members in a Body whose duty it is to legislate for all. The Catholic Bishop has no seat at the Council Board, and Clergymen of that and other Denominations are, as they ought to be, excluded; yet the Bishop of the Episcopal Church has been, since the year 1809, and still is a Member.

Your Majesty will readily perceive, that, whether designed or not, the mere circumstance of one body of Christians having such an overwhelming influence in the Legislative and Executive Council, has a tendency to excite a suspicion that, in the distribution of patronage, the fair claims of the Dissenting population, founded upon their numbers, respectability, and intelligence, are frequently overlooked.—This is not the only objection urged by the people of Nova Scotia, against the composition of the Council, and to which it is our duty to call your Majesty's attention. Two family connections comprehend five of its members, and until very recently, when two of them retired from the firm, five were Copartners in one Banking Establishment: to this latter circumstance has been attributed the failure of the efforts of this Assembly to fix a standard of value, and establish a legal currency.

The people of this Province have for years asserted, and still most respectfully assert, their right to control and distribute the Casual and Territorial Revenues of the Country, whether arising from the Fees of Office, the Sale of Lands, or the Royalty paid upon the produce of the Mines; as also the amount of the old Crown Duties. The lands of the Province are in effect mortgaged to pay to the Commissioner a Salary out of all proportion to the duties he is called upon to perform. Since his appoint-