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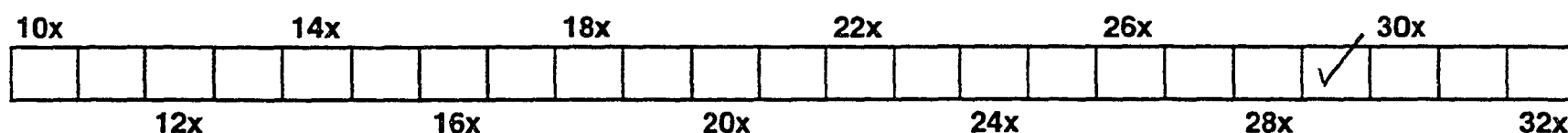
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JOURNALS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

OF NEWFOUNDLAND.

J O U R N A L S

OF THE

L E G I S L A T I V E C O U N C I L

OF THE

ISLAND OF NEWFOUNDLAND.



HIS EXCELLENCY

KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, ESQUIRE,
GOVERNOR AND COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF,
&c., &c., &c.

BEING THE SECOND SESSION

OF THE

F I F T H G E N E R A L A S S E M B L Y .

1854.

HENRY WINTON, PRINTER: ST JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND.



PROCLAMATION.



K. B. HAMILTON.
(L. S.)

*By His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, Esquire,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the
Island of Newfoundland and its Dependencies.*

WHEREAS the General Assembly of this Island stands Prorogued until Monday, the Fifteenth day of August instant: And whereas I think fit to Prorogue the said General Assembly until Monday the Seventeenth day of October next ensuing: I do therefore, by this my Proclamation, further Prorogue the said General Assembly until Monday, the Seventeenth day of October next; of which all persons concerned are required and commanded to take due notice and govern themselves accordingly.

Given under my Hand and Seal at the Government House,
at St. John's, in the aforesaid Island, the Thirteenth
day of August, One Thousand Eight Hundred and
Fifty-three, and in the Seventeenth Year of Her
Majesty's Reign.

By His Excellency's Command,

JAMES CROWDY,

Secretary.



PROCLAMATION.



K. B. HAMILTON.
(L. S.)

*By His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, Esquire,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the
Island of Newfoundland and its Dependencies.*

WHEREAS the General Assembly of this Island stands Prorogued until Monday, the Seventeenth day of October instant: And whereas I think fit to Prorogue the said General Assembly until Wednesday, the Thirtieth day of November next ensuing: I do therefore, by this my Proclamation, further Prorogue the said General Assembly until Wednesday, the Thirtieth day of November next; of which all persons concerned are required and commanded to take due notice and govern themselves accordingly.

Given under my Hand and Seal at the Government House,
at St. John's, in the aforesaid Island, the Tenth day
of October, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty-
three, and in the Seventeenth Year of Her Majesty's
Reign.

By His Excellency's Command,

CHRISTOPHER AYRE,

Acting Secretary.



PROCLAMATION.



K. B. HAMILTON.
(L. S.)

*By His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, Esquire,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the
Island of Newfoundland and its Dependencies.*

WHEREAS the General Assembly of this Island stands Prorogued until Wednesday, the Thirtieth day of November instant: And whereas I think fit further to Prorogue the said General Assembly until Tuesday, the Thirty-first day of January next ensuing: I do therefore, by this my Proclamation, further Prorogue the said General Assembly until Tuesday, the Thirty-first day of January next, then to meet for the despatch of business: and of which all persons concerned are required and commanded to take due notice and govern themselves accordingly.

Given under my Hand and Seal at the Government House,
at St. John's, in the aforesaid Island, this Twenty-
fifth day of November, One Thousand Eight Hun-
dred and Fifty-three, and in the Seventeenth Year
of Her Majesty's Reign.

By His Excellency's Command,

CHRISTOPHER AYRE,

Acting Secretary.

HER MAJESTY'S COUNCIL, NEWFOUNDLAND.



Second Session, Fifth General Assembly, 17th Victoria.



Tuesday, 31st January, 1854.

This being the day appointed for the meeting of the Colonial Legislature,

At half-past One of the clock, P. M., the House met.

House meets.

Present :

The Honourable WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant.*

Members present.

“ EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, *Attorney General.*

“ JAMES CROWDY, *Colonial Secretary.*

“ WILLIAM THOMAS.

“ JOSEPH NOAD.

“ CHARLES F. BENNETT.

“ LAURENCE O'BRIEN.

“ THOMAS JOB.

“ JAMES J. GRIEVE.

At Two of the clock, P.M., His Excellency the Governor having arrived at the Council Chamber, and being seated on the Throne, the Honourable the President of the Council commanded the Serjeant-at-Arms attendant on the Council, to go to the Commons' House of Assembly, and inform the Members that it was His Excellency's pleasure that they do forthwith attend at the Bar of this House; and they being come thereto, His Excellency was pleased to open the present Session by a gracious Speech to both Houses, of which the following is a copy:—

Governor arrives at the Council Chamber.

The Assembly summoned to attend him.

31st January, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

His Excellency's Speech.

Mr. President and Gentlemen of Her Majesty's Council:—

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:—

The duty of addressing you on your again meeting for the dispatch of public business devolves upon me under circumstances which, while they demand our hearty acknowledgments to Almighty God for mercies bestowed and calamities averted, are not without alloy. While other countries have been sorely visited we have mercifully enjoyed health and tranquillity: on the other hand, a renewed visitation with unmitigated severity of the potato disease in all parts of the Island, and the failure of the Fishery in many localities, have been followed by great distress among a large portion of our labouring population.

In closing the last Session of the Legislature, I expressed the hope that it would not be necessary for me, on our re-assembling, to make a further appeal to your liberality on behalf of the labouring population; but the great and continued prevalence of distress arising from the causes to which I have adverted, aggravated moreover by the failure of the Electric Telegraph Company, rendered absolutely necessary the advance of a large amount in excess of the grant for the relief of the poor. I shall cause to be laid before you the details of this extra expenditure; and I rely upon your indemnifying me for an outlay, under all the circumstances of it, so unavoidable.

I am glad to be enabled to inform you that the Revenue has exceeded the estimate made of its probable amount.

I shall direct to be laid before you Copies of Despatches on several matters which formed the subject of addresses passed during the last Session. From one of them you will learn that Her Majesty's Government declined to guarantee the repayment of the loan of £50,000 requested by you for the construction of Main Lines of Road.

I have the satisfaction of being able to inform you, in reply to your Address on the subject, that Her Majesty's Government will carefully maintain our Rights of Fishery consistently with a faithful observance of the Treaties with Foreign Powers.

To every country is assigned by Providence its peculiar productions, which may be interchanged among men for their mutual benefit. Although the Climate of this Colony is such that no available product is raised from the soil for export, yet we are more than compensated by the advantageous position of our shores for

31st *January*, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire*, *Governor*, &c. &c.

the prosecution of a valuable Fishery. From the Reports which I shall transmit to you, you will perceive that the object of the grant of the last Session, for the protection of the Fisheries from external interruption, has been carried out with energy, and, to the extent of the means afforded, with success. Upon the prosperity of our Fisheries the general welfare entirely depends; and it cannot, therefore, be superfluous to urge upon you the essential importance of guarding them not only against encroachment from without, but against the no less serious detriments to them resulting from the sale of bait by our own people on the Southern coasts, to our great rivals. I commend, therefore, to your consideration, the adoption of such legislative enactment, within the legitimate scope of the functions of the Local Legislature, as will check, or greatly restrict, this mischievous traffic. To enforce the provisions of the law in this respect, as well as to protect our River Salmon Fisheries on the West Coast, I recommend you to place at the disposal of the Executive adequate means for the maintenance of an efficient Coast Guard during the ensuing Fishery season. A Naval Officer will be detached to the West Coast for this last-mentioned service by the Vice-Admiral commanding on the Station, who has invited the co-operation of this Government.

In connection with the subject of the Fisheries, I would further submit for your consideration the expediency of reviving, in whole or in part, the Act for the Inspection of Pickled Fish, which has recently expired.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly :—

The Financial statements and estimates for the ensuing year shall be laid before you without delay.

In consequence of the omission to provide means for defraying the expenditure contemplated by the Road Act of last Session, and owing to the unavoidable necessity of exceeding the appropriation for the relief of the necessitous, the Revenue has been quite inadequate to cover the total expenditure of the year. To supply the deficiency it will be necessary, during the present Session, to authorise the raising of a further sum by loan on the credit of the Colony; whereby a considerable addition must be made to the already large public debt.

I deem the present opportunity, therefore, a fitting one for calling your earnest attention to the Financial condition of the Colony, and to its large and increasing debt. To reduce this debt in accordance with subsisting engagements, and to maintain the public credit in a sound and healthy condition, I need hardly point out to you the imperative necessity for discontinuing, or greatly curtailing, the casual and extraordinary appropriations for services not included in the estimates. Several of these services, as well as some of those heretofore included in the esti-

31st *January*, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

mates, appear to me to be of so peculiarly local a character as to demonstrate the reasonableness of their being made local burthens.

A disregard of economy, and a tendency to improvidence, can hardly fail to flow from a system which makes the Public Revenue the only fund from whence is defrayed, without discrimination or exception, the expenditure for charges and services purely local, which in other communities are provided for by local rates and assessments.

This observation will apply with equal force to the expenditure for the relief of the poor, which is defrayed entirely from the public chest; as well as to the mode of dispensing it, which, with all the precautions that, under the present system, can be observed, is still deficient in incentives to self-reliance on the part of the able-bodied poor, and calculated rather to increase than to check pauperism.

I commend these matters to your careful consideration, in the hope that you may be able to devise remedies for what cannot but be regarded as growing evils.

Mr. President and Gentlemen of Her Majesty's Council :

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Assembly :

The Laws relating to Education and the Administration of Justice in the Out-ports will again come under your revision. I shall be happy to concur with you in any well-considered enactments which you may adopt for the furtherance of objects so important to the present and future well-being of all classes of the community.

The encouragement of Agriculture, with a due regard to the peculiarities of this soil and climate, but especially the introduction, breeding and rearing of Live Stock of a superior kind, deserve your consideration. By this means the employments and interests of our increasing population will be diversified and augmented, and the general good be advanced.

In fulfilment of the benevolent provisions of the Legislature, I have, during the recess, had the gratification of laying the Foundation-stone of an Asylum for the reception and curative treatment of Pauper Lunatics. Satisfactory progress has been made in the construction of that portion of the building for which funds were provided. The Report of the Commissioners I shall direct to be laid before you : and I congratulate you on the near prospect of the completion of an Institution in which may be put in practice the most approved methods of ameliorating the condition of this most unhappy class of our fellow-beings.

Through the mercy of Providence there has been no actual necessity, during the past year, for putting the Quarantine Act in operation. I deem it right, never-

31st January and 3rd February, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor, &c. &c.*

theless, to impress upon you the importance of supplying any defects there may be in the existing Laws for the removal of nuisances, and for enforcing general cleanliness, so essential to the public health.

I will only further detain you in assuring you that upon the subjects to which I have called your attention, and on others which may be discussed in either branch of the Legislature, I shall be happy to facilitate to the utmost of my power your labours for the promotion of the public good.

The House of Assembly having withdrawn, His Excellency was pleased to retire.

A Copy of His Excellency's Speech having been left with the President, it was read by the Clerk—and

Ordered—That a Select Committee be appointed to draft an Address to His Excellency the Governor, in answer thereto—and

Ordered—That the Honourable Messrs. JOB, GRIEVE and ARCHIBALD be a Committee for that purpose.

Select Committee to draft Address to the Governor in reply to his Speech.

Ordered—That the Speech be printed,

The Honourable Mr. ARCHIBALD gives notice that on Friday next he will move that a Select Committee be appointed to report on the Rules of the House.

Notice of motion for a Committee on the Rules of the House.

On motion made and seconded the House adjourned until Friday next, at two o'clock.

House adjourns.

FRIDAY, 3RD FEBRUARY, 1854.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

House meets.

Present:

Members present.

The Honourable WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant.*
 “ E. M. ARCHIBALD, *Attorney General.*
 “ JAMES CROWDY, *Colonial Secretary.*
 “ JOSEPH NOAD.
 “ CHARLES F. BENNETT.
 “ LAURENCE O'BRIEN.
 “ THOMAS B. JOB.

3rd and 7th February, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

The minutes of Tuesday last were read.

Select Committee report draft of an Address to the Governor, in reply to his Speech.

The Honourable Mr. JOB, from the Committee appointed to prepare an Address to His Excellency the Governor in answer to his Speech at the opening of the Session, presented a draft thereof.

Ordered—That the same be received.

Address read first time.

The Address was then read a first time, and

Ordered—That it be read a second time to-morrow.

Notice of motion to suspend 37th rule of the House.

The Honourable Mr. JOB gives notice that he will, to-morrow, move the suspension of the 37th rule of the House, with reference to the said Address.

Petition of Mr. Robert Rodger read.

On motion of the Honourable Mr. CROWDY, the Petition of Mr. Robert Rodger, praying to be appointed the Reporter of this House, was read, and—

Ordered—To lie on the Table.

Notice of motion to appoint a Select Committee on printing and publishing the Debates of the House.

The Honourable Mr. CROWDY gives notice that he will, to-morrow, move that a Select Committee be appointed to report on the Printing and Publishing the Debates of this House.

Select Committee appointed to report on Rules of the House.

Pursuant to notice, the Honourable Mr. ARCHIBALD moved that a Select Committee be appointed to take into consideration the Rules and Regulations of this House, and to report thereon—and

Ordered—That the Honourable Messrs. ARCHIBALD, NOAD and THOMAS be a Committee for that purpose.

Notice of motion respecting the taking the Chair of the House.

The Honourable Mr. NOAD gives notice that to-morrow he will move that it be an order of the House during the present Session, that the Chair be taken at two o'clock precisely.

House adjourns.

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until two o'clock, P.M. on Tuesday next.

TUESDAY, 7TH FEBRUARY, 1854.

House meets.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

7th February, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor, &c. &c.*

Present:

Members present.

The Honourable JOSEPH NOAD.
 “ CHARLES F. BENNETT.
 “ THOMAS B. JOB.

The minutes of yesterday were read.

On motion of the Honourable Mr. JOB, the Petition of the Deputy Clerk of Council, praying that a Scale of Fees on Private Bills might be established in this House, was read—and

Petition of Deputy Clerk of Council—

Ordered—To be referred to the Select Committee on the Rules and Regulations of this House.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. BENNETT, the Petition of Mr. W. J. Ward, praying to be appointed Publisher of the Proceedings of this House, was read—and

and of W. J. Ward—
Read.

Ordered—To lie on the Table.

Pursuant to notice, the Honourable Mr. JOB moved that the 37th rule of the House be suspended, with reference to the address to the Governor, in answer to His Excellency's Speech on the opening of the Session,—and

37th rule of the House suspended.

Ordered accordingly.

Pursuant to notice, and in the absence of the Honourable Mr. CROWDY, the Honourable Mr. BENNETT moved that a Select Committee be appointed to report on the Printing and Publishing the Debates of the House.

Select Committee appointed to report on the Printing the Debates of the House.

Ordered—That the Honourable Messrs. CROWDY, BENNETT and NOAD be a Committee for that purpose.

Pursuant to notice of the Honourable Mr. NOAD, it was

Ordered—That during the present Session, unless otherwise ordered, the Chair shall be taken by the senior member present, at two o'clock precisely; and that in case of there being no quorum at that hour, the House shall stand adjourned to the same hour the following day.

The Chair to be taken at two o'clock precisely.

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until Friday next, at two o'clock, P.M.

House adjourns.

10th February, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

FRIDAY, 10TH FEBRUARY, 1854.

House meets.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Present:

Members present.

The Honourable WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant.*
 “ EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, *Attorney General.*
 “ JAMES CROWDY, *Colonial Secretary.*
 “ JOSEPH NOAD.
 “ CHARLES F. BENNETT.
 “ THOMAS B. JOB.
 “ JAMES J. GRIEVE

The minutes of Tuesday last were read.

Select Committee report
on the Reporting and
Publishing the Proceed-
ings of the House.

The Honourable Mr. CROWDY, from the Select Committee appointed to report on the Reporting and Publishing the Proceedings of the House, reported as follows:—

The Report.

The Select Committee on the Reporting and Publishing the Reports of the House, beg leave to report that they are of opinion that it will be expedient to employ a Reporter during the present Session.

That the only applicant for the Reportership, is Mr. Robert Rodger.

That the only application for Publishing is from Mr. W. J. Ward.

That the Committee recommend to the House to appoint these gentlemen respectively.

That it is the opinion of the Committee that the Reporter and Publisher should, each, be allowed Fifty Pounds Sterling.

(Signed) . JAMES CROWDY,
Chairman.

Committee Room, }
9th February, 1854. }

The Report having been read, it was

Ordered—That the Report be received and adopted.

10th February, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor, &c. &c.*

Pursuant to the order of the day, the Address to the Governor, in answer to His Excellency's Speech at the opening of the Session, was read a second time—and the House went into Committee thereon ;

Address to the Governor in answer to his Speech on opening the Session—read 2nd time and committed.

The Honourable Mr. NOAD in the Chair.

After some time the House resumed.

The Chairman reported the Address with some amendments.

Reported—

Ordered—That the Report be received.

The Address, as amended, was then read a third time and passed, and is as follows :—

Read 3d time & passed.

To His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Island of Newfoundland and its Dependencies, &c. &c.*

The Address.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

We, Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Council of Newfoundland, in General Assembly convened, beg leave respectfully to thank your Excellency for the Speech with which you have been pleased to open the present Session of the Legislature.

We concur with your Excellency that our humble and hearty acknowledgments to Almighty God are due for that measure of public health and tranquillity which has been graciously vouchsafed to this Colony during the past year; blessings not without their alloy from the distress which unhappily prevails in consequence of the continuance of the potato disease, and the partial failure of the Fishery.

Owing to the causes stated by your Excellency, it was obviously necessary to exceed the Grant made last Session for the relief of the poor, and we shall readily concur in a measure to indemnify your Excellency for an outlay so unavoidable.

We are happy to learn that the Revenue has exceeded the estimate made of its probable amount.

We thank your Excellency for your promise to lay before us copies of the Despatches referred to by your Excellency ; and we heartily rejoice to find that Her Majesty's Government will carefully maintain our rights of Fishery, involving as those Fisheries do, interests of paramount importance to this Colony, and of grave concern to the Empire at large.

10th February, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

We agree in the opinion that, whilst Agriculture is a valuable adjunct to our Fisheries, it is upon the prosperity of these that the general welfare of this Colony is dependent; and it shall be our endeavour, as it is our duty, to devise and promote the best means of guarding them against encroachments from without, and of suppressing the illicit and extremely injurious traffic in Bait carried on by some of our own people with our foreign competitors.

We rejoice to learn that the service for which the grant made during the last Session for the Protection of our Fisheries, has been carried out with energy, and has been productive of benefit; and we fully concur with your Excellency in the expediency of the Executive of this Colony being placed in a position to maintain an efficient Coast Guard during the ensuing season.

We entertain the belief that there are many branches of Trade connected with our Fisheries that are capable of development and improvement, and which, if properly and economically conducted, would, by conducing to the maintenance and comfort of the labouring classes, ease the pressure upon the public funds for their relief, and add to the general wealth of the Colony.

The Laws relating to Education and the Administration of Justice shall have, as they deserve, our best consideration.

We are happy to find that satisfactory progress is being made in the Erection of a suitable Lunatic Asylum; and we shall hail with satisfaction the completion of an Institution calculated to alleviate the condition and sufferings of that class of our fellow-creatures, who, of all others, have the strongest claim upon our protection and sympathy.

We shall cheerfully contribute our aid towards the encouragement of Agriculture. We shall also devote our attention to the consideration of the Quarantine and Pickled Fish Acts.

In conclusion, we thank your Excellency for the assurance of your co-operation with us and the other branch of the Legislature in the promotion of such measures as may tend to the advancement of the true interests of this ancient and valuable Colony.

(Signed)

WILLIAM ROBINSON,

President.

*Council Chamber, }
10th February, 1854. }*

10th, 14th, and 15th February, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor, &c., &c.*

Ordered—That the Address be engrossed—and that a Select Committee be appointed to wait on the Governor to ascertain when His Excellency will be pleased to receive the House with the same.

Committee appointed to ascertain when His Excellency the Governor will receive the Address.

Ordered—That the Honourable Messrs. CROWDY, ARCHIBALD and NOAD be a Committee for that purpose.

On motion made and seconded the House adjourned until Tuesday next.

House adjourns.

TUESDAY, 14TH FEBRUARY, 1854.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

House meet

Present:

The Honourable WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant.*

“ EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, *Attorney General.*

“ JAMES CROWDY, *Colonial Secretary.*

“ WILLIAM THOMAS.

“ JAMES J. GRIEVE.

Members present.

The minutes of Friday last were read.

The Honourable Mr. CROWDY, from the Select Committee appointed to wait on the Governor to ascertain at what time His Excellency would receive the Address of this House in reply to his Speech on opening the Session, reported that His Excellency had named ten minutes before two o'clock to-morrow.

Colonial Secretary reports that the Governor will receive the Address of this House to-morrow

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until a quarter before two o'clock to-morrow.

House adjourns.

WEDNESDAY, 15TH FEBRUARY, 1854

The House met pursuant to adjournment

House meets.

15th and 17th February, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

Present :

Members present.

The Honourable WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant.*
 “ EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, *Attorney General.*
 “ JAMES CROWDY, *Colonial Secretary.*
 “ WILLIAM THOMAS.
 “ JOSEPH NOAD.
 “ CHARLES F. BENNETT.
 “ JAMES J. GRIEVE

The minutes of yesterday were read.

House proceeds to the
Government House with
its Address.

At ten minutes before two o'clock the House proceeded to the Government House with its Address in reply to the Speech of His Excellency the Governor on opening the Session.

At half-past two o'clock, the House having returned, the Honourable the President reported that His Excellency had been pleased to receive the said Address, and to return an answer thereto in the following words:—

Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Council :—

Governor's reply to the
Address.

I thank you for this Address, and for the assurance it contains that you will co-operate with myself and the other branch of the Legislature in the promotion of measures recognized by you as tending to the advancement of the true interests of this ancient and valuable Colony.

House adjourns.

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until Friday next.

FRIDAY, 17TH FEBRUARY, 1854.

Present :

The Honourable JOSEPH NOAD.

House adjourned for
want of a quorum.

At two o'clock, P.M., there not being a quorum, the House stood adjourned until Tuesday next.

21st and 24th February, and 3rd March, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor, &c. &c.*

TUESDAY, 21ST FEBRUARY, 1854.

Present:

The Honourable JAMES CROWDY, *Colonial Secretary.*
 “ JOSEPH NOAD.

At two o'clock, P. M., there not being a quorum, the House stood adjourned until Friday next.

FRIDAY, 24TH FEBRUARY, 1854.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

House meets.

Present:

The Honourable JAMES CROWDY, *Colonial Secretary.*
 “ JOSEPH NOAD.
 “ CHARLES F. BENNETT.
 “ THOMAS B. JOB.

Members present.

The minutes of Wednesday, Friday, and Tuesday last were read.

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until Friday next.

House adjourned.

FRIDAY, 3RD MARCH, 1854.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

House meets.

Present:

The Honourable E. M. ARCHIBALD, *Attorney General.*
 “ JAMES CROWDY, *Colonial Secretary.*
 “ WILLIAM THOMAS.
 “ JOSEPH NOAD.
 “ CHARLES F. BENNETT.
 “ LAURENCE O'BRIEN.
 “ THOMAS B. JOB.
 “ JAMES J. GRIEVE.

Members present.

3rd and 10th March, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

The minutes of Friday last were read.

Notice of a Bill to consolidate the Laws relating to the Registration Deeds—and of an

The Honourable the ATTORNEY GENERAL gives notice that on Friday next he will bring in a Bill to amend and consolidate the Laws relating to the Registration of Deeds.

Address to the Governor to effect an Insurance on the Public Buildings of the Colony.

The Honourable Mr. JOB gives notice that, to-morrow, he will move that an Address be presented to the Governor, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to take the necessary steps for effecting an Insurance on the Public Buildings of the Colony.

House adjourns.

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until Friday next.

FRIDAY, 10TH MARCH, 1854.

House meets.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Present :

Members present.

The Honourable WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant*,
 “ WILLIAM THOMAS.
 “ CHARLES F. BENNETT.
 “ LAURENCE O'BRIEN.
 “ THOMAS B. JOB.
 “ JAMES J. GRIEVE.
 “ JAMES CROWDY, *Colonial Secretary*.
 “ EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, *Attorney General*.

The minutes of Friday last were read.

Draft of Address to the Governor to Insure the Public Buildings against Fire—presented

Pursuant to notice the Honourable Mr. JOB brought in Draft of an Address to the Governor, praying His Excellency to take the necessary measures for effecting an Insurance, against Fire, on the Public Buildings of the Colony, which was read and adopted, and is as follows:—

The Address.

To His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON,
Esquire, Governor, &c., &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

We, Her Majesty's Council, in General Assembly convened, beg leave respectfully to bring under your Excellency's consideration, the propriety of causing

10th, 17th and 20th March, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor, &c. &c.*

Insurance against loss by Fire to be effected upon some of the principal Public Buildings of this Colony.

We believe that similar Insurances are effected by the Governments of some of the neighbouring Colonies; and we think that advantage might result from the adoption of such precautionary measures in this Colony, and accordingly submit the same for your Excellency's consideration.

Ordered—That said Address be engrossed—and

Ordered—That the Honourable Messrs. JOB and BENNETT be a Deputation to present the same to His Excellency the Governor.

Deputation appointed to present the same to the Governor.

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until Friday next.

House adjourns.

FRIDAY, 17TH MARCH, 1854.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

House meets.

Present :

The Honourable EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, *Attorney General.*
 “ WILLIAM THOMAS.
 “ JOSEPH NOAD.
 “ THOMAS B. JOB.

Members present.

The minutes of Friday last were read.

The Honourable Mr. JOB, from the Committee appointed to present the Address to the Governor on the subject of effecting an Insurance on the Public Buildings of the Colony, reported that the Address had been presented, and that His Excellency had replied that it should receive his attention.

Presentation of the Address on the subject of effecting an Insurance on Public Buildings—reported.

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until Monday next.

House adjourns.

MONDAY, 20TH MARCH, 1854.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

House meets.

20th, 21st and 24th March, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

Present :

Members present. *The Honourable* WILLIAM THOMAS.
 " JOSEPH NOAD.
 " LAURENCE O'BRIEN.

The minutes of Friday last were read.

House adjourns. On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until to-morrow.

TUESDAY, 21ST MARCH, 1854.

At two of the clock, P.M., there was

Present :

The Honourable JOSEPH NOAD.

House adjourned for
want of a quorum.

There not being a quorum the House stood adjourned until Friday next.

FRIDAY, 24TH MARCH, 1854.

House meets. The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Present :

Members present. *The Honourable* WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant*.
 " EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, *Attorney General*.
 " JAMES CROWDY, *Colonial Secretary*.
 " JOSEPH NOAD.
 " CHARLES F. BENNETT.
 " LAURENCE O'BRIEN.
 " THOMAS B. JOB.

The minutes of Monday and Tuesday last were read.

Despatch on the subject
of Responsible Govern-
ment laid before the
House by direction of
the Governor.

The Honourable Mr. Secretary CROWDY lays before the House, by direction of the Governor, a Despatch from the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, dated 21st February, 1854, on the subject of Responsible Government; and states that with reference to the proposed new form of Government for this Colony, His Excellency desires him to say that he will be happy to co-

24th and 28th March, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor, &c. &c.*

operate with the Council in fulfilling those pre-requisites, some of which His Grace the Duke of Newcastle considers essential to justice, and others highly important to the satisfactory working of the new system of Government.

His Excellency hopes that the result of the deliberations of the Legislature with a view to the introduction of the new system, and the operation of the system itself, will conduce to the welfare of this ancient Dependency of the Crown.

The Despatch having been read, it was

Ordered—That it be printed.

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until Tuesday next.

House adjourns.

TUESDAY, 28TH MARCH, 1854.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

House meets.

Present:

The Honourable WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant.*
 “ EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, *Attorney General.*
 “ JAMES CROWDY, *Colonial Secretary.*
 “ WILLIAM THOMAS.
 “ JOSEPH NOAD.
 “ LAURENCE O'BRIEN.
 “ THOMAS B. JOB.
 “ JAMES J. GRIEVE.
 “ CHARLES F. BENNETT

Members present.

The minutes of Friday last were read.

The Honourable Mr. Secretary CROWDY lays before the House, by command of the Governor, the following documents, viz:—

Documents laid before the House by command of the Governor.

An Estimate of the charge of defraying the Public Expenditure of the Island for the year ending the 31st December, 1854.

A Consolidated Account Current of Receipts and Payments for the year ended 5th January, 1854.

28th and 31st March, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

A Despatch from the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies to His Excellency the Governor, dated September 17th, 1853, in reply to Addresses from the Council and House of Assembly deprecating any concession of any new Fishing privileges to the French, on the coast of Newfoundland.

The Despatch having been read, it was

Ordered—That it be printed.

House adjourns.

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until Friday next.

FRIDAY, 31ST MARCH, 1854.

House meets.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Present :

Members present.

The Honourable WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant.*
 “ WILLIAM THOMAS.
 “ JOSEPH NOAD.
 “ THOMAS B. JOB.
 “ EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, *Attorney General.*
 “ CHARLES F. BENNETT.
 “ JAMES CROWDY, *Colonial Secretary.*

The minutes of Tuesday last were read.

The Honourable Mr. Secretary CROWDY lays before the House, by command of the Governor, the following documents, viz. :—

Documents laid before the House by command of the Governor.

A Despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies to His Excellency, dated the 30th July, 1853, in reply to an Address from the Council and House of Assembly praying for a Loan of £50,000 from Her Majesty's Government, for the completion of Main Lines of Road.

A Despatch from His Excellency the Governor in acknowledgment of the foregoing, dated 16th September, 1853—and

A Despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, dated 3rd November, 1853, with reference to the Address of the Council and Assembly above-mentioned.

The Despatches having been read, it was

31st March and 3rd April, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor, &c., &c.*

Ordered—That they be printed.

On motion of the Honourable Mr. THOMAS, a Petition from the Inhabitants of Heart's Content, praying for a grant of money for the establishment of a Post Office at that settlement, was read—and

Petition from Heart's Content, for a Post Office, read.

Ordered—To lie on the Table.

A Deputation from the House of Assembly brought up two Bills for the concurrence of this House, entitled—

Message from the House of Assembly with two Bills, viz.—

“An Act to Incorporate a Company under the style and title of the New York, Newfoundland, and London Telegraph Company”—and

Telegraph Company Incorporation Bill—and

“An Act to Repeal an Act passed in the 15th year of Her Majesty's Reign, entitled “An Act to repeal certain parts of an Act passed in the 14th year of Her Majesty's Reign, entitled “An Act for the appointment of Electric Telegraph Commissioners, and for Incorporating Electric Telegraph Companies; and also to provide for Incorporating the Newfoundland Electric Telegraph Company; and also “An Act to amend the said recited Act, passed in the 16th year of Her Majesty's Reign;”—which were severally read a first time—and

Electric Telegraph Repeal Bill.

Ordered—To be read a second time to-morrow, and to be printed.

The Honourable Mr. CROWDY gives notice that on Monday next he will move that the 37th rule of the House, with reference to the Bills above named, be suspended.

Notice of motion to suspend 37th rule of the House.

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until Monday next.

House adjourns.

MONDAY, 3RD APRIL, 1854.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

House meets.

Present:

The Honourable WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant.*
 “ EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, *Attorney General.*
 “ JAMES CROWDY, *Colonial Secretary.*
 “ WILLIAM THOMAS.
 “ JOSEPH NOAD.
 “ CHARLES F. BENNETT.
 “ LAURENCE O'BRIEN.
 “ THOMAS B. JOB.
 “ JAMES J. GRIEVE.

Members present.

3rd and 4th April, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

The minutes of Friday last were read.

Electric Telegraph Repeal Bill read 2nd time.

Pursuant to the order of the day the Bill to repeal certain Acts incorporating an Electric Telegraph Company, was read a second time—and

Ordered to be committed to-morrow.

New York, Newfoundland, and London Telegraph Incorporation Bill—read 2nd time.

Pursuant to the order of the day, the Bill entitled “An Act to Incorporate a Company under the style and title of the New York, Newfoundland, and London Telegraph Company,” was read a second time.

37th rule of the House suspended.

Whereupon the Honourable Mr. Secretary CROWDY, pursuant to notice, moved that the 37th rule of the House, with reference to the above-named Bills, be suspended—and

Ordered accordingly.

Telegraph Bill committed.

The House thereupon went into Committee on the last-named Bill ;

The Honourable Mr. NOAD in the Chair.

After some time the House resumed.

The Chairman reported progress, and asked leave to sit again to-morrow.

Ordered—That the Report be received.

House adjourns.

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until to-morrow.

TUESDAY, 4TH APRIL, 1854.

House meets.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Present :

Members present.

The Honourable WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant.*
 “ EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, *Attorney General.*
 “ JAMES CROWDY, *Colonial Secretary.*
 “ WILLIAM THOMAS.
 “ JOSEPH NOAD.
 “ CHARLES F. BENNETT.
 “ THOMAS B. JOB.
 “ JAMES J. GRIEVE.

4th April, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor, &c. &c.*

The minutes of yesterday were read.

The Honourable Mr. Secretary CROWDY lays before the House, by command of the Governor, the following documents, viz. :—

Documents laid before the House by command of the Governor.

A Report of the Newfoundland Marine Insurance Company ; and a statement of the affairs of the St. John's Marine Insurance Company for the year 1853.

Pursuant to the order of the day, the Bill entitled " An Act to amend an Act passed in the 15th year of Her Majesty's Reign, entitled " An Act to repeal certain parts of an Act passed in the 14th year of Her Majesty's Reign, entitled " An Act for the appointment of Electric Telegraph Commissioners, and for Incorporating Electric Telegraph Companies, and also to provide for Incorporating the Newfoundland Electric Telegraph Company ;" and also an Act to amend the said recited Act, passed in the 16th year of Her Majesty's Reign—was read a second time—and

Electric Telegraph Repeal Bill—read 2nd time

The House went into Committee thereon ;

—committed

The Honourable Mr. CROWDY in the Chair.

After some time the House resumed.

The Chairman reported the Bill without amendment.

—reported.

Ordered—That the Report be received.

Pursuant to the order of the day the House went into Committee on the Bill entitled " An Act to Incorporate a Company under the style and title of the New York, Newfoundland, and London Telegraph Company ;"

Telegraph Company Incorporation Bill—committed—

The Honourable Mr. NOAD in the Chair.

After some time the House resumed.

The Chairman reported the Bill with some amendments.

reported, with amendments.

Ordered—That the Report be received.

Ordered—That the amendments be engrossed, and the Bill, as amended, read a third time to-morrow.

On motion made and seconded the House adjourned until to-morrow.

House adjourns.

5th April, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

WEDNESDAY, 5TH APRIL, 1854.

House meets.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Present :

Members present.

The Honourable WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant.*
 “ EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, *Attorney General.*
 “ JAMES CROWDY, *Colonial Secretary.*
 “ WILLIAM THOMAS.
 “ JOSEPH NOAD.
 “ CHARLES F. BENNETT.
 “ LAURENCE O'BRIEN.

The minutes of yesterday were read.

Telegraph Company In-
 corporation Bill — re-
 committed.

On motion of the Honourable Mr. CROWDY, the Bill entitled “ An Act to Incorporate a Company under the style and title of the New York, Newfoundland, and London Telegraph Company,” was re-committed ;

The Honourable Mr. NOAD in the Chair.

After some time the House resumed.

Reported with amend-
 ments.

The Chairman reported the Bill with some amendments.

Ordered—That the Report be received.

The amendments are as follow :

The amendments.

In the Preamble of the Bill, 2nd line—insert after the word “ Newfoundland,” “ And whereas the parties hereinafter named have associated for the purpose of forming a Company, with a Capital or Joint Stock of Three Hundred and Twelve Thousand Five Hundred Pounds Sterling, or One Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars, with the privilege of extending it, as hereinafter provided.”

In the 2nd Section, 2nd line—expunge “ be,” and insert instead thereof “ consist of the said sum of.”

In the 3rd Section, 5th line—expunge after the word “ Stockholders,” the words “ at such town or place in the United States or Newfoundland,” and insert in their stead “ in the city of London, or in the city of New York, or in the town of St. John in this Island.”

5th April, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor, &c. &c.*

In the 3rd Section, 6th line—expunge “designate,” and insert “from time to time determine.”

————— 7th and 8th lines—expunge the word “two,” and insert “three” in its stead ; and after the word “newspapers,” insert “viz., the London Gazette, the Royal Gazette of this Island, and a newspaper published in New York ;” and expunge the words between “newspaper” and “at.”

————— 14th line—insert after the word “them,” “and any Stockholder owning Five Shares of the Capital Stock of the Company, shall be eligible to be a Director.”

————— 16th line—expunge the word “two,” and insert “three” in its stead ; expunge the word “one,” and after the word “published,” insert “as abovementioned ;” and expunge “in Newfoundland and the other in New York.”

In the 5th Section, 5th page, 12th line—insert after “Sheriff,” “or other proper officer.”

In the 6th Section, 1st line—expunge “may,” and insert “shall” in its stead.

————— 2nd line—expunge the words “or lines.”

————— 4th line—expunge the word “also,” and insert in its stead “may also construct, complete, keep in order, and operate any other line or lines.”

————— 5th line—insert after “point,” “or points.”

————— 7th line—after the word “village,” insert “in Newfoundland.”

At the end of this Section—insert “And provided also that if at any time after ten years from the passing of this Act, any branch line, to connect with any town or village aforesaid, be desired by the Government of this Colony, and the Company shall not establish the same within twelve months after a requisition to that effect from the Governor of this Colony, the Government of this Colony may establish such branch line at its own expense for local traffic only.”

In the 8th Section, 1st line—substitute “Great Britain” for “Newfoundland ;” and in the 2nd line, “Newfoundland” for “Great Britain.”

In the 10th Section, 6th line—expunge the words “not exceeding five,” and insert in their stead the words “or parcels, the contents of which shall not be less than three.”

5th April, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

In the 10th Section, 8th line—insert after the word “mines,” “and to such conditions as to the working thereof within a limited period, not less than ten years.”

At the end of this Section—insert “and all grants to the said Company under this Act shall be issued without any charge to them for Surveys or otherwise.” Provided always that nothing herein contained shall affect the provisions of the 7th and 8th sections of the Act of the Legislature of this Colony, passed in the 7th year of Her Majesty’s reign, cap. 1, which sections are as follow, viz.—“That it shall and may be lawful for the Governor, or person administering the Government, from time to time to reserve, set apart, and appropriate such parts or portions of any unoccupied Land in any of the Districts of this Island, or places within its Government, as he may, by and with the advice and consent of the Council, deem proper and expedient to appropriate, for the purpose of erecting Court Houses, Market places, Churches, Chapels, or other places of Public Worship, or for the erection of School Houses, or for any other public use or purpose; and also such portions of unappropriated Ships’ Room, Beaches, and Shores as may be deemed necessary or convenient to set apart for the general and public uses of the inhabitants within any of the districts or places aforesaid.”

“That it shall and may be lawful for the Governor, or person administering the Government, by and with the consent of the Council, to order the reservation of such and such portion of Bogs as may be deemed necessary for the supply of Manure or Fuel to the public, and such and such portion of Forest as may be necessary for the uses of the Fishery.”

In the 11th Section—expunge the word “Path” or “Paths,” and insert “Road” or “Roads” in their stead, throughout the section.

————— 11th page, 7th line—expunge “that,” and insert “and” in its stead.

————— 9th line—expunge the word “that.”

————— 10th line—expunge the letter “a,” and add the letter “s” to “Highway.”

————— 11th line—expunge “who,” and insert “which” in its place.

In the 14th Section—Strike out the words from “created,” in the 1st line of this section, to the word “shall,” in the 4th line, and at the end of the section insert the following proviso:—“Provided, however, that if the said line of Telegraph shall not have been completed from St. John’s to Cape Ray, or other point

5th April, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor, &c. &c.*

on the Western Coast of Newfoundland, and a communication by Telegraph across Prince Edward Island or the Island of Cape Breton, or otherwise, established with the Continent of America, within Five years from the passing of this Act, the exclusive privileges granted by this section shall cease.

In the 15th Section, 13th page, 20th line—insert after the word “tenth,” “and twenty-second.”

In the 16th Section, 15th page, 4th line—expunge the words “property and;” and after “works,” insert “and property.”

————— 8th line—substitute the word “Roads” for “Paths.”

Insert at the end of this Section—“But before the said remaining thirty Bonds are delivered to the said Company, they shall be offered by the Company for sale at par (reckoning the rate of exchange between St. John’s and London at twenty per cent. premium,) to the Government of this Colony, or any inhabitant thereof, by notice published for three successive weeks in the *Royal Gazette* of this Island; and if the said Bonds, or any of them, be purchased by the Government or any inhabitant of this Colony at or before the expiration of the said three weeks, the Bonds so purchased shall be delivered to the purchaser, and the par value thereof be paid to the said Company in lieu of the said Bonds. And in case the said Company shall not think fit to receive the Bonds last above-mentioned within ten days after they shall be entitled to receive the same, there shall be offered for sale to the Government for the inhabitants of this Colony, Stock in the said Company to the extent of Thirty Thousand Pounds Sterling, or One Hundred and Forty-four Thousand Dollars, at par, which shall in such case be offered by advertisement in manner above mentioned.”

In the 17th Section, 16th page, 11th line—Insert after the word “auction,” “at St. John’s or New York.”

————— 12th line—insert “London Gazette,” “the” before “Royal;” expunge “the Colony,” and insert “this Island;” expunge “some paper,” and insert “newspaper.”

————— 13th line—insert after the word “over,” the words “to the said Company.”

————— 15th line—expunge the words “to the said Company,” after the word “Bonds.”

5th April, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

In the 17th Section, 16th page, 17th line—insert after “aforesaid,” the words “together with such sum as will purchase such annuity as aforesaid.”

————— expunge the last word of this section, and insert instead thereof “of all their claims arising out of the said guarantee.”

In the 18th Section, 2nd line—insert after “and,” “Ireland or;” expunge “or” after “Island,” and insert after the word “place,” “or places.”

————— 4th line—insert the word “Canada” before the word “Prince.”

In the 19th Section, 18th page, 11th line—expunge the words “land, privileges, bonuses.”

————— 13th line—expunge the words “rights and privileges,” and insert the word “effect” in their stead; expunge the word “said,” and after “Company” insert “hereby incorporated.”

In the 20th Section—expunge the 1st and 2nd lines, and insert in place thereof the following, as Section 20:—“Every Stockholder in the said Company, whether a British subject, or a citizen of the United States, or other alien, or a resident in Newfoundland, the United States, or elsewhere, has and shall have equal rights to hold Stock in the said Company, to vote on the same, and to be eligible to office in the said Company.

[The rest of the section to form Section 21.]

————— 6th line—expunge the first two words, and insert “London” in their stead; and expunge the eighth word, and insert “New York” in its place; expunge the words “such place,” and insert “St. John’s” instead thereof.

————— 19th page, 1st line—after “London,” insert “and New York;” and at the end of the Section insert “and the United States respectively.”

In the 21st Section, 3rd line—insert after the word “wire,” the words “from this Island.”

Insert at the end of this Section—“and Provisos as are mentioned in the 10th Section of this Act.”

In the 22nd Section, 5th line—insert after the word “year,” as follows, “with a statement of any Bonds that have been converted into Stock or cancelled, which Bonds shall be returned to the Secretary of the Colony.”

5th and 7th April, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, Esquire, Governor, &c., &c.

In the 22nd Section, 6th line—expunge all the words after the word “and” in this line, and insert the words “Stockholders, to be deposited in the Colonial Secretary’s Office for reference only.”

The Bill, as amended, was then read a third time and passed—and

Bill read 3rd time and passed.

The Honourable the President signed the same.

Pursuant to the order of the day, the Bill entitled “An Act to repeal an Act passed in the Fifteenth year of Her Majesty’s reign, entitled “An Act to repeal certain parts of an Act passed in the Fourteenth year of Her Majesty’s reign, entitled “An Act for the appointment of Electric Telegraph Commissioners, and for Incorporating Electric Telegraph Companies; and also to provide for Incorporating the Newfoundland Electric Telegraph Company;” and also “An Act to amend the said-recited Act passed in the 16th year of Her Majesty’s reign,”—was read a third time and passed—and

Electric Telegraph Repeal Bill—

read 3rd time and passed.

The Honourable the President signed the same.

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until Friday next.

House adjourns.

FRIDAY, 7TH APRIL 1854,

The House met pursuant to adjournment,

House meets.

Present :

The Honourable EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, *Attorney General,*

“ WILLIAM THOMAS.

“ JOSEPH NOAD.

“ CHARLES F. BENNETT.

“ LAURENCE O’BRIEN,

“ THOMAS B. JOB.

Members present.

The minutes of Wednesday last were read.

A Deputation from the House of Assembly brought up a Bill for the concurrence of this House, entitled “An Act to suspend for one year, and thereafter to repeal, “An Act passed in the Fifteenth year of the reign of Her Majesty, entitled “An Act for the Encouragement of Communication by Steam between certain Ports and Saint John’s,” which was read a first time—and

Steam Communication Suspension Bill brought up and read 1st time.

7th and 11th April, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

Ordered—To be read a second time to-morrow.

The same Deputation also brought up the following message:—

Mr. President,—

Message from the House of Assembly concurring in the Amendments of the Council on the Telegraph Company Incorporation Bill.

The House of Assembly acquaint Her Majesty's Council that they concur in the amendments made by the Council in and upon the Bill sent up from the Assembly, entitled "An Act to Incorporate a Company under the style and title of the New York, Newfoundland, and London Telegraph Company."

(Signed)

J. KENT,

Speaker.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, }
7th April, 1854. }

House adjourns.

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until Tuesday next.

TUESDAY, 11TH APRIL, 1854.

House meets.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Present :

Members present.

The Honourable WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant.*
" EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, *Attorney General.*
" WILLIAM THOMAS.
" JOSEPH NOAD.
" CHARLES F. BENNETT.
" LAURENCE O'BRIEN.

The minutes of Friday last were read.

Steam Communication Suspension Bill read 2nd time.

Pursuant to the order of the day, the Bill entitled "An Act to suspend for one year, and thereafter to repeal an Act passed in the Fifteenth year of the reign of Her Majesty, entitled "An Act for the Encouragement of Communication by Steam between certain Ports and St. John's," was read a second time—and

Ordered to be committed to-morrow.

House adjourns.

On motion made and seconded the House adjourned until Thursday next.

13th April, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor, &c. &c.*

THURSDAY, 13TH APRIL, 1854.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

House meets.

Present :

The Honourable WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant.*

“ EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, *Attorney General.*

“ WILLIAM THOMAS.

“ JOSEPH NOAD.

“ THOMAS B. JOB.

“ LAURENCE O'BRIEN.

Members present.

The minutes of Tuesday last were read.

A Deputation from the House of Assembly brought up a Bill for the concurrence of this House, entitled “An Act to increase the present number of Representatives in the General Assembly of this Island, and to regulate the Representation thereof”—which was read a first time—and

Increase of Representatives Bill brought up and read 1st time.

Ordered—To be read a second time on Tuesday next.

Pursuant to the order of the day, the House went into Committee on the Bill entitled “An Act to suspend for one year, and thereafter to repeal, an Act passed in the Fifteenth year of the reign of Her Majesty, entitled “An Act for the Encouragement of Communication by Steam between certain Ports and Saint John's.”

Steam Communication, Repeal Bill—committed.

The Honourable Mr. THOMAS in the Chair.

After some time the House resumed.

The Chairman reported the Bill with some amendments.

Reported with Amendments.

Ordered—That the Report be received.

The amendments are as follow :

In the Preamble, 1st line—expunge the words “the said-recited Act,” and insert in their stead the words “An Act passed in the Fifteenth year of the reign of Her Majesty, entitled, “An Act for the Encouragement of Communication by Steam between certain Ports and Saint John's.”

The Amendments.

————— 3rd line—after “shall” insert “then,” and expunge the word “thereupon.”

13th and 15th April, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

Ordered—That the said Bill, as amended, be read a third time to-morrow.

House adjourns.

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until Saturday next, at half-past one o'clock, P.M.

SATURDAY, 15TH APRIL, 1854.

House meets.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Present:

Members present.

The Honourable WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant.*
 “ EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, *Attorney General.*
 “ WILLIAM THOMAS.
 “ JOSEPH NOAD.
 “ CHARLES F. BENNETT
 “ LAURENCE O'BRIEN.
 “ THOMAS B. JOB.

The minutes of Thursday last were read.

Steam Communication
 Repeal Bill read 3rd
 and passed.

Pursuant to the order of the day, the Bill, as amended, entitled “ An Act to suspend for one year, and thereafter to repeal, an Act passed in the Fifteenth year of the reign of Her Majesty, entitled “ An Act for the Encouragement of Communication by Steam between certain Ports and Saint John's,” was read a third time and passed—and

The Honourable the President signed the same.

Message from the House
 of Assembly concurring
 in Amendments on the
 Bill above named.

A Deputation from the House of Assembly brought up a message concurring in the amendments on the Bill above-named.

Governor arrives at the
 Council Chamber.

At two of the clock, P.M., His Excellency the Governor having come to the Legislative Council Chamber, and being seated on the Throne, the Serjeant-at-arms was ordered to direct the attendance of the Speaker and Members of the Commons' House of Assembly, in this House,—and they being come thereto, His Excellency was pleased to assent to the Bills entitled

His Excellency assents
 to the Bills viz:—

The Electric Telegraph
 Incorporation Repeal
 Bill—

“ An Act to repeal an Act passed in the 15th year of Her Majesty's Reign, entitled “ An Act to repeal certain parts of an Act passed in the 14th year of Her Majesty, entitled “ An Act for the appointment of Electric Telegraph Com-

15th, 18th and 21st April, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor, &c. &c.*

missioners, and for Incorporating Electric Telegraph Companies, and also to provide for Incorporating the Newfoundland Electric Telegraph Company;" and also an Act to amend the said recited Act, passed in the 16th year of Her Majesty's Reign"—and

and—

“An Act to Incorporate a Company under the style and title of the New York, Newfoundland, and London Telegraph Company.”

The Telegraph Incorporation Bill.

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until Tuesday next.

House adjourns.

TUESDAY, 18TH APRIL, 1854.

At two of the clock, P.M., there were

House meets.

Present:

The Honourable JAMES CROWDY, *Colonial Secretary*, and
“ JOSEPH NOAD.

Members present.

For want of a quorum the House stood adjourned until Friday next.

House adjourned for want of a quorum.

FRIDAY, 21ST APRIL, 1854.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

House meets.

Present:

The Honourable WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant*.
“ JAMES CROWDY, *Colonial Secretary*.
“ EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, *Attorney General*.
“ WILLIAM THOMAS.
“ CHARLES F. BENNETT.
“ JOSEPH NOAD.
“ LAURENCE O'BRIEN.
“ THOMAS B. JOB.
“ JAMES J. GRIEVE.

Members present.

The minutes of Saturday and Tuesday last were read

21st and 25th April, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

Notices of motion by the Hon. Attorney General, to bring in two Bills—viz:—a Bill to declare rates at which certain Coins shall pass current—and, a Bill to regulate the Currency.

The Honourable the ATTORNEY GENERAL gives notice that on Tuesday next he will bring in two Bills, namely, a Bill to declare the rates at which British Gold and Silver Coins shall pass current in this Colony; and a Bill to regulate the Currency of this Colony.

Increase of Representatives Bill—read 2nd time—

Pursuant to the order of the day, the Bill entitled “An Act to Increase the present number of Representatives in the General Assembly of this Island, and to regulate the Representation thereof,” was read a second time—and

referred to a Select Committee.

Ordered—That the said Bill be referred to a Select Committee of three members to report thereon—and

Ordered—That the Honourable Messrs. ARCHIBALD, THOMAS and BENNETT be a Committee for that purpose.

House adjourns.

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until Tuesday next.

TUESDAY, 25TH APRIL, 1854.

House meets.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Present :

Members present.

The Honourable WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant.*
 “ EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, *Attorney General.*
 “ JAMES CROWDY, *Colonial Secretary.*
 “ WILLIAM THOMAS.
 “ JOSEPH NOAD.
 “ CHARLES F. BENNETT.
 “ LAURENCE O'BRIEN.
 “ THOMAS B. JOB.
 “ JAMES J. GRIEVE.

The minutes of Friday last were read.

Pursuant to notice, the Honourable the ATTORNEY GENERAL brought in two Bills, entitled as follows :

British Coin rates Bill—

“ A Bill to declare the rates in currency at which British Gold and Silver Coins shall be a legal tender”—and

and Currency regulation Bill—brought in—

“ A Bill to regulate the Currency of this Colony”—

25th and 28th April, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor, &c. &c.*

Which were severally read a first time—and and read 1st time.

Ordered—To be read a second time to-morrow, and to be printed.

On motion made and seconded the House adjourned until Friday next. House adjourns.

FRIDAY, 28TH APRIL, 1854.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Present :

House meets.

The Honourable WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant.*

“ JAMES CROWDY, *Colonial Secretary.*

Members present.

“ WILLIAM THOMAS.

“ JOSEPH NOAD.

“ CHARLES F. BENNETT.

“ LAURENCE O'BRIEN.

“ THOMAS B. JOB.

“ JAMES J. GRIEVE.

“ EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, *Attorney General.*

The minutes of Tuesday last were read.

Pursuant to the order of the day, the Bill to declare the rates in currency at which British Gold and Silver Coins shall be a legal tender, was read a second time—and British Coin rates Bill, read 2nd time.

Ordered—To be committed to-morrow.

Pursuant to the order of the day, the Bill to regulate the Currency of this Colony, was read a second time—and Currency regulation Bill, read 2nd time.

Ordered—To be committed to-morrow.

The Honourable WILLIAM THOMAS from the Select Committee appointed to report on the Bill to Increase the present number of Representatives in the General Assembly of this Island, presented a Report, which was read— Select Committee present their Report on the Increase of Representatives Bill.

Ordered—That the said Report be received—and

Ordered—That it be referred to a Committee of the whole House—and that it be printed.

28th April, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

The Report is as follows:—

The Select Committee to whom was referred the Bill for increasing the number of Representatives, have examined its provisions, and find that the Bill proposes to increase the number of Representatives to twenty-nine, of whom ten shall be a quorum; that with the exception of the formation of La Poile into a new District, never before represented, and now to have one member, the original Electoral Districts of 1832 are retained,—that of St. John's to return six members, comprising two subdivisions; and that of Conception Bay, comprising five subdivisions, which will now return, in all, seven members.

The proportion of Representatives to the whole amount of population according to the last census (of 1845) is one for every 3,327; but this proportion is, of course, far from uniform, and, indeed, would be impracticable in view of the principle which, second only to that of an increase of the number of members of the Assembly, is the professed object of this Bill—namely, the securing the probable return of certain relative numbers of Representatives of the two great religious denominations; that is to say, fifteen members representing the whole Protestant population of 49,521, composed of different sects; and fourteen members representing the whole Roman Catholic population of 46,775.

The Committee consider the suggestion of the Right Honourable Secretary of State contained in his recent despatch on this subject, a wise and judicious one, namely, that “the increase should be effected, not by giving additional members to existing constituencies, but by sub-dividing, as equally as geographical positions will admit, the districts now returning members.” And if, with this modification, provision were made for the representation of minorities in districts returning more than one member, on a plan now likely to be adopted in the representation of Counties in England, and which is practised with advantage in other countries possessing representative institutions, justice would be done to all parties, and the whole constituency be fairly represented.

By this means, also, the errors and inequalities in the first division of the Island into Electoral Districts, as well in the extent of the districts as in the number of Representatives assigned to each, and which division, it was then intended, should be but temporary, would be removed or remedied. It could alone have been owing to imperfect information of the extent of population, that two members were assigned to the District of Placentia and St. Mary's, while but one was assigned to each of the Districts of Bonavista and Twillingate and Fogo; since (according to the last census,) the first-named District has but 6,473 inhabitants, while the two latter have respectively 7,227 and 6,744,—an injustice which the present Bill would confirm and perpetuate.

28th April, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor, &c. &c.*

Again, it is proposed by the Bill to double the number of members of the District of St. John's; which increase, in proportion to the whole number of Representatives, and having regard to the rule which in the United Kingdom is invariably applied to the representation of large towns, is a larger proportion than is fairly due to the District. When it is borne in mind that the Sessions of the Legislature are held in St. John's;—that, at present, many Outport members reside here, and that with an increase of members there is every probability of an equally large, if not a greater proportion of members for the Outport Districts being residents in the capital; so large an increase of the number of Representatives as this Bill assigns to it, will, it is to be feared, create a preponderance of influence in its favour injurious to the interests of the Outport Districts. Five out of twenty-nine would, under all circumstances, be a more just proportion, (six being even in excess of the existing proportion,) and, moreover, a larger proportion of the whole representation, the Committee believe, than that of the Metropolitan County or District of any of the British North American Provinces. The subdivision of the Town and District into two parts will have no other influence on the returns than that of avoiding the inconvenience of electing so many Representatives at once.

The Committee, however, in noticing these among other inequalities which are owing, in no small degree, to the representation being adjusted to the old Electoral Districts, recommend that no alteration be made in the principle or details of the Bill sent up from the Assembly, beyond such as will effectuate the object which the Assembly professes to have in view, namely, that of providing for the probable return of fifteen Protestants and fourteen Roman Catholics.

The Committee will therefore confine their suggestions of alteration to two or three Districts only. In that of Conception Bay, it is proposed by the Bill to provide for the return of four members representing the Protestant inhabitants (16,455), and three members representing the Roman Catholic inhabitants (11,570.) The scheme of subdivision in the Bill will, as it appears to the Committee, effect this object; but for the reasons which influenced the Council last year, they think it desirable that Brigns should not be included in the first subdivision, namely, that from the St. John's District to Cupids; but in place thereof, they recommend the subdivision at the foot of this Report as well in respect of the first as of the other four subdivisions. The proportion of inhabitants to each member will be somewhat different, but this is of little importance, as the end sought by all parties in reference to the general return for the District will be equally attained.

There is likewise another mode of effecting the same object (that of allowing

28th April, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

the minority as well as the majority of the extensive District of Conception Bay being fairly represented) which the Committee suggest for consideration ; namely, to form one District from Horse Cove to Brigus exclusive, containing 3,230 Roman Catholics, and 737 Protestants, with one member ; and to embrace the rest of the District in two subdivisions, each to return three members :—the Electors in the two latter subdivisions being permitted, at their option, to give three votes to one Candidate, or one vote to each of three Candidates. These subdivisions might extend from Brigus to Harbour Grace inclusive, and from Carbonear to Bay-de-Verd inclusive,—the former containing 9,348 Protestants, and 4,168 Catholics ; the latter, 6,328 Protestants and 4,182 Catholics.

The reasons which, on former occasions, have influenced the Council in refusing to assent to an increase of the number of members for the District of Placentia and St. Mary's appear to the Committee to be unanswerable ; and until the two Districts of Bonavista and Twillingate and Fogo shall first have had three members assigned to each of them, they can see no justice in assigning three members to that of Placentia and St. Mary's.

It cannot fail to be perceived that while provision is made for the full Representation of both religious denominations in Conception Bay ; and while, at the same time, a minority of 6,210 Protestants in the District of St. John's, embracing the principal portion of the Commercial Body of the Island, is overlooked ; the three Districts of Ferryland, Placentia, and Burin, with an aggregate population of 15,201 inhabitants, have seven members apportioned to them, and the three Districts of Trinity, Bonavista, and Fogo, with an aggregate population of 22,942, being an excess of 7,348, have, by the Bill, only an equal number.

But in order to carry out the intentions of the Assembly, and to preserve the relative proportion of members to represent Protestant and Roman Catholic constituencies, the Committee recommend that three members be assigned to the District of Bonavista, and two to the District of Placentia and St. Mary's.

In this adjustment, the Committee assume that the return from Burin, which will now have two members, will be of one Protestant and one Roman Catholic. Notwithstanding there is in that District a majority of Protestants, yet, in two contests which have taken place, a Roman Catholic member has been returned, to the rejection of the Protestant candidate. But to put at rest all cause of dispute on this point, and to remove every objection to the fairness of the adjustment, the Committee recommend that in this District, at all events, the principle above adverted to be acted on, if the Council should not think fit to adopt it elsewhere (and

28th April and 2nd May, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, Esquire, Governor, &c., &c.

which the Committee are not at present prepared to recommend), namely, that of allowing the constituents to vote for one Candidate only, which will allow the minority to be represented.

(Signed)

E. M. ARCHIBALD.
W. THOMAS.

*Committee Room, }
April 27th, 1854. }*

PROBABLE Returns under the Bill, if amended as above suggested.

	Population.	Protestants.	Catholics.	Prot.	Cath
District of St. John's	25,196	6,210	18,986		6
“ of Trinity	8,801	7,518	1,286	3	
“ of Bonavista	7,227	5,418	1,809	3	
“ of Twillingate and Fogo	6,744	5,616	1,128	2	
“ of Ferryland	4,581	182	4,399		2
“ of Placentia and St. Mary's	6,473	1,018	5,455		2
“ of Burin	4,358	2,407	1,951	1	1
“ of Fortune Bay	2,920	2,557	363	1	
“ of LaPoile	2,180	2,151	29	1	
“ of Conception Bay					
1st Subdivision—Horse Cove to Turk's Gut, inclusive	3,997	769	3,230		1
2d ditto—Brigus to Port-de-Grave, both inclusive	5,538	4,150	1,388	1	
3d ditto—Bay Roberts to Harbour Grace, both inclusive	7,981	5,198	2,783	2	
4th ditto—Carbonear and Musquito.....	5,071	2,340	2,731		2
5th ditto—Fresh Water to Bay-de-Verd, inclusive	5,439	3,988	1,451	1	
				15	14

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until Tuesday next.

House adjourns.

TUESDAY, 2ND MAY, 1854.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

House meets.

2nd May, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

Present :

Members present.

The Honourable WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant.*
 “ JAMES CROWDY, *Colonial Secretary.*
 “ WILLIAM THOMAS.
 “ JOSEPH NOAD.
 “ CHARLES F. BENNETT.
 “ LAURENCE O'BRIEN.
 “ THOMAS B. JOB.
 “ JAMES J. GRIEVE.
 “ EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, *Attorney General.*

The minutes of Friday last were read.

British Coin Rates Bill
committed.

Pursuant to the order of the day, the House went into Committee on the Bill to declare the rates in Currency at which British Gold and Silver Coins shall be a legal tender ;

The Honourable Mr. NOAD in the Chair.

After some time the House resumed.

Reported with Amend-
ments.

The Chairman reported the Bill with some amendments.

Ordered—That the Bill, as amended, be engrossed, and read a third time to-morrow.

Increase of Representa-
tives Bill committed.

Pursuant to the order of the day, the House went into Committee on the Bill entitled “ An Act to increase the present number of Representatives in the General Assembly of this Island, and to regulate the Representation thereof;”

The Honourable Mr. NOAD in the Chair.

After some time the House resumed.

The Chairman reported progress, and asked leave to sit again to-morrow.

On motion it was ordered that a statement of the division of the Districts, as proposed by the Honourable Mr. BENNETT, be printed.

House adjourns.

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until Friday next.

5th May, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor, &c. &c.*

FRIDAY, 5TH MAY, 1854.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

House meets.

Present:

The Honourable WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant.*

Members present.

“ JAMES CROWDY, *Colonial Secretary,*
 “ EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, *Attorney General.*
 “ WILLIAM THOMAS.
 “ JOSEPH NOAD.
 “ CHARLES F. BENNETT
 “ LAURENCE O'BRIEN.
 “ THOMAS B. JOB.
 “ JAMES J. GRIEVE.

The minutes of Tuesday last were read.

Pursuant to the order of the day, the Bill to declare the rates at which British Gold and Silver Coins shall pass current in this Colony, was read a third time and passed—and it was

British Coin Rates Bill
read 3rd time and passed.

Ordered—That the Title of the said Bill be “ An Act to declare the rates at which British Gold and Silver Coins shall pass current in this Colony.”

Whereupon the Honourable the President signed the same.

Pursuant to the order of the day, the House went into Committee on the Bill to regulate the Currency of this Colony ;

Currency Regulation
Bill committed—

The Honourable Mr. JOB in the Chair.

After some time the House resumed.

The Chairman reported the Bill with some amendments.

Reported.

Ordered—That the Report be received—and

Ordered—That the Bill, as amended, be engrossed, and read a third time tomorrow.

On motion of the Honourable Mr. O'BRIEN, a Petition from Messrs. Brooking & Co., praying for a reduction of the Light Dues on large Steam Vessels entering the Port of St. John's, &c., was read—and

Petition of Messrs.
Brooking for a reduction
of the Light Dues
on large steamers read.

5th and 8th May, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

House adjourns.

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until Monday next.

MONDAY, 8TH MAY, 1854.

House meets.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Present:

Members present.

The Honourable WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant.*
 “ EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, *Attorney General.*
 “ JAMES CBOWDY, *Colonial Secretary.*
 “ JOSEPH NOAD.
 “ CHARLES F. BENNETT
 “ LAURENCE O'BRIEN.
 “ THOMAS B. JOB.

The minutes of Friday last were read.

Currency Bill read 3rd
time and passed.

Pursuant to the order of the day, the Bill to regulate the Currency of this Colony was read a third time and passed—and it was

Ordered—That the Title of the said Bill be “An Act to regulate the Currency of this Colony.”

Whereupon the Honourable the President signed the same.

Increase of Representa-
tives Bill committed.

Pursuant to the order of the day, the House went into Committee on the Bill entitled “An Act to Increase the present number of Representatives in the General Assembly of this Island, and to regulate the Representation thereof;”

The Honourable Mr NOAD in the Chair.

After some time the House resumed.

The Chairman reported progress and asked leave to sit again to-morrow.

Ordered—That the Report be received.

House adjourns:

On motion made and seconded the House adjourned until to-morrow.

9th and 12th May, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor, &c. &c.*

TUESDAY, 9TH MAY, 1854.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

House meets.

Present:

The Honourable WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant.*

Members present.

“ EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, *Attorney General.*

“ JAMES CROWDY, *Colonial Secretary.*

“ CHARLES F. BENNETT.

“ JOSEPH NOAD.

“ THOMAS B. JOB.

“ WILLIAM THOMAS.

“ LAURENCE O'BRIEN.

The minutes of yesterday were read.

Pursuant to the order of the day, the House went into Committee on the Bill entitled “An Act to Increase the present number of Representatives in the General Assembly of this Island, and to regulate the Representation thereof;”

Increase of Representatives Bill committed.

The Honourable Mr. NOAD in the Chair.

After some time the House resumed.

The Chairman reported progress and asked leave to sit again to-morrow.

Ordered—That the Report be received.

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until to-morrow.

House adjourns.

FRIDAY, 12TH MAY, 1854.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

House meets.

Present:

The Honourable WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant.*

Members present:

“ EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, *Attorney General.*

“ JAMES CROWDY, *Colonial Secretary.*

“ WILLIAM THOMAS.

“ JOSEPH NOAD.

“ CHARLES F. BENNETT.

“ LAURENCE O'BRIEN.

“ THOMAS B. JOB.

12th May, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

The minutes of Tuesday last were read.

Increase of Representa-
tives Bill committed.

Pursuant to the order of the day, the House went into Committee on the Bill entitled "An Act to increase the present number of Representatives in the General Assembly of this Island, and to regulate the Representation thereof;"

The Honourable Mr. NOAD in the Chair.

After some time the House resumed.

Reported—with

The Chairman reported the Bill with some amendments.

Ordered—That the Report be received and adopted.

The amendments are as follow :

Amendments.

In the 1st section of the Bill, 2nd page—Expunge the last two words of the 7th line, and the whole of the 8th line, and insert in their stead as follow:—" consist of, and include all, that part of the said Island which, bounded by the shore, is situate and lying between the North Head of Catalina, exclusive, and Cape Freels, inclusive, and the several Islands in Bonavista Bay."

————— 9th line—expunge the word "Two" in this line, and insert the word "Three" in its stead.

————— 10th line—expunge the last two words of this line to the word "Trinity," inclusive, in the 11th line, and insert in place thereof as follow:—" Consist of and include all that part of the said Island which, bounded as aforesaid, is situate and lying between Cape Verde Head, exclusive, and the North Head of Catalina, inclusive."

————— 18th line—expunge the word "Cupids," and insert "Turk's Gut" in its stead; and in the 20th line, expunge the word "Cupids," and insert in its stead "Turk's Gut, exclusive;" and expunge the words "Bay Roberts," and insert "Port-de-Grave" in their stead.

—————, 3rd page, 2nd line—expunge the words "Spaniard's Bay, nclusive," and insert in their stead "Port-de-Grave, exclusive."

————— 11th line—insert after the word "from" in this line, the words "Petty Harbour, inclusive, to."

————— 12th line—insert after the word "Road," the words "and thence;" and expunge the word "both," after the word "Cove."

12th and 15th May, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor, &c. &c.*



In the 1st section, 4th page, 12th line—expunge the word “Three,” and insert the word “Two” in its stead.

At the end of the 1st section—insert the following proviso:—“ Provided that in the District of Burin every elector shall be at liberty to give, at his option, two votes for one candidate; or one vote for each of two candidates.”

Insert as the 4th section as follows:—“ That every candidate for election as a Member of the General Assembly of this Island shall, on or before the day of nomination, and before he shall be put in nomination, deposit, or cause to be deposited, with the Returning Officer of the District for the representation of which he shall be a candidate, such sum, not exceeding Five Pounds sterling, as shall be prescribed by the Governor in any such Proclamation as aforesaid, as a fee to be paid to the Returning Officer. And in case there shall be a contest, there shall likewise be paid to the Returning Officer by the candidates, in just proportions, according to the number of polling places in which each candidate is interested, the following sums, that is to say—not exceeding Thirty Shillings for every booth and polling room necessary to be provided at the several places to be appointed for that purpose, except where there shall be a Public Building which can be had without charge; Forty Shillings for every Deputy Returning Officer, and Twenty Shillings for every Poll Clerk, to include their travelling, and all other fees: And likewise, in just proportions, the incidental expenses (if any) otherwise necessarily incurred in and about such election, which proportion of fees and expenses shall be paid or tendered to the Returning Officer by or on behalf of every such candidate before the hour of adjournment of his Court on the day of nomination of candidates. And the name of any candidate who shall not have so paid or tendered his proportion of such fees and expenses before the hour of adjournment of the Returning Officer’s Court, on the day of nomination, shall not be entered on the Returning Officer’s Poll Book, nor shall he be returned as a member at such election.”

The 4th section of the Bill to be the 5th section.

Ordered—That the Bill, as amended, be engrossed, and read a third time on Monday next.

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until Monday next.

House adjourns.

MONDAY, 15TH MAY, 1854.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

House meets.

15th and 19th May, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

Present:

Members present. *The Honourable* WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant*.
 " EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, *Attorney General*.
 " JAMES CROWDY, *Colonial Secretary*.
 " WILLIAM THOMAS.
 " JOSEPH NOAD.
 " CHARLES F. BENNETT.
 " LAURENCE O'BRIEN.
 " THOMAS B. JOB.
 " JAMES J. GRIEVE.

The minutes of Friday last were read.

Petitions in favour of
the Newf'dland School
Society read.

On motion, petitions from the inhabitants of Greenspond, Spaniard's Bay, Harbour Grace, Portugal Cove, Bay Roberts, Brigus, Petty Harbour, Bonavista, Island Cove, English Harbour and Ship Cove, Trinity, and Heart's Content, for the usual grant in aid of the Newfoundland School Society, were read—and

Ordered—To lie on the table.

Increase of Representa-
tives Bill read 3rd time
and passed.

Pursuant to the order of the day, the Bill, as amended, entitled "An Act to Increase the present number of Representatives in the General Assembly of this Island, and to regulate the representation thereof," was read a third time and passed—and

The Honourable the President signed the same.

House adjourns.

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until Friday next.

FRIDAY, 19TH MAY, 1854.

House meets.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Present:

Members present. *The Honourable* WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant*.
 " JAMES CROWDY, *Colonial Secretary*.
 " WILLIAM THOMAS.
 " LAURENCE O'BRIEN.
 " CHARLES F. BENNETT.
 " THOMAS B. JOB.
 " EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, *Attorney General*.

19th May, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor, &c. &c.*

The minutes of Monday last were read.

The Honourable Mr. BENNETT enters the following Protest against parts of the Bill which passed the Council on the 15th instant, for the increase of the numbers of the Representatives in the General Assembly of this Island, for the following reasons:—

Protest of the Hon. Mr. Bennett against certain parts of the Increase of Representatives Bill.

Dissentient:

1st. Because the Bill does not (as he believes is desired by the people at large) adopt the principle of sub-division of Districts suggested by His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, in his Despatch to His Excellency the Governor of the 21st February, 1854: neither does it embrace the suggestion made by Mr. Peel, the Under Secretary of State, to the Delegates of the Assembly, that each voter should be entitled to one vote only.

2nd. Because, by the sub-division of St. John's, as adopted by the Bill, there will be no change in the present returns for that District, leaving the large mercantile interest of the Capital, as well as its 6,210 Protestant Electors, wholly unrepresented by a person of their choice; and further, because the western section of the District of Placentia and St. Mary's, which has been hitherto almost wholly excluded from any participation in the public monies granted by the Legislature for the making and repairing of Roads, and neglected in its educational and local wants, is almost practically without its own representative; and its interests generally rendered subservient, and grossly sacrificed to the sole benefit of the eastern section of the District.

3rd. Because, in giving to the inhabitants of Burin (who have two members) one vote only for each voter, whilst the Bill rejects this principle in other districts where such a provision is equally desirable, and more justly necessary, as also in dividing the District of Conception Bay, and transferring the settlement of Bird Island from Trinity District to the District of Bonavista, whilst it is refused to allow the division of the much larger District of Placentia and St. Mary's, where from the diversity of interests such division is absolutely required, a very great inconsistency as well as gross injustice will be enacted.

4th. Because, by adopting the following division of Districts proposed by me, based upon the principles laid down in the Despatch of His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, and upon the suggestions of Mr. Peel before alluded to, a perfectly fair and just return of members would be made to represent every locality of the Island as well as the sectarian interests of its two great Christian denominations, thus

19th and 23rd May, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

avoiding the evils above complained of, and leaving no single District of the Island uncared for or unrepresented.

DISTRICTS.	TOTAL IN-HABITANTS	DIVISIONS.		UNREPRESENTED.		Mem.	
		Catholic.	Protest'nt	Catholic.	Protest'nt	C.	P.
St. John's.....	25196	18986	6210		2413	5	1
Conception Bay—Horse Cove to Turk's Gut, inclusive.....	3997	3230	767		767	1	
	Turk's Gut to Harbour Grace, inclusive.....	13519	4168	9351	1015	1	2
Trinity.....	8801	1283	7518	1283			3
Bonavista.....	7227	1809	5418	1809			2
Twillingate and Fogo.....	6744	1128	5616	1128			2
Ferryland.....	4370	4201	169		169	2	
St. Mary's.....	3200	3146	54		54	2	
Placentia Bay.....	3273	2309	964		964	1	
Burin.....	4358	1951	2407		456	1	1
Fortune Bay and LaPoile.....	5100	392	4708	392			2
Total	96295	46785	49510	5630	5838	14	15

Based upon the principle suggested to the Delegates by Mr. Peel—one Vote for each Voter only.

House adjourns.

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until Tuesday next.

TUESDAY, 23RD MAY, 1854.

House meets.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Present:

Members present.

The Honourable WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant.*
 “ EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, *Attorney General.*
 “ JAMES CROWDY, *Colonial Secretary.*
 “ JOSEPH NOAD.
 “ CHARLES F. BENNETT.
 “ THOMAS B. JOB.
 “ JAMES J. GRIEVE.
 “ LAURENCE O'BRIEN.

The minutes of Friday last were read.

23rd May, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor, &c. &c.*

The Honourable Mr. CROWDY lays before the House, by direction of the Governor, the following documents, viz. :—

Documents laid before the House by command of the Governor.

A Statement of the affairs of the St. John's Water Company to the 30th April, 1853—and

A Statement of the affairs of the Newfoundland Marine Assurance Company to the 9th May, 1854.

On motion of the Honourable Mr. GRIEVE, memorials from the inhabitants of Port-de-Grave, Bareneed, and Salmon Cove, in favour of the Newfoundland School Society, were read—and

Petitions in favour of the Newf'dland School Society read.

Ordered—To lie on the Table.

A Deputation from the House of Assembly brought up the following message :

Mr. President,—

The House of Assembly acquaint Her Majesty's Council that they have passed the amendments made by the Council in and upon the Bill sent up from the Assembly, entitled "An Act to Increase the present number of Representatives in the General Assembly of this Island, and to regulate the representation thereof," with some amendments.

Message from House of Assembly—of having passed the amendments of the Council on the Representation Bill, with amendments.

The Assembly have also amended the original Bill by expunging the words "Twenty Nine" in the fourth line of the first section, and inserting "Thirty" in lieu thereof, to which they request the concurrence of the Council.

(Signed)

J. KENT,
Speaker.

The amendments made by the House of Assembly on the Council's amendments on the said Bill were then read, and are as follow :

Assembly's amendments on Council's amendments on Representation Bill.

Expunge the amendment in the 1st section of the Bill, 2nd page, in the 7th line and 8th line; and also from the word "consist" to the word "Bay," at the end of the 7th line of the amendment.

Expunge the amendment in the 1st section, 2nd page, 10th line; and also from the word "consist" to "inclusive," in the 7th line of this amendment.

Expunge the word "Two" in the amendment, in the 1st section, 4th page 12th line, and insert "Three" in lieu thereof.

23rd and 26th May, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

Expunge the proviso at the end of the 1st section.

Expunge the amendment on the 4th section, and insert in lieu thereof as follows:—"The Returning Officer from each District shall be entitled to receive from the Colonial Treasury Thirty Shillings for every member returned upon the return of the writ for such District.

"Where there is no contest he shall be entitled to Ten Shillings from every candidate for such District; and where there shall be a contest, and poll demanded, Twenty Shillings from every candidate instead of Ten Shillings: And further, where there shall be a contest there shall be paid to the Returning Officer of each district by the candidates for such district, in just proportions, according to the number of the polling places in which each candidate is interested, the following sums:—Twenty Shillings for providing a booth or polling place for each district, or division of district, except where the polling place shall be a public building that can be had without charge; Twenty Shillings for every presiding officer, and Ten Shillings for every poll-clerk, to include their travelling fees; and the fees shall be paid to the Returning Officer for each district on the day of nomination for candidates for such district; and the name of no candidate shall be entered on the Returning Officer's poll-book, or returned to presiding officers, who shall not have paid or tendered the full amount due from him under this section, before the expiration of the time named for the nomination of candidates. Provided always that the amount to be paid by any candidate shall not exceed the sum of Ten Pounds."

Committed.

The House went into Committee on the foregoing amendments;

The Honourable Mr. NOAD in the Chair.

After some time the House resumed.

The Chairman reported progress, and asked leave to sit again to-morrow.

Ordered—That the Report be received.

House adjourns.

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until Friday next.

FRIDAY, 26TH MAY, 1854.

House meets.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

26th May, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor, &c. &c.*

Present :

The Honourable WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant.*
 “ JAMES CROWDY, *Colonial Secretary.*
 “ JOSEPH NOAD.
 “ CHARLES F. BENNETT.
 “ THOMAS B. JOB.
 “ LAURENCE O'BRIEN.
 “ JAMES J. GRIEVE.

Members present.

The minutes of Tuesday last were read.

A Deputation from the House of Assembly brought up a Bill for the concurrence of this House, entitled “ An Act to continue and amend the Act for granting to Her Majesty certain Duties on Goods, Wares and Merchandize imported into this Colony and its Dependencies”—which was read a first time, and

Revenue Bill brought up, and read 1st time.

Ordered—To be read a second time to-morrow.

The Honourable Mr. CROWDY gives notice that to-morrow he will move that the 37th rule of the House be suspended with reference to the above-named Bill.

Notice of motion to suspend 37th rule of the House.

Pursuant to the order of the day, the House went into Committee on the amendments of the House of Assembly on the Council's amendments on the Bill entitled “ An Act to Increase the present number of Representatives in the General Assembly of this Island, and to regulate the Representation thereof ;”

Assembly's amendments on Council's amendments on Representation Bill—committed.

The Honourable Mr. NOAD in the Chair.

After some time the House resumed.

The Chairman reported that the Committee had made some amendments on those of the House of Assembly, and that they recommend that a conference be had with the Assembly on the subject thereof,

Conference on Representation Bill recommended.

Ordered—That the Report be received.

Ordered—That the Honourable Messrs. ARCHIBALD and CROWDY be a Select Committee to prepare Instructions to the conferees.

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until to-morrow at noon.

House adjourns.

27th May, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

SATURDAY, 27TH MAY, 1854.

House meets.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Present:

Members present.

The Honourable WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant.*
 “ JAMES CROWDY, *Colonial Secretary.*
 “ JOSEPH NOAD.
 “ THOMAS B. JOB.
 CHARLES F. BENNETT.
 “ LAURENCE O'BRIEN.

The minutes of yesterday were read.

Revenue Bill read 2nd time.

Pursuant to the order of the day the Bill entitled “ An Act to continue and amend the Act for granting to Her Majesty certain Duties on Goods, Wares and Merchandize imported into this Colony and its Dependencies,” was read a second time.

37th rule of the House suspended.

Pursuant to notice, the Honourable Mr. CROWDY moved that the 37th rule of the House be suspended, with reference to the Bill above named—and

Ordered accordingly.

Revenue Bill committed

Whereupon the House went into Committee thereon ;

The Honourable Mr. CROWDY in the Chair.

After some time the House resumed.

—reported—

The Chairman reported the Bill without amendment.

Ordered—That the Report be received.

read third time and passed.

The said Bill was then read a third time and passed—and

The Honourable the President signed the same.

Governor arrives at the Council Chamber.

At half-past two of the clock, P.M., His Excellency the Governor, having come to the Council Chamber, and being seated on the Throne, the Serjeant-at-Arms was ordered to direct the attendance of the Speaker and Members of the Commons House of Assembly, and they being come thereto, His Excellency was pleased to assent to the Bill entitled “ An Act to continue and amend the Act for

Assembly summoned to attend him.

His Excellency assents to the Revenue Bill.

27th and 29th May, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor, &c. &c.*

granting to Her Majesty certain Duties on Goods, Wares and Merchandize imported into this Colony and its Dependencies."

Then the House of Assembly retired, and His Excellency withdrew.

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until Monday next.

House adjourns.

MONDAY, 29TH MAY, 1854.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

House meets.

Present:

The Honourable WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant.*

Members present.

" EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, *Attorney General.*

" JAMES CROWDY, *Colonial Secretary,*

" JOSEPH NOAD.

" CHARLES F. BENNETT

" THOMAS B. JOB.

The minutes of yesterday were read.

A deputation from the House of Assembly brought up a message agreeing to the Conference requested on the Bill to Increase the present number of Representatives in the General Assembly.

Message from House of Assembly agreeing to a conference on Representation Bill.

The Honourable Mr. ARCHIBALD, from the Select Committee appointed to prepare instructions to the conferees on the Increase of Representative Bill, presented a report thereof, which was read and adopted, and is as follows:—

Report of Select Committee of Instructions to conferees on Representation Bill—read and adopted.

" Her Majesty's Council have requested this conference with the House of Assembly for the purpose of acquainting the Assembly that they cannot concur in certain of the amendments made by that House upon amendments made by Her Majesty's Council in and upon the Bill entitled "An Act to Increase the present number of Representatives in the General Assembly of this Island, and to regulate the Representation thereof," for the following reasons:—

The Instructions.

1st. In the amendments made by Her Majesty's Council on the Bill sent to them from the House of Assembly, the Council had prominently in view the principle recognized as well by the Assembly as by themselves, of so arranging the details of the measure as to secure to the two great religious bodies a fair proportion in the

29th May, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

representation, in accordance with their respective numbers; that is, 15 Protestants and 14 Roman Catholics. In the opinion of the Council this arrangement would not have been effected by the Bill as sent from the Assembly, but it was insured by the amendments made by the Council, which took one member from the district of Placentia and St. Mary's, and gave one to Bonavista (which latter district possesses a population of between 700 and 800 more than the former), and so regulated the mode of voting in the Burin district as to secure the return of one Roman Catholic, and that such result would follow as contemplated by the Council is fully shewn by the annexed tabular statement. It is evidently assumed by the Bill of the Assembly that Burin would return two Protestants, but although this district has a Protestant majority, the experience of two contested elections in which a Roman Catholic has succeeded against a Protestant, is evidence that the Roman Catholics can always return one member. To remove, however, all uncertainty in this particular, the Council adopted the plan of allowing each voter to give a single vote to two candidates, or two votes to one candidate, which, extending as it does the privileges of the voters in that district, ensures the return of one Roman Catholic member.

It may be said that this arrangement is novel, but it must be remembered that from peculiar circumstances legislation on the subject of increased Representation in this Colony must of necessity involve anomalies. Thus for instance—in the district of Conception Bay, in order to preserve the equal representation of the different religious sections, two representatives are given to a population of less than 4,000, consisting principally of Roman Catholics; whilst a Protestant section of the same district, containing upwards of 5,400 inhabitants, is to be represented by one member only: and in the district of St. John's more than 6,000 Protestants will be altogether unrepresented by a member of their own creed. Should, however, the House of Assembly deem the division of the Burin district a preferable method of accomplishing the contemplated object, the Council would offer no objection to such a proceeding.

2nd. The proximity of Bird Island Cove to Bonavista, from which it is distant about four miles, whilst from Catalina, the nearest settlement of Trinity Bay, it is eleven miles, makes it obvious that it should belong to the Bonavista district; and inconvenience has frequently occurred from this not being the case. The alteration can in no degree affect the character of the electoral returns, as the districts of Trinity and Bonavista are both essentially Protestant.

3rd. In deference to the opinions of the Assembly, the Council have consented to the amendment of that House which limits the expenses to be incurred by can-

29th May, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor, &c. &c.*

didates at elections, although they fear the amount so limited may be found insufficient to procure the services of respectable persons to discharge the responsible duties of Returning Officers and Poll Clerks.

Her Majesty's Council, in their proceedings in this measure, have been influenced by an earnest and anxious desire to do full justice to all classes of the people; and they hesitate not to express their conviction that any material departure from the principle on which they have founded their amendments, would tend to the withholding of their just rights from one or other of these classes.

Tabular Statement before referred to.

DISTRICTS.	Pop'lation	Protest'nt	Catholic.	P.	C:
District of St. John's.....	25196	6210	18986		6.
“ Trinity.....	8801	7518	1286	3	
“ Bonavista.....	7227	5418	1809	3	
“ Twillingate and Fogo.....	6744	5616	1128	2	
“ Ferryland.....	4581	182	4399		2.
“ Placentia and St. Mary's.....	6473	1018	5455		2
“ Burin.....	4358	2407	1951	1	1
“ Fortune Bay.....	2920	2557	363	1	
“ LaPoile.....	2180	2151	29	1	
“ Conception Bay: 1st subdivision—					
Horse Cove to Turk's Gut, inclusive.....	3997	769	3230		2.
2nd subdivision—Brigus to Port-de-Grave, both					
inclusive.....	5538	4150	1388	1	
3rd subdivision—Bay Roberts to Harbour Grace,					
both inclusive.....	7981	5198	2783	2	
4th subdivision—Carbonear and Musquito.....	5071	2340	2731		1
5th subdivision—Fresh Water to Bay de Verde,					
inclusive.....	5439	3988	1451	1	
				15	14

(Signed)

WILLIAM ROBINSON,
President.

On motion, it was—

Ordered—That the Honourable Messrs. ARCHIBALD and CROWDY be the Conferees appointed—
Conferees on the part of this House.

The Conferees went to the Conference, and having returned, the Honourable Mr. ARCHIBALD reported that they had met the managers on the part of the Assembly, and delivered to them their instructions. who report having delivered their instructions.

29th and 30th May, and 1st June, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

Loan Bill brought up
and read 1st time.

A Deputation from the House of Assembly brought up a Bill for the concurrence of this House, entitled "An Act to raise by Loan a Sum of Money for the general purposes of the Colony"—which was read a first time—and

Ordered—To be read a second time to-morrow.

Assembly's Amend-
ments on Council's
amendments on Repre-
sentation Bill—read 3rd
time and passed.

On motion, the last amendment of the House of Assembly on the Council's amendments on the Bill to Increase the numbers of the Representatives in the General Assembly of this Island, was read a third time and passed.

House adjourns.

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until to-morrow.

TUESDAY, 30TH MAY, 1854.

House meets.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Present:

Members present.

The Honourable WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant.*
 " EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, *Attorney General.*
 " JAMES CROWDY, *Colonial Secretary.*
 " CHARLES F. BENNETT.
 " THOMAS B. JOB.
 " JOSEPH NOAD.

The minutes of yesterday were read.

Loan Bill read 2nd
time.

Pursuant to the order of the day, the Bill entitled "An Act to raise by Loan a Sum of Money for the general purposes of the Colony," was read a second time—and

Ordered—To be committed to-morrow.

House adjourns

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until Thursday next.

THURSDAY, 1ST JUNE, 1854.

House meets.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

1st June, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor, &c., &c.*

Present :

<i>The Honourable</i> WILLIAM ROBINSON, <i>Commandant.</i>	Members present.
“ JAMES CROWDY, <i>Colonial Secretary.</i>	
“ THOMAS B. JOB.	
“ JOSEPH NOAD.	
“ CHARLES F. BENNETT.	

The minutes of Tuesday last were read.

Pursuant to the order of the day, the House went into committee on the Bill entitled “ An Act to raise by Loan a Sum of Money for the general purposes of the Colony ;”

Loan Bill committed.—

The Honourable Mr. JOB in the Chair.

After some time the House resumed.

The Chairman reported the Bill without amendment.

—reported.

Ordered—That the Report be received.

Ordered that the said Bill be read a third time to-morrow.

A Deputation from the House of Assembly brought up a message requesting a conference with Her Majesty’s Council on the subject of the last conference.

Message from the House of Assembly requesting a conference.—

Ordered—That the request be concurred in.

Concurred in.

Ordered—That the Honourable Messrs. CROWDY and NOAD be the conferees on the part of this House.

Conferees appointed.

The conferees went to the conference, and having returned, reported that they had met the conferees on the part of the Assembly, and received from them their Instructions.

Report of Conferees.

The Instructions were then read; and are as follows :

The House of Assembly have requested this conference with Her Majesty’s Council on the subject of the last conference, for the purpose of acquainting Her Majesty’s Council that they cannot recede from the amendments made by them upon amendments made by Her Majesty’s Council in and upon the Bill entitled “ An Act to increase the present number of Representatives in the General Assembly of this Island, and to regulate the representation thereof,” for the following reasons :

Assembly’s Instructions to their conferees on the Representation Bill.

1st June, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

1st. In the amendments made by the House of Assembly on the amendments sent to them from Her Majesty's Council, the Assembly had prominently in view the following considerations, which influenced them in forming their Bill originally, viz.—first, the maintenance of the present relative adjustment of districts, as far as practicable, submitting in a spirit of concession to a subdivision of the only two districts the Council have heretofore particularly sought to subdivide, against their conviction of the necessity or the public policy for such a course; especially when it is borne in mind that under the present electoral divisions of this Island, established upon the granting of a Representative form of Government to this Colony, and tested for a period of twenty years, at five general elections, the returns to the Assembly have been a fair representation of the various interests and opinions of the people of this Colony, and do not justify the objections to them even in a denominational view, as there have been 39 Protestant members and 36 Catholics returned during that time: and although there are six of the existing nine electoral districts of this Colony capable of returning three-fifths of the members of the Assembly of the Protestant persuasion, as shewn by Table No. 1, annexed, yet they have not done so, nor have the Catholic districts acted in a less liberal spirit in the return of liberal and independent Protestants who gained the public confidence by their liberal and enlightened views, integrity of character, and a regard for the substantial interests of the people, irrespective of sectarian distinctions. Secondly,—That the great body of the people who constitute the liberal and progressive party in this Colony, and who are comparatively free of mercantile and official control, should have their due share of representation, while those districts which are subject to such control should not have an undue proportion of members. And thirdly,—As the Council have heretofore refused to duplicate the present number of members on the basis of the non-division of the present electoral districts, on alleged sectarian grounds, not distinct, as the Assembly assumes, from mercantile and official interests, the Assembly were therefore solicitous to meet this view, and accordingly arranged their amendments so that the two principal denominations should have the power, if they wished to exercise it, of securing the return of members according to the relative numbers of these denominations.

The Council assumed, for the purpose of sustaining their amendments last Session, that as the two principal denominations were so equal in numbers, there being in the year 1845, 49,523 Protestant inhabitants, and 46,983 Catholics in this Island, the returns under their amendments made by them on the Bill of the Assembly, and their forming the subject of a Conference, would be 13 Protestant and 13 Catholic members, a result which would be fair, though it would not have

1st June, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor, &c. &c.*

taken place, the Assembly conceive, under those amendments. There being no State Church to be supported by this Colony, and no special reason therefore why the electors of any denomination should seek to uphold any undue sectarian ascendancy in the Government of this Colony, it is unreasonable to suppose that either the Protestant or the Catholic Districts will be exclusively influenced by denominational considerations in the return of their members, apart from the unfair distribution of patronage and places of honour by the Government. The only public question on which a sectarian difference has arisen here is that of Education, and this difference existed, not between Protestants and Catholics, but between a portion of the members of the Church of England and the Dissenters of the Colony; the former contending for the exclusive control of their share, according to numerical proportion, of the Protestant Education grant, and the latter for a non-division of it.

The Assembly therefore appropriated the members to the fifteen districts mentioned in their Bill with a due regard to all these considerations, without undertaking to guarantee a relative return of 15 and 14 upon denominational grounds; their Bill certainly gave the power to effect that result, though they are confident the proportion of Protestants that would be returned under it, would be much more than 15, judging from the experience of the past. On reference to Table No. 2, hereto annexed, it will be seen that the distribution of members under their Bill was made with a due regard to the denominational. Among the other important considerations already referred to, the Council assume that the District of Burin would not return two Protestants, and therefore adopted a moral principle of representing the Catholic minority in that district. The Protestant majority in the district of Burin is 456 inhabitants: three Protestant gentlemen have been returned to the Assembly for that district, and only one Catholic member has sat in the Assembly for it, he being a resident in the district for more than forty years; and although supported by local friends, Catholic and Protestant, he was defeated in a contest, by a Protestant merchant, who represented the district in the late House. It is therefore unjust to regard his return as a sufficient reason to justify the adoption of this untried principle of representing minorities in this single district. Besides, while there is a less Catholic majority (only 390) in the district of Carbonear, on which the return of a Catholic may be said to rest, if viewed in a sectarian light, and while the number of inhabitants in that district is 5071, to return only one member, the district of Burin, with a population of 4358, has two members, with the majority of 450, and the same strong mercantile influences existing there which succeeded before. One member was then taken from the liberal and Catholic district of Placentia and St. Mary's, and

1st June, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

one added to the Protestant district of Bonavista, which is much more under mercantile influence. Now, the district of St. Mary's and Placentia is more extensive than that of Bonavista, the difference in their respective population is only 754 inhabitants. In 1850 the present Acting Solicitor General, in an amendment on the Representation Bill, then before the Assembly, proposed to give the district of St. Mary's and Placentia 4 members, and Bonavista only 2. There does not, therefore, appear to be any reason why the latter district should now occupy a better position in the proposed arrangement than the former. Nor did the Assembly conceive that any circumstances exist to justify the giving of a third member to Bonavista; but they consented to it for the purpose of effecting a compromise with the Council—not from a sense of justice: they deemed it more expedient for the general good to adopt that course, than to sanction any further subdivision of districts, or permit the introduction of the novel principle intended by the Council to be applied in Burin. The distribution of members under the amendments made by the Assembly differs in some important particulars from that under the original Bill, as appears by the Table No. 3, hereto annexed.

The proposition to annex a part of the district of Trinity, under decided mercantile influence, to a part of Bonavista, an essentially conservative district, but not so thoroughly subject to that influence as Trinity district; and the alternative suggested by Her Majesty's Council of subdividing Burin, which cannot be equally or fairly divided without producing Protestant majorities in both subdivisions, and would involve not only the question of a general subdivision of all the Electoral districts, but would give an undue preponderance to mercantile influence in those two districts and in the aggregate returns.

Under these circumstances, rather than submit to the amendments of Her Majesty's Council, the Assembly would prefer the measure proposed in the Assembly by the present Acting Solicitor General in 1850, an abstract of which is annexed in the Table No. 4. However unfair its application would be felt in some cases, or objectionable on the score of the subdivision of certain districts, the only qualification they would annex to the subdivision of the districts not already agreed to be divided, is that two-fifths of the registered voters shall first approve thereof by requisition to the Governor.

The House of Assembly, in their proceedings on this measure, have been influenced by an earnest and sincere desire to do unqualified justice to all classes of Her Majesty's subjects in this Colony; and they hesitate not to express their

1st June, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor, &c. &c.*

conviction that any material departure from the principle on which they have founded their amendments, would tend to the withholding of their just rights from one or other of these classes.

(Signed)

J. KENT,
*Speaker.*HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, }
30th May, 1854. }

T A B L E No. 1.

ABSTRACT of Census of 1845.

Districts.	Protestants.	Catholics.	
Conception Bay.....	16,446	11,580	} Which return 9 members to the Assembly.
Trinity Bay.....	7,518	1,283	
Bonavista Bay.....	5,418	1,809	
Fogo.....	5,616	1,128	
Burin.....	2,407	1,951	
Fortune Bay (including Burgeo and La Poile, not represented) ..	4,703	392	} Which return 6 members to the Assembly.
St. John's.....	6,211	18,985	
Ferryland.....	169	4,412	
Placentia and St. Mary's.....	1,018	5,455	

T A B L E No. 2.

Distribution of Members according to the Census of 1845.	Popula'n	Prot.	Cath.	Members.		Proportion for each member.		
				Prot.	Cath.			
St. John's is divided into 2 districts by a line running North from Beck's Cove to Broad Cove.....	25,196	6210	18,986			6	4199	NOTE.—The Council stated last session, in their conference, that 13 Protestant members and 13 Catholics would result from their amendments in the Representation Bill of that session;—the Bill of this session gives the power of returning 15 and 14, while the Assembly do not recognize the necessity or justice of obliging the districts to effect that result. It is more than probable the number of Protestants returned would be much larger under this Bill than 15, as Catholic districts would doubtless continue to return independent Protestants, as they have hitherto done.
Trinity District.....	8801	7518	1283	3			2933	
Bonavista District.....	7227	5418	1809	2			3613	
Fortune Bay District.....	2920	2557	363	1			2920	
LaPoile District.....	2180	2151	29	1			2180	
Ferryland District.....	4581	182	4399		2		2290	
Burin District.....	4358	2407	1951	2			2179	
Placentia and St. Mary's District.....	6473	1018	5455		3		2157	
Conception Bay is divided into 5 districts, to return 7 members, for a population of 28,026, averaging one for every 4000, viz.—								
Horse Cove to Cupids, inclusive.....	6722	2614	4108			2	3361	
Port-de-Grave to Bay Roberts, inclusive. . .	4612	3806	806	1			4612	
Spaniards Bay to Harbour Grace, inclusive	6182	3698	2484	2			3091	
Carbonear to Musquito, inclusive.....	5071	3340	2731		1		5571	
Fresh Water to Bay de Verde, inclusive....	5439	3988	1451	1			5439	
Twillingate and Fogo, inclusive.....	6744	5616	1128	2			3872	
	96,506	49,523	46,983	15	14			

1st June, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

T A B L E No. 3.

Distribution of Members according to the Census of 1845.	Popul'n	Prot.	Cath.	Members.		Proportion for each Member.
				Prot.	Cath.	
St. John's is divided into 2 Districts by a line running North from Beck's Cove to Broad Cove	25,199	6210	18,986		6	4199
Trinity District	8801	7518	1286	3		2933
Bonavista District	7227	5418	1809	3		
Fortune Bay District	2920	2557	363	1		2920
La Poile District	2180	2151	29	1		2180
Ferryland District	4581	182	4399		2	2290
Burin District	4358	2407	1951	2		2179
Placentia and St. Mary's District	6473	1018	5455		3	2157
Conception Bay is divided into 5 Districts, to return 7 Members for a population of 28,026, averaging 1 for every 4,000, viz.—						
Horse Cove to Turks Gut	3997	767	3230		2	1998
Turks Gut to Port de Grave, inclusive	5538	4150	1388	1		5538
Port de Grave to Harbour Grace, inclusive	7981	5198	2783	2		3990
Carbonear to Musquito, inclusive	5071	2340	2731		1	5071
Fresh Water to Bay de Verde, inclusive.	5439	3988	1451	1		5439
Twillingate and Fogo, inclusive	6744	5616	1128	2		3372
	96,506	49,623	46,983	16	14	

The relative number of these three districts as altered by the Council stand as here stated; the population was more equally divided in the Bill as sent up by the Assembly.

S C H E D U L E No. 4.

The Solicitor General's amendments provide for 31 members, the Island to be divided into 17 districts, to be called and represented as follows:—

The District of St. John's East	3	members.
“ St. John's West	3	“
“ Brigus	2	“
“ Port-de-Grave	2	“
“ Harbour Grace	2	“
“ Carbonear	2	“
“ Trinity South	1	“
“ Trinity North	1	“
“ Bonavista South	1	“
“ Bonavista North	1	“
“ Twillingate	1	“
“ Fogo	1	“
“ Ferryland	1	“
“ Bay Bulls	1	“
“ Placentia West	2	“
“ Placentia and St. Mary's	2	“
“ Burin	2	“
“ Fortune Bay	2	“
“ Burgeo	1	“

1st and 2nd June, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor, &c., &c.*

On motion made and seconded the House adjourned until to-morrow.

House adjourns.

FRIDAY, 2ND JUNE, 1854.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

House meets.

Present :

The Honourable WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant.*

Members present.

“ EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, *Attorney General*

“ JAMES CROWDY, *Colonial Secretary,*

“ JOSEPH NOAD.

“ CHARLES F. BENNETT

“ THOMAS B. JOB.

The minutes of yesterday were read.

Pursuant to the order of the day the Bill entitled “ An Act to raise by Loan a Sum of Money for the general purposes of the Colony ” was read a third time and passed—and

Loan Bill read 3rd time and passed.

The Honourable the President signed the same.

On motion the House went into Committee of the whole on the Instructions of the House of Assembly to their Conferees on the Bill to Increase the number of the members of the General Assembly of this Colony.

Assembly's Instructions on Representation Bill committed.

The Honourable Mr. BENNETT in the Chair.

After some time the House resumed.

The Chairman reported that it is the opinion of the Committee that a further Conference be had with the House of Assembly on the subject of the last Conference on the amendments on the “ Increase of Representatives Bill.”

Chairman reports that a further conference should be had with the Assembly.

Ordered—That the Report be received.

Ordered that the Honourable Messrs. ARCHIBALD and BENNETT be a Committee to draft Instructions to the Conferees.

Select Committee appointed to draft Instructions to conferees.

The Honourable Mr. BENNETT gives notice that to-morrow he will move an Address to the Governor calling His Excellency's attention to the necessity of providing means for giving prompt alarm in cases of Fire in this Town, and for arresting the progress of Fires.

Notice of motion of address to the Governor on the subject of arresting Fires in St. John's.

2nd and 3rd June, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

House adjourns. On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until to-morrow.

SATURDAY, 3RD JUNE, 1854.

House meets. The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Present:

Members present. *The Honourable* WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant.*
 " EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, *Attorney General.*
 " JAMES CROWDY, *Colonial Secretary.*
 " JOSEPH NOAD.
 " CHARLES F. BENNETT.
 " THOMAS B. JOB.
 " JAMES J. GRIEVE.

The minutes of yesterday were read.

Pursuant to notice the Honourable Mr. BENNETT moved an Address to the Governor on the subject of Fires in St. John's, which was read and adopted, and is as follows:—

To His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor and Commander-in-Chief, in and over the Island of Newfoundland, &c., &c.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

We, Her Majesty's Council, desire respectfully to bring under your Excellency's consideration the present imperfect provision made, for giving alarms on the occurrence of fire in St. John's, and for arresting the progress of the flames.

On the morning of the 2nd instant, a serious conflagration occurred in Gower Street in this town, which had attained a considerable height before any public alarm by means of the firing of guns or ringing of bells, had been given.

The hose brought into use upon that occasion belonging chiefly to private Companies and individuals, were not of a sufficient length to extend from the pipes laid down by the Water Company, to Gower Street, the scene of the Fire—whilst the absence of Hydrants in Gower Street rendered an adequate supply of water difficult, if not impossible, of attainment.

We venture to express to Your Excellency the opinion that it would be a wise and economical expenditure of Public Money, if a sum were appropriated in the removal of such fire plugs as are now in the middle of the Streets, and

Address to the Governor on the subject of arresting Fires in St. John's.

3rd June, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor, &c. &c.*

the replacing of them by Hydrants at the side of the Streets, as well as their establishment in the various firebreaks in Water Street, and also the providing an adequate supply of hose, and alarm bells at some convenient place in each firebreak.

We respectfully beg leave to recommend this subject to the favourable consideration of your Excellency, and to pray that your Excellency will be pleased to take such steps as may be deemed meet for giving effect to the measures which we have the honour to submit.

WILLIAM ROBINSON,
President.

Council Chamber, 3rd June, 1854.

Ordered—That the Honourable Messrs. BENNETT and NOAD be a Committee to present the said Address to His Excellency.

Committee appointed to present the same.

The Honourable Mr. ARCHIBALD from the Select Committee appointed to prepare Instructions to the Conferees on the subject of the last Conference with the House of Assembly on the Amendments in the Bill to Increase the number of Representatives, presented a draft thereof, which was read and adopted, and is as follows:—

Select Committee appointed to draft Instructions to Conferees on Representation Bill present their report.

Her Majesty's Council have requested this conference with the House of Assembly on the subject of the last conference on the amendments made in the Bill to Increase the number of Representatives, for the purpose of acquainting the Assembly that having considered the Instructions of the Assembly to their managers, the Council see in them no reason whatever for departing from the principle of giving to the different religious denominations, with reference to their numbers, their due proportion of Representatives; a principle which, while it has been the avowed object of both branches of the Legislature, would not have been carried out by the Bill as sent up from the Assembly, but would have been effectuated by the amendments of the Council. The Council cannot, therefore, recede from their amendments, except that in reference to the expenses of elections, as already signified to the Assembly.

Instructions to conferees on Representation Bill.

The Council, in making the amendment granting an enlarged exercise of the franchise to the electors of the Burin district, were desirous, with a view to the general arrangement, to ensure the return of one Roman Catholic member for that district, notwithstanding they were convinced from past experience that such return would be made under the present Bill, without such amendment.

In the last paragraph but one of their instructions to their conferees, the Assembly appear to express a desire to abandon the Bill which they have deliberate-

3rd and 5th June, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

ly passed and sent up for the concurrence of the Council, and to substitute in its stead a proposition (which is nevertheless characterized as unfair, and as still requiring a peculiar qualification,) made at a former period by a member of their own House. Were it not for the gravity with which this proposition is introduced, the Council would abstain from bringing under the notice of the Assembly, that to refer, in a conference between the two Houses, to the views and opinions of individual members of either body, expressed now or at any former period, is a proceeding of a novel and, as the Council submit, of an unparliamentary character, and an irregularity which might lead to great inconvenience.

Much of the force of the arguments urged by the Assembly appears to depend upon the use of peculiar appellations applied to certain districts and classes of electors. The Council feel it right, therefore, to renew the intimation of their opinion, expressed upon a former occasion, that as these appellations are at best but mere titles of assumption, and do not affect the merits of the question under consideration, it is desirable to abstain from the use of them in the communications between the two branches.

The Council deem it unnecessary to enter into any lengthened discussion of the statements contained in the instructions of the Assembly to their conferees, in which the Council fail to discover any ground for concluding that the views entertained and expressed by the Council are inconsistent with a due regard to the just rights of all classes of the inhabitants of the Colony; unless it be in the having assented to a scheme of representation from which the wealthy and important Protestant minority of the district of St. John's is virtually excluded.

Message from the House of Assembly acceding to Conference.

A deputation from the House of Assembly brought up a message acceding to the Conference requested.

Conferees appointed.

Ordered—That the Honourable Messrs. ARCHIBALD and CROWDY be the Conferees on the part of this House.

Report of Conferees.

The Conferees went to the Conference, and having returned, the Honourable Mr. ARCHIBALD reported that they had met the managers from the Assembly, and delivered to them their instructions.

House adjourns.

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until Monday next.

MONDAY, 5TH JUNE, 1854.

House meets.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

5th June, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor, &c. &c.*

Present:

<p><i>The Honourable</i> WILLIAM ROBINSON, <i>Commandant.</i> “ EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, <i>Attorney General.</i> “ JAMES CROWDY, <i>Colonial Secretary.</i> “ JOSEPH NOAD. “ CHARLES F. BENNETT. “ THOMAS B. JOB.</p>	<p>Members present.</p>
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The minutes of Saturday last were read.

A deputation from the House of Assembly brought up a message requesting a conference on the subject-matter of the last conference on the amendments made in the Bill to Increase the present number of Representatives in the General Assembly of this Island.

Message from the House of Assembly requesting a conference on the subject of the last conference on amendments of Representation Bill.

Ordered—That the request be concurred in.

Ordered—That the Honourable Messrs. BENNETT and JOB be the managers on the part of this House.

Managers appointed.

The managers went to the conference, and having returned, the Honourable Mr. BENNETT reported that they had met the conferees on the part of the Assembly, and received from them their Instructions.

Report of managers.

The Instructions were then read, and are as follows:—

The House of Assembly have requested this Conference with Her Majesty's Council on the subject of the last Conference on the Amendments made in the Bill to Increase the number of Representatives, for the purpose of acquainting the Council that having considered the Instructions of the Council to their managers the Assembly regret to perceive in them the absence of that spirit of conciliation and fair play which has influenced the conduct of the Assembly upon this important question; and they are therefore confirmed in the opinion which they have entertained that it is utterly hopeless to expect the concurrence of the Council in any just or generally acceptable measure upon this subject. They are now satisfied, however, that they have left untried no constitutional means at present available to them in the Colony to effect an understanding with the Council.

Assembly's Instructions to their conferees on Representation Bill.

The objects of the Council in their treatment of the Representative Bill, appear to have been two-fold; first—the maintenance of the existing system of

5th June, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

Government, and the perpetuation of sectarian ascendancy in the Government of this Colony; and secondly—the consolidation of that mercantile influence which has predominated in the government from the time of the concession of the constitution to the present day.

It should be borne in mind that in this, as in the neighbouring colonies, there have always been rival interests at variance, having different objects in view, and adopting different means to attain their ends. From the earliest days in its history, the merchants of Newfoundland have endeavoured to keep the Trade of the Country in their hands, and the operative population in a state of vassalage. To effect this object the better, they strongly opposed the granting to this Colony of a Representative form of Government, and other Institutions incident to a progressive state of Society; when, however, against their will, they were granted to the people, they managed to obtain a control over them, and thus carry out in one way, what they had failed to achieve in another; hence their position in the Government, and the alliance which has been formed with their interests at the Council Board, to oppose all popular movements, and especially the just settlement of a measure deemed essential to the proper working of a reformed system of government. Hence the united opposition of the Council (with one Honourable exception) to Responsible Government, and hence the foundation for the distinction which facts and history have drawn, but to which the Assembly have only adverted, as existing between the conservative or obstructive party, and the liberal and progressive party, who have gained for the people the most cherished privileges they enjoy, and all the reforms that have been made in our political and other public institutions.

The Assembly should not have deemed it necessary to trace to its source the distinctive and combined policy which the Council desire to carry out, or the party to whom they are allied, had their attention not been called to the matter by the manner in which they have taken exception to the use of these “peculiar appellations” of “liberal” and “conservative” or “mercantile districts,” and endeavoured to substitute for them mere denominational distinctions which have obtained an undue prominence in their proceedings on this measure, while the real interests which the Council seek to uphold, have been kept in the back ground.

The Assembly would not wish to be understood as detracting from the consideration due to the different religious denominations of this Island, in the arrangement of the increase of the Representation, and they do not hesitate to refer to the Bill, as introduced and amended by them, to prove the fairness of

5th June, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor, &c., &c.*

their views, in the distribution of the members, but they feel it their duty to protest against the manner in which, this element has been treated by the Council.

The alleged anxiety of the Council to secure the return of a Catholic member for the District of Burin, by the introduction of a new and untried principle, is regarded by the Assembly not as a constitutional safeguard, but as a dangerous expedient to divide the people, by promoting sectarian divisions, and from the existence of anomalies in the state of Society in this Colony, which do not exist, except in the Constitution of its government. If the Electors of Burin have on two occasions returned Catholic members to the Assembly, while they have had the power of returning Protestants, that shews that they do not recognize the Sectarian standard as the test of Representative qualification, and the Assembly do not see the necessity or propriety of obliging them, or any other constituency, to conform to a principle which often begets strife, without securing parliamentary usefulness, or political integrity.

The Assembly regret to perceive a disregard of facts on the part of the Council, in their statement that the Assembly appear to express a desire on their part to abandon the Bill which they had deliberately passed and sent up for the concurrence of the Council.

As an alternative, they stated that rather than accede to the Council's amendments, they would prefer the measure introduced by the now acting Solicitor General, in 1850, with a slight modification, and they are quite at a loss to understand, in what sense it can be considered unparliamentary, or irregular, to refer to that measure, or to the name of the introducer of it, for the purpose of designating and identifying it, nor do they think the Council should have raised any objection on the score of inconvenience, to a reference to such a record of the expressed opinions of any member of their board, or any officers of the Government when the settlement of an important political question is sought to be effected.

The liberal district of St. John's which has invariably returned a Protestant member to the Assembly, commencing with the Honourable WILLIAM THOMAS, who occupies a seat in the Council, would (the Assembly are confident) under their Bill, continue to display the same liberality in the return of members, deserving of public confidence, irrespective of sectarian distinctions. The Assembly are therefore surprised that the Council should have repeated an allegation which the Assembly have heretofore passed unnoticed, that even under the scheme of Representation to which they have assented; the wealthy

5th and 6th June, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

and important Protestant minority of the District of St. John's is virtually excluded, while the gross population of the District is 25,196, of whom 18,986 are Catholics, and it is only allowed six members, being one for every 4,199 inhabitants, or as the Council would erroneously assume, one for every 3,132 Catholics; forgetting that the conservative and mercantile District of Trinity, with only 8,801 inhabitants, not half the Catholic population of St. John's, and little over a third of its gross population, was to have three members, being one for every 2,933 of its inhabitants, or one for every 2,506 Protestants in the District, and La Poile would have one member for 2,151 Protestants, that according to the reasoning of the Council, there are more than 11,000 Catholics unrepresented. in Districts having Protestant majorities, and that in fact, the arrangements in the Bill, as passed by the Assembly, were so made as to leave no reasonable ground of objection on this or any other head, a conclusion in which disinterested men of all denominations, who have considered the subject, fully concur.

In conclusion, the Assembly have also to express their regret, that in the discussion of this question, the Council should have so far forgotten the dignity which ought to characterize the grave deliberations of either branch of the Legislature, as to give vent to the display of temper which pervades the instructions to their managers; and the Assembly take the liberty of suggesting, without intending any disrespect, that as the arguments put forward by them, in support of their amendments, are evidently unanswerable, it would be more magnanimous in the Council to submit to them with becoming grace, than continue to oppose the popular will.

(Signed)

J. KENT,

Speaker.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, }
5th June, 1854. }

Ordered—That the said instructions be taken into consideration to-morrow.

House adjourns.

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until to-morrow.

TUESDAY, 6TH JUNE, 1854.

House meets.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

6th and 7th June, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor, &c. &c.*

Present:

The Honourable WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant.*
 “ JAMES CROWDY, *Colonial Secretary.*
 “ JOSEPH NOAD.
 CHARLES F. BENNETT.
 “ LAURENCE O'BRIEN.
 “ THOMAS B. JOB.
 “ JAMES J. GRIEVE.

Members present.

The minutes of yesterday were read.

On motion made and seconded, it was—

Ordered—That the following message be transmitted to the House of Assembly with reference to the Assembly's instructions to their conferees on the subject-matter of the last conference on the amendments made in the Bill to increase the present number of Representatives in the General Assembly.

Mr. Speaker,—

Her Majesty's Council acquaint the House of Assembly that they have passed the last amendment made by the Assembly upon the amendments made by the Council upon the Bill entitled “An Act to increase the present number of Representatives in the General Assembly of this Island, and to regulate the Representation thereof”—and do not concur in the other amendments made by the Assembly upon the said amendments made by the Council upon the said Bill.

Message to the House of Assembly—of having passed an amendment of the Assembly on Council's amendments on Representation Bill—and of their not concurring in the other amendments of the Assembly.

(Signed) WILLIAM ROBINSON,
President.

Council Chamber, 6th June, 1854.

On motion made and seconded the House adjourned until to-morrow.

House adjourns.

WEDNESDAY, 7TH JUNE, 1854.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

House meets.

Present:

The Honourable WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant.*
 “ CHARLES F. BENNETT.
 “ LAURENCE O'BRIEN.
 “ EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, *Attorney General.*

Members present.

7th and 8th June, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

The minutes of yesterday were read.

Message of yesterday taken to the House of Assembly.

The message to the House of Assembly, of yesterday, on the subject of the Increase of Representation Bill, was this day taken to the Assembly by the Master in Chancery.

House adjourns.

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until to-morrow.

THURSDAY, 8TH JUNE, 1854.

House meets.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Present :

Members present.

The Honourable WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant.*
 “ EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, *Attorney General.*
 “ JOSEPH NOAD.
 “ THOMAS B. JOB.
 “ JAMES J. GRIEVE.
 “ CHARLES F. BENNETT

The minutes of yesterday were read.

Message from the House of Assembly requesting a free conference on the amendments on Representation Bill.

A deputation from the House of Assembly brought up a message in the following words:—

Mr. President,—

The House of Assembly request a free conference with Her Majesty's Council upon the subject-matter of the last conference on the amendments made in the Bill to increase the present number of Representatives in the General Assembly of this Island.

(Signed)

J. KENT,
Speaker.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, }
8th June, 1854. }

Ordered—That the request be concurred in.

Managers appointed—

Ordered—That the Honourable Messrs. BENNETT and GRIEVE be the managers on the part of this House.

Their report.

The managers went to the free conference, and having returned, the Honourable Mr. BENNETT reported that they had met the conferees of the House of

8th and 10th June, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor, &c. &c.*

Assembly on the subject of the differences existing between the Council and the Assembly on the Representative Bill—that no new matter was proposed on behalf of the House of Assembly—that the managers from this House repeated to the Assembly's conferees the reasons already offered in the previous conferences with that House, for not receding from their amendments,—they also stated that if it was desired by the Assembly that the arrangement with regard to Burin for the purpose of securing one Protestant and one Roman Catholic member was objectionable, and they, on the part of the Assembly would propose the abandonment of that principle, that your managers would submit that proposition to the Council, but with the understanding that this should be a final settlement of the other differences, to which the conferees on the part of the Assembly replied that the House would not be satisfied unless a third member were given to the district of Placentia and St. Mary's. Under these circumstances, they have nothing further to report to this Honourable House.

Ordered—That the Report be received.

On motion made and seconded, it was—

Ordered—That a message be sent to the House of Assembly, stating that having heard from the managers on the part of this House, the Report of what transpired at the free conference on the amendments on the Increase of Representatives Bill, this House cannot recede further from the amendments made by them upon the said Bill.

Message to House of Assembly having reference to the report of the managers at the free conference on Representation Bill—

A message in accordance with the foregoing was thereupon sent to the House of Assembly by the Master in Chancery.

sent.

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until Saturday next.

House adjourns.

SATURDAY, 10TH JUNE, 1854.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

House meets.

Present:

The Honourable WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant.*
 “ JAMES CROWDY, *Colonial Secretary,*
 “ JOSEPH NOAD.
 “ CHARLES F. BENNETT.
 “ THOMAS B. JOB.
 “ JAMES J. GRIEVE.

Members present.

10th, 12th and 13th June, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

The minutes of Thursday last were read.

On motion made and seconded, it was—

Hon. Mr. Job to be a member of Library committee.

Ordered—That the Honourable Mr. JOB be a member of the Standing Committee of the Legislative Library, in the place of the Honourable Mr. ROW—absent from the Colony.

House adjourns.

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until Monday next.

MONDAY, 12TH JUNE, 1854.

House meets.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Present.

Members present.

The Honourable WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant.*
 “ EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, *Attorney General.*
 “ JAMES CROWDY, *Colonial Secretary.*
 “ JOSEPH NOAD.
 “ CHARLES F. BENNETT.
 “ LAURENCE O'BRIEN.
 “ THOMAS B. JOB.
 “ JAMES J. GRIEVE.

The minutes of Saturday last were read.

Notice of motion to bring the published resolutions of the House of Assembly under the consideration of the Council.

The Honourable Mr. BENNETT gives notice that to-morrow he will bring under the consideration of the House the published resolutions of the House of Assembly with respect to the conduct of this branch of the Legislature, on the subject of the Representative Bill, with a view to the Council's adopting such measures in reference thereto, either by an Address to the Secretary of State, or otherwise, as may be deemed advisable.

House adjourns.

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until to-morrow.

TUESDAY, 13TH JUNE, 1854.

House meets.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

13th June, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor, &c. &c.*

Present.

<i>The Honourable</i>	WILLIAM ROBINSON, <i>Commandant.</i>	Members present.
“	EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, <i>Attorney General.</i>	
“	JAMES CROWDY, <i>Colonial Secretary.</i>	
“	JOSEPH NOAD.	
“	CHARLES F. BENNETT.	
“	THOMAS B. JOB.	
“	JAMES J. GRIEVE.	
“	LAURENCE O'BRIEN.	

The minutes of yesterday were read.

Pursuant to notice, the Honourable Mr. BENNETT brought under the consideration of the House the published resolutions of the House of Assembly, with respect to the conduct of this branch of the Legislature on the subject of the Representative Bill, and moved that an address to His Grace the Duke of Newcastle be read; which being seconded, the said address was read accordingly, and is as follows:—

*To His Grace the DUKE OF NEWCASTLE, Her
Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for
the Colonies, &c., &c., &c.*

Address to his Grace
the Duke of Newcastle
on Representation Bill.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

We, Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects the Council of Newfoundland, having had under consideration an Address of the House of Assembly to Your Grace, embodying certain Resolutions passed by that House, having reference to the increase of members Bill, and other matters, and containing reflections on our conduct, feel ourselves constrained to lay before Your Grace a statement, as well of facts as of the motives which have influenced us in our proceedings in the matters in question.

With regard to those parts of the Resolutions which cast unworthy and unwarranted imputations on us, we feel that we can safely pass them without observation.

In the Bill for increasing the number of members sent up to the Council by the House of Assembly, provision, it was stated, was made for the due representation of the two great religious denominations; and the member who introduced the Bill into the Assembly, in a printed statement sent to the members of

13th June, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

the Council, took credit for having arrived at the satisfactory result desired by both branches of the Legislature, of affording the means of these denominations being represented in their proper proportion—that is, by 15 Protestants, and 14 Roman Catholics; but the Council having a conviction that such a result (admitted on all sides to be a fair one) would not be effected by the Bill as sent to them, amended it, by taking one member from the district of Placentia and St. Mary's, which, with a population of 6,473, had three members assigned to it, and giving one to Bonavista, which, with a population of 7,227, was put down at two only, and thus secured the object equally desired by both branches, without in any degree affecting the fair principle of representation as respects population.

The district of Burin, notwithstanding it has a Protestant majority, has in two contested elections returned a Roman Catholic member; but to secure the *certainty* of one of its members being of that creed, and the consequent fair proportion of the Representation, we made the arrangement which extends the privilege of the franchise, by allowing the constituency to give one vote each to two Candidates or two votes to one; and which so far from being, as stated in the Resolutions of the Assembly, destructive to the peace of a thriving community, will, we are convinced, tend especially to prevent the peace being broken by the intimidation and sectarian strife which have, on former occasions, been in active operation in this District.

The only pre-requisite to the introduction of Responsible Government inserted by the Council in the Bill, was, that candidates should pay their Election expenses, and this was so altered by the Assembly as to make it doubtful whether officers of sufficient respectability can be procured for conducting the elections.

From regard to the privileges of the House of Assembly the Council did not insert a provision for preventing members receiving pay from the public chest; and this suggestion of Your Grace has been altogether passed over by the Assembly.

The proposition of the House of Assembly, that because the amendments of the Council do not suit the views of eight or nine members of the former House,—and it must be remembered that one point of disagreement only remains,—the Council shall be put aside, or reconstructed so as to be the mere instrument of the Assembly, is too extravagant to require observation; but the extent to which the Assembly, in the pursuit of their object, will carry their proceedings,

13th June, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor, &c. &c.*

is most painfully evidenced, by their refusal to grant the Supplies necessary for the conduct of the public business of the colony.

Because they, the Representatives of a minority of the people, cannot effect their purpose, they adopt a course, which in a time of great suffering, from the increased cost of the necessaries of life, and from other causes, will leave a number of officers, entirely dependant on small stipends, to starve, or resort to other employment for their support;—and this at a period when nearly half the year for which their services are engaged, has expired; will leave a vast number of aged, infirm, and widowed paupers without legal provision; and will, also, leave the youth of the Colony utterly destitute of the means of Education;—in short, for the attainment of a purely selfish object, will throw the whole Colony into a state of distress and confusion.

Such conduct sufficiently proclaims the unfitness of its authors for being the depositories of Legislative powers.

We will only further trespass on Your Grace by stating, that we did think, and still retain the opinion, that, from the anomalies in this Colony, and particularly from the nearly equal numbers of the Religious Bodies, there would be considerable difficulty in working out the system of Party Government; but, when Her Majesty's Government determined on its introduction, we at once bowed to the decision, and turned our attention to those pre-requisites required by Your Grace, with an earnest desire so to arrange them as to prevent what was intended to be an extension of popular rights, being perverted from its proper object.

The composition of the Council, we venture to state to Your Grace, is the best guarantee for its faithful and liberal consideration of all measures likely to benefit the Colony. With the exception of the Official members, it consists principally of leading Merchants, who, from their large stake in the country, and their common interest with the operative and other classes of the community, must be most desirous for that system of Government best calculated to promote the general interests, with which their own are so deeply involved.

Under the influence of these feelings, we have taken part in legislating on a question vitally affecting, for good or ill, the future of this Colony; and we feel assured that, in our proceedings, which have had for their object the securing of justice to all classes of Her Majesty's subjects, we shall receive from Her Majesty's Government that support to which we respectfully claim to be entitled.

(Signed)

WILLIAM ROBINSON,

President.

Council Chamber, 13th June, 1854.

13th June, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

Ordered—That the said Address be adopted.

On motion made and seconded, it was—

Ordered—That the following Address be presented to the Governor praying His Excellency to forward the foregoing Address to His Grace the Duke of Newcastle.

Address to the Governor requesting his Excellency to forward the foregoing address to the Duke of Newcastle.

To His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor and Commander-in-Chief, in and over the Island of Newfoundland, &c., &c.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

Her Majesty's Council beg leave to acquaint your Excellency that they have adopted an address to His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, in reference to the Bill recently before the Council, for Increasing the number of Representatives, which they respectfully request your Excellency will be pleased to transmit to His Grace.

(Signed)

WILLIAM ROBINSON,

President.

Council Chamber, 13th June, 1854.

Committee appointed to present the same.

Ordered—That the Honourable Messrs. BENNETT and JOB be a Select Committee to present the same.

Notice of motion to present address to the Governor for the appointment of delegates to England.

The Honourable Mr. BENNETT gives notice that to-morrow he will move that an address be presented to the Governor, praying His Excellency to appoint two members of this branch of the Legislature to proceed to England to supply such information to Her Majesty's Government as may be required, touching the public affairs of this Colony.

Hon. Mr. Crowdy intimates the Governor's intention to prorogue the Legislature.

The Honourable Mr. Secretary CROWDY acquaints the House, by direction of the Governor, that it is His Excellency's intention to prorogue the Legislature to-morrow, at half-past two o'clock, P. M.

A deputation from the House of Assembly brought up the following message:—

Message from Assembly of having passed Coin Rates and Currency Regulation Bills, with amendments.

Mr. President,—

The House of Assembly have passed the Bill sent down by Her Majesty's Council, entitled "An Act to declare the Rates in Currency at which British Gold and Silver Coins shall be a legal tender," without amendment.

13th and 14th June, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor, &c., &c.*

They have also passed the Bill sent down by Her Majesty's Council, entitled "An Act to regulate the Currency of this Colony," with some amendments, to which they beg the concurrence of the Council.

(Signed)

J. KENT,
Speaker.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, }
June, 1854.

The amendments on the last-named Bill were then read—and

Amendments on Cur-
rency Bill read.

The House went into Committee thereon ;

Committed.

The Honourable Mr. NOAD in the Chair.

After some time the House resumed.

The Chairman reported that the Committee concurred in certain of the amendments, and recommended that a conference be had with the House of Assembly on the remainder that were not agreed to.

Conference on, recom-
mended.

Ordered—That the Honourable Messrs. ARCHIBALD and NOAD be a Select Committee to draft Instructions to the conferees.

Committee appointed to
draft Instructions.

On motion made and seconded, the House adjourned until to-morrow, at one o'clock.

House adjourns.

WEDNESDAY, 14TH JUNE, 1854.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

House meets.

Present :

The Honourable WILLIAM ROBINSON, *Commandant.*
" JAMES CROWDY, *Colonial Secretary.*
" JOSEPH NOAD.
" CHARLES F. BENNETT.
" LAURENCE O'BRIEN.
" THOMAS B. JOB.
" JAMES J. GRIEVE.
" EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, *Attorney General.*

Members present.

The minutes of yesterday were read.

14th June, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

Pursuant to notice, and on motion, the Honourable Mr. BENNETT presented the following Address, which was read and adopted.

Address to the Governor to appoint two members of the Council to proceed to England.

To His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, Esquire, Governor and Commander-in-Chief, in and over the Island of Newfoundland, &c., &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

We, Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Council of Newfoundland, in General Assembly convened, humbly pray that Your Excellency will be pleased to appoint two members of this branch of the Legislature to proceed to England for the purpose of bringing under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government the present condition of Newfoundland, and of supplying such information as may be required, touching the affairs of this Colony.

(Signed) WILLIAM ROBINSON,
President.

Council Chamber, 14th June, 1854.

Committee appointed to present the same.

Ordered—That the Honourable Messrs. CROWDY and JOB be a Select Committee to present the said Address.

Their report.

The Honourable Mr. CROWDY from the Select Committee, reported that having waited on the Governor, His Excellency stated that he would comply with the wishes of the Council.

Report of Committee to the Governor to forward address to the Duke of Newcastle.

The Honourable Mr. JOB, from the Select Committee appointed to wait on the Governor with an Address praying His Excellency to forward an Address from this House to His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, reported that His Excellency had been pleased to say that he would comply with the request of the House.

The Honourable the ATTORNEY GENERAL, from the Select Committee appointed to draft Instructions to the conferees on the amendments made by the Assembly on the Bill to regulate the Currency of this Colony, reported a draft thereof.

Ordered—That the same be received.

The Instructions are as follow:—

Instructions to conferees on Assembly's amendments on Currency Bill.

Her Majesty's Council have requested this conference for the purpose of acquainting the House of Assembly that the Council do not concur in

14th June, 1854.

His Excellency KER BAILLIE HAMILTON, *Esquire, Governor, &c. &c.*

amendments made by the Assembly in the 17th line of the 1st section, and the 6th line of the 4th section, of the Bill "to regulate the Currency of this Colony," for the following reasons:—

As respects the first-mentioned amendment, the Council think it essential, for securing the circulation of small silver money, to fix, by Legislative enactment, the values assigned by the Bill to Shillings and Sixpences, tendered in sums under Five Shillings. These values, although a minute fraction beyond their respective values, in proportion to the Sovereign, are not such as to affect the confirmation of the Act, and will be uniformly binding on all parties; when leaving the coins in question to find their relative values would not be attended with uniformity in their rates of circulation, and would, consequently, lead to a diminution of the amount of Silver change, owing to the present scarcity of which, very great inconvenience is now felt in the community.

In regard to the second amendment, the Council consider that it is contradictory to the principle of the Bill, and is the same provision which caused the disallowance by the Crown of the Currency Bill of 1845. It is most desirable that in future contracts and Legislative enactments, the Pound Sterling should be either the Sovereign, or such corresponding amount in the currency of other coins declared a legal tender as shall be equal to the currency value assigned by the Bill to the Sovereign. The provision in the Bill will not affect existing contracts or Legislative enactments; but it is obviously desirable that in future the Sterling value and the Currency value of the Sovereign should be correlative-ly the same.

At half-past two o'clock, P.M., His Excellency the Governor having arrived at the Council Chamber, and being seated on the Throne, the gentleman Usher of the Black Rod was ordered to direct the immediate attendance of the House of Assembly at the Bar of this House; and they being come thereto, His Excellency was pleased to give his assent to the following Bills, viz. :—

His Excellency the Governor arrives at the Council Chamber to close the Session.

Assents to certain Bills.

"An Act to declare the rates in Currency at which British Gold and Silver Coins shall be a legal tender"—and

"An Act to raise by Loan a Sum of Money for the general purposes of the Colony."

After which His Excellency was pleased to deliver the following Speech :—

14th June, 1854.

SECOND SESSION, FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 17TH OF VICTORIA.

His Excellency's speech
on proroguing the Ge-
neral Assembly.

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Council :—

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Assembly :—

In my reply to the Address of the Assembly in answer to my Speech on opening the present Session, I expressed my regret at the course the Assembly then appeared resolved to pursue; and that whether the public good had been consulted in arriving at the determination to which they had come, was a question for their own consideration; and that with them would rest the responsibility for any detriment to important public interests which might arise from such course. And, now, whether circumstances—especially since the communication to the Assembly of the Duke of Newcastle's Despatch of the 21st February last, on the subject of Responsible Government—justify the course of procedure on the part of the Assembly announced by them in their Address to His Grace, is a point on which I forbear to express an opinion; but which must be submitted to the consideration of the Imperial Authorities.

The Session having extended over four months and a half, and the Assembly having, at the expiration of that protracted period, stated their determination, for reasons mentioned in their Address to her Majesty's Secretary of State, not to grant to her Majesty Supplies for defraying the expenses of the Civil Government of the Colony, I am induced, by regard for the honour of the Crown, formally to terminate the Session by prorogation.

The General Assembly
prorogued.

The Honourable the President of the Council then said—It is His Excellency the Governor's will and pleasure that this General Assembly be prorogued to Wednesday the ninth day of August next, to be then and here holden; and this General Assembly stands prorogued accordingly.

APPENDIX

TO THE

J O U R N A L S

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

APPENDIX.

APPENDIX No. 1.

ESTIMATE

Of the Charge of Defraying the Public Expenditure of the Island of Newfoundland, for the Year ending 31st December, 1854.

£20,707 3s. 4d.

Proposed distribution of the above Sum.

Salary of the Private Secretary	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	£200	0	0
Clerk of the Council	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	200	0	0
Two Clerks in the Secretary's Office	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	400	0	0
Office Keeper	ditto	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	60	0	0
Messenger	ditto	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	60	0	0
Colonial Treasurer	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	500	0	0
Clerk in the Treasurer's Office.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	150	0	0
Clerk of the Supreme and Central Courts, including allowance for Assistant Clerk, and for purchase of printed forms	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	420	0	0
Clerk of Northern Circuit Court	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	200	0	0
Ditto of Southern Circuit Court	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	200	0	0
Crier and Tipstaff of Supreme Court	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	60	0	0
Ditto ditto Harbour Grace Court	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20	0	0
Three Police Magistrates, St. John's	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	900	0	0
* Police Inspector	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	60	0	0
High Constable	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	80	0	0
Ten Police Constables	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	450	0	0
Gaoler	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	150	0	0
Carried forward							£4210	0	0

* With an addition of £40 a year from the grant for the Poor for services to the Commissioners.

				Brought forward	.....£4210	0	0
Salary of Gaol Surgeon	.....	.....	.....	.....	40	0	0
Hospital Surgeon	.....	.....	.....	.....	150	0	0
District Surgeon, including Medicine, &c.	.....	.....	.....	.....	200	0	0
District Surgeon, Conception Bay	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	0	0
Gaol Surgeon, Harbour Grace	.....	.....	.....	.....	30	0	0
Physician of Lunatic Asylum	.....	.....	.....	.....	200	0	0
Gate Keeper, Government House Lodge	.....	.....	.....	.....	26	0	0
House Keeper, Colonial Building	.....	.....	.....	.....	60	0	0
Attorney General's Fees	.....	.....	.....	.....	250	0	0
Solicitor General's Fees	.....	.....	.....	.....	200	0	0
Stipendiary Magistrates, &c., in the Outports, as per detailed statement annexed	.....	.....	.....	.....	3791	0	0

MISCELLANEOUS.

Ordinary Repairs of Court Houses and Gaols	.....	.....	.....	.....	200	0	0
Gaol Expenses	.....	.....	.....	.....	600	0	0
Printing and Stationery	.....	.....	.....	.....	500	0	0
Crown Prosecutions	.....	.....	.....	.....	300	0	0
Coroners	.....	.....	.....	.....	200	0	0
Fuel and Light	.....	.....	.....	.....	450	0	0
Postages and Incidentals	.....	.....	.....	.....	120	0	0
Circuits of the Judges	.....	.....	.....	.....	400	0	0
Relief of the Poor	.....	.....	.....	.....	6000	0	0
Outport permanent Poor	.....	.....	.....	.....	400	0	0
Lunatic Paupers	.....	.....	.....	.....	1200	0	0
Shipwrecked Sealing Crews	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	0	0
Men stationed at Fort Amherst	.....	.....	.....	.....	36	10	0
Duties on Wines for Military Mess	.....	.....	.....	.....	50	0	0
* Gas Light Company, St. John's	.....	.....	.....	.....	71	13	4
* Ditto ditto, Harbour Grace	.....	.....	.....	.....	25	0	0
Unforeseen Contingencies	.....	.....	.....	.....	500	0	0

PENSIONS AND GRATUITIES.

Mrs. Blaikie	.....	.....	.....	.....	50	0	0
Matthew Stevenson	.....	.....	.....	.....	40	0	0
Robert Connell	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	0	0
Robert Smith	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	0	0

Carried forward£20420 3 4

* As a considerable portion of the year for which these grants are required, has expired, the service is estimated for to the 30th June but it will be omitted in future estimates.

ALLOWANCES TO FERRYMEN.*

			Brought forward	.....£20420 3 4
At Manuels .....	.....	.....	.....	£10 0 0
Great Placentia .....	.....	.....	.....	25 0 0
Little St. Lawrence .....	.....	.....	.....	10 0 0
Salmonier .....	.....	.....	.....	25 0 0
Burin and Spoon Cove .....	.....	.....	.....	20 0 0
Biscay Bay .....	.....	.....	.....	15 0 0
Portugal Cove .....	.....	.....	.....	25 0 0
North and South Side Holyrood, £15 each	.....	.....	.....	30 0 0
Aquaforte .....	.....	.....	.....	15 0 0
Trinity .....	.....	.....	.....	25 0 0
Malbay .....	.....	.....	.....	12 0 0
John's Pond, North Harbour, and Salmonier	.....	.....	.....	30 0 0
Belle Isle and Topsail .....	.....	.....	.....	20 0 0
Harbour Grace and South Side .....	.....	.....	.....	25 0 0
				287 0 0
			Total .....	.....£20,707 3 4

* It is suggested that such Ferries as are absolutely required, should, in future, be provided for in the Road Bill.

The estimate for clearing snow from the streets of St. John's is omitted, as is also that for carrying out the Crown Lands Act, a considerable portion of the Sum granted on this latter account being unexpended.

D E T A I L

Of Salaries and Allowances to Stipendiary Magistrates and Constables, Clerks of the Peace and Gaolers, in the undermentioned Outports, for the year 1854.

Outports.	Magistrates.	Clerks of the Peace.	Constables.		Gaolers.	Total.
			No.	Salary.		
	£			£		£
Petty Harbour			1	20		20
Torbay			1	20		20
Portugal Cove			1	20		20
South Shore			1	12		12
Harbour Main			1	12		12
Cat's Cove			1	12		12
Brigus and Port-de-Grave	150	60	2	50		260
Bay Roberts			1	12		12
Carried forward	150	60	9	158		368

DETAIL of Salaries and Allowances to Stipendiary Magistrates and Constables, Clerks of the Peace and Gaolers, in the undermentioned Outports—(Continued.)

Outports.	Magistrates.	Clerks of the Peace.	Constables.		Gaolers.	Total.
			No.	Salary.		
	£	£		£	£	£
Brought forward	150	60	9	158		368
Harbour Grace	130	150	1	50	} 90	670
Ditto	200		2	50		
Carbonear	150	60	3	75		
Bay de Verde			1	12		12
Western Bay			1	12		12
Hauts Harbour			1	12		12
Perlican	130		1	12		142
Heart's Content			1	12		12
New Harbour... ..			1	12		12
Trinity	150	60	2	37	25	272
Catalina			1	25		25
Bonavista	150	45	1	25	10	230
Tickle Cove			1	12		12
King's Cove			1	12		12
Salvage			1	12		12
Greenspond			1	12		12
Twillingate and Fogo	130	45	3	49	10	234
Exploits Bay			1	12		12
Bay Bulls	100		1	25		125
Witless Bay			1	12		12
Toad's Cove			1	12		12
Brigus, South			1	12		12
Cape Broyle			1	12		12
Caplin Bay			1	12		12
Ferryland	100	60	1	25	25	210
Aquaforte			1	12		12
Fermeuse			1	12		12
Renews			1	12		12
Trepassey			1	12		12
St. Mary's	130		1	25		155
Placentia	130	35	1	25	25	215
Little Placentia			1	12		12
Carried forward	1650	515	47	821	185	3171

DETAIL of Salaries and Allowances to Stipendiary Magistrates and Constables, Clerks of the Peace and Gaolers, in the undermentioned Outports—(Continued.)

Outports.	Magistrates.	Clerks of the Peace.	Constables.		Gaolers.	Total.
			No.	Salary.		
	£	£		£	£	£
Brought forward	1650	515	47	821	185	3171
Oderin			1	12		12
Merasheen			1	12		12
Burin	150	35	1	25	25	235
St. Lawrence			1	12		12
Lamaline			1	12		12
Grand Bank	130		1	12		142
Jersey Harbour			1	12		12
Harbor Briton	100	35	1	12		147
Burgeo Islands			1	12		12
Hermitage Bay			1	12		12
Spaniard's Bay			1	12		12
Total	2030	585	58	966	210	£3791

RECAPITULATION.

15 Magistrates	-	-	-	-	-	£2030 0 0
10 Clerks of the Peace	-	-	-	-	-	585 0 0
7 Gaolers	-	-	-	-	-	210 0 0
58 Constables	-	-	-	-	-	966 0 0
						<u>£3791 0 0</u>

APPENDIX, No. 2.

Port of St. John's,

A CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNT of the Goods imported in the Year, ended 5th day of January, 1854, shewing the aggregate Quantities and Value of the various Articles, with the Amount of Duty collected thereon.

Articles Imported.	Quantity Imported.	Value.	Duty.
Ale, Porter, Beer, Cider and Perry	.....	£3252 3 3	£325 4 3
Apples	1415 $\frac{1}{2}$ Bls.	702 4 8	106 3 3
Bacon and Hams	703 2 8 Cwts.	2028 12 6	175 17 11
Beef (salted or cured)	2103 $\frac{1}{2}$ Bls.	3889 0 7	210 7 0
Brandy, Whiskey, Geneva and Cordials	24076 $\frac{3}{4}$ Gals.	6028 7 5	3611 11 3
Bread or Biscuit	123722 3 26 Cwts.	73478 8 3	1546 11 4
Butter	16997 3 2 Cwts.	51702 17 10	1699 18 5
Candles	.....	4813 15 5	361 0 4
Cattle (Neat)	2471	13686 9 8	684 6 5
Cheese	403 0 25 Cwts.	980 17 9	100 16 2
Cigars	359475	737 5 0	89 17 4
Clocks and Watches	.....	407 14 6	40 15 5
Coals	23991 $\frac{3}{4}$ Tons.	16808 3 3	1199 11 9
Cocoa	42 1 14 Cwts.	105 0 0	10 11 11
Coffee	1329 0 11 "	1730 9 9	332 4 3
Fish (Dried and Salted)	29 0 8 "	35 5 0	7 5 4
Flour	123303 Bls.	136647 1 9	9247 14 6
Furniture	.....	1051 16 8	105 3 6
Goods, Wares, and Merchandize, not otherwise enumerated or described	.....	363949 7 2	18197 11 0
Horses, Mares, and Geldings	43	482 17 4	21 10 0
Lumber	3074835 Feet.	5467 18 3	384 7 1
Molasses	744467 Gals.	37873 3 7	4652 19 5
Oatmeal and Indian Meal	16491 Bls.	13438 12 6	412 5 6
Oil and Blubber, Fins and Skins	.....	.....	.....
Pork (Salted or Cured)	22169 Bls.	65593 6 2	3325 7 0
Rum	96739 Gals.	9769 8 3	4480 7 9
Salt	33448 $\frac{1}{4}$ Tons.	20345 12 5	836 4 5
Sheep, Calves and Pigs	4034	2052 8 6	201 14 0
Shingles	4435500	1907 13 0	221 15 6
Sugar, Refined	1214 2 13 Cwts.	2610 8 11	455 9 5
Unrefined	22093 3 26 "	21814 18 5	5523 10 1
Bastard	139 2 15 "	139 0 0	34 18 2
Tea	395472 Lbs.	20445 9 5	4943 8 0
Timber, including Balk and Scantling	923 $\frac{1}{2}$ Tons.	938 7 6	69 5 3
Tobacco (Manufactured and Leaf)	338327 $\frac{1}{4}$ Lbs.	9006 17 10	2819 7 11
Stems	67 3 18 Cwts.	38 0 0	6 15 10
Wine, in Bottles	546 $\frac{1}{2}$ Gals.	523 1 6	82 0 0
not in Bottles	11940 "	2542 2 9	1194 0 0
Totals.....		£897024 6 9	£67717 16 8

CUSTOM-HOUSE, }
The 1st day of February, 1854. }

(Signed)

JOHN KENT,
Collector.

Part of St. John's,

Dr. A Consolidated Account Current of Receipts and Payments for the Year ended the 5th day of January, 1854. Cr.

1854.		1854.	
To Out-Bay Balances from last year, viz. :—		By Over Entries	£377 17 2
Trinity	£213 13 1	Returned Duties	164 6 2
Carbonear	88 17 5	Drawbacks	3293 11 8
Harbour Grace	1081 0 8	Incidental Expenses	179 0 8
Placentia	131 15 10	Reserved Salaries	7388 10 6
Burin	373 19 5	Lumber Certificates	11 5 0
Little Bay	273 14 9	Salaries, viz. :—	
LaPoile	150 0 0	St. John's	1830 6 4
Out-Bay Duties	£2313 1 2	Out-Bays	1638 19 11
Duties on Goods imported, St. John's	10,989 12 8	Tide Waiters	754 9 8
Ten per cent. on that amount	56,728 4 0	Payments to Colonial Treasurer, viz. :—	
Duties received under Copyright Act	5672 16 5	Bonds	42704 19 1
Ditto ditto on Rum distilled in St. John's	17 2	Cash	17896 8 2
Net amount of Light Dues collected	201 11 3	Deficiencies in the Queen's Chest, viz. :—	
Net proceeds of Samples sold	2437 10 3	Amount abstracted 23rd	358 2 0
Colony's Share of Seizures	6 7 3	December, 1853	
Surcharges on Out-Bay Accounts	22 10 3	Amt. unaccounted for by	30 0 0
Received from the Colonial Treasurer—	18 6	Mr. Prendergast, 2d clk.	388 2 0
Amount of Legislative vote to 2nd class Tide Waiters	120 0 0	Out-Bay Balances to next year, viz. :—	
Remittances from the undermentioned Out-ports, in part for Duties to be carried to account next year, viz. :—		Fogo	144 8 9
Trinity	12 7 3	Carbonear	103 2 2
Gaultois	54 3 2	Harbour Grace	726 7 7
	66 10 5	Placentia	100 15 0
		Burin	116 4 11
		Little Bay	635 9 11
		LaPoile	105 14 8
			1932 3 0
			£78,559 19 4

I certify that the foregoing Account is just and true in every particular, to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Custom House, }
 The 1st day of February, 1854. }
 JOHN KENT, }
 Collector. }

We do hereby certify that we have duly audited the foregoing Account, and that we find the same to be correct, with the exception of a deficiency in the Cash of the sum of £388 2s.

St. John's, Newfoundland, }
 The 18th day of March, 1854. }
 LAURENCE O'BRIEN, }
 A. SHEA, }
 JNO. BEMISTER, }
 Auditors. }

APPENDIX, No. 3.

DESPATCH

From the Secretary of State for the Colonies, on the subject of Responsible Government.

(COPY.)

Downing Street, 21st February, 1854.

SIR,—

I have to acknowledge your Despatch, No. 41, of the 28th June last, transmitting an Address from the House of Assembly, announcing the appointment by that body of three of its members to represent to Her Majesty's Government the state of the Colony of Newfoundland, and operation of its present system of Government, and on the establishment of reciprocal Free Trade with the United States of America.

2. Both during and since the visit of the gentlemen in question to England, I have given to the first of these subjects my fullest consideration; and have not failed to give due weight to the circumstance that the same expressions of opinions and wishes have proceeded from successive bodies of representatives, elected by the people with full knowledge that this important question was at issue.

3. Her Majesty's Government have come to the conclusion that they ought not to withhold from Newfoundland those institutions, and that system of Civil Administration which, under the popular name of Responsible Government, have now been adopted in all Her Majesty's neighbouring possessions in North America.

4. They are prepared to concede the immediate application of this system, as soon as certain necessary preliminary conditions have been acceded to on the part of the Legislature.

5. The first of these is the same which has been agreed to and put in practice when the recent change of the same description took place in Nova Scotia and in Prince Edward Island; namely, the indemnification of present holders of those offices which by the change in question will be rendered liable to be vacated at the will of the majority of the Legislature. The provision in question should be made either in the form of Pension, or of a round sum by way of indemnity. But as to the number of officers who must be regarded as thus liable to removal and entitled to protection, and the amount and character of the compensation so to be given, I must rely on your judgment, with the advice of your Council, and of those whom you may think fit to consult with on this occasion: and you are authorized to submit any question, which cannot be thus arranged, to myself for final decision.

6. The following are the remaining conditions which I consider indispensable, and which have been suggested to me by the consideration of circumstances peculiar to Newfoundland.

7. (1) A considerable increase of the members of the House of Assembly. I would suggest that the increase should be from the present number to 30; and that it should be effected, not by giving additional members to existing constituencies, but by sub-dividing, as equally as geographical positions would admit, the districts now returning members, which appear to be in most instances too large for the convenient exercise of the franchise.

8. (2) In reference to my Despatch on the financial condition of the Colony, lately directed to be laid before the Assembly, it appears to me necessary that the Law should be assimilated to that of Nova Scotia (revised Statutes, Cap. 7, Sec. 44,) with regard to the expenses of Elections, which should no longer be paid from the Colonial Treasury, but be defrayed (under proper conditions as to amount) by the members.

9. (3) Payment of the members for their expenses and attendance to be no longer made by the Colonial Treasury, but by local assessment levied in each electoral district.

10. These measures having been taken by the Legislature, Her Majesty's Government will proceed to separate the Executive from the Legislative Council, and to provide, by Instructions from Her Majesty, that the latter should consist of not less than 10 nor more than 15 members, nominated by the Crown.

11. With regard to the stipulations respecting the grant of a Civil List to Her Majesty, which have usually accompanied the grant of Responsible Government, it appears to me sufficient to refer you to the arrangements already made under the Act of Parliament 2 and 3 William IV., Cap. 78, and the Acts of the Newfoundland Legislature 7th Victoria, Cap. 1, and 8th Victoria, Cap. 6, leaving it to yourself to consider whether any modification of these provisions is now required.

12. These are conditions, some of which, I am persuaded are essential to justice, and others highly important to the satisfactory working of the new system; and I trust that with these additions, the adoption of the system in question will not merely satisfy the long-expressed desire of the majority of the people of Newfoundland for freer institutions, but will also prove favourable to practical improvements in the Government of the Colony.

13. As regards the portion of the Address which relates to Free Trade with the United States, you will inform the Assembly that Her Majesty's Government are still in negotiation with that of the United States, and that in the conduct of that negotiation every attention will be paid to their expressed wishes and those of their constituents.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

(Signed)

NEWCASTLE.

Governor HAMILTON, &c., &c., &c., Newfoundland.

A P P E N D I X, No. 4.

DESPATCH

From the Secretary of State for the Colonies, to His Excellency the Governor, in reply to Addresses from the Council and House of Assembly deprecating any concession of any new Fishing Privileges to the French on the Coast of Newfoundland.

(COPY.)

Downing-Street, 17th September, 1853.

SIR,—

I have received and have laid before the Queen the Addresses from the Legislative Council and House of Assembly of Newfoundland, transmitted with your Despatches, Nos. 39 and 43, of the 1st and 29th June, deprecating any concession of new Fishing privileges to the French on the coasts of that Colony.

2. Her Majesty was pleased to receive these Addresses very graciously, and to command that the Council and Assembly be informed, in reply, that no progress has been made in the negotiations with France which were re-opened last year with a view to the settlement of the long-disputed questions relating to the French Fishery on the coasts of Newfoundland, no answer having been as yet returned, on the part of this country, to the proposition then made on the part of France, to which the Addresses appear to allude; and that the Council and Assembly may rest assured that Her Majesty's Government, in coming to a decision on the course to be taken, will duly attend to the interests of the Colony.

3. You will inform the Legislative Council and the House of Assembly accordingly.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

GOVERNOR HAMILTON, &c., &c.

(Signed)

NEWCASTLE.

A P P E N D I X, No. 5.

DESPATCHES

From the Secretary of State for the Colonies, to His Excellency the Governor, in reply to an Address from the Council and House of Assembly, praying for a Loan of £50,000 from Her Majesty's Government for the completion of Main Lines of Road.

(COPY.)

Downing Street, 30th July, 1853.

SIR,—

I have received your Despatch of the 29th June, No. 45, transmitting an Address to myself from the Council and House of Assembly of Newfoundland, praying Her Majesty's Govern-

ment to grant the Island a Loan of £50,000, repayable in 20 years, for the purpose of completing the Main Lines of Road in the Colony.

Before Her Majesty's Government can decide on this application, it will be necessary that you should furnish me with information on the following points:—

First: I should wish to know the actual amount of the present debt of the Colony (which, I must observe, is not given, as it ought to be, in the Blue Book); the time at, and authority under, which it was contracted; whether any portion of it is formed by an accumulation of unpaid interest, and what proportion of the sum originally borrowed has been paid off; whether provision is made for its redemption by annual instalments, or otherwise; and what were the circumstances under which a sum exceeding £800 was borrowed of the Savings Bank, when £80,000 is stated to be invested: and I should be glad if there was added to the information upon the above several points a full and complete account of the financial condition of the Colony, and the prospect there may be of its being able to repay the Loan for which the Council and Assembly have applied.

Secondly: I wish to receive your opinion and report on the mode of raising a Revenue in Newfoundland in the event of reciprocal Free Trade being established between that Colony and the United States. As the bulk of the Colonial Revenue is derived from Customs' duties on articles which under a convention for the unrestricted reciprocity of intercourse would be admitted duty free, it would be necessary to provide for the remission of a productive branch of the Revenue by the institution of other,—as for example, inland sources of taxation: and you will furnish me with your views as to the extent to which this would be practicable, and the effect which it might have upon the credit and resources of the Colony.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Governor HAMILTON, &c., &c., Newfoundland.

(Signed)

NEWCASTLE.

From His Excellency the Governor to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, on the subject of the Address of the Council and House of Assembly, praying for a Loan of £50,000 for the purpose of completing Main Lines of Road.

*Government House, Newfoundland, }
16th September, 1853. }*

MY LORD DUKE,—

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Your Grace's Despatch, No. 26, of the 30th July, in reply to my Despatch, No. 45, of the 29th June last, on the subject of the Address of

the Council and Assembly of this Island, praying for a loan of £50,000 for the purpose of completing the Main Lines of Road in this Colony.

2. In compliance with the directions contained in the first part of Your Grace's Despatch, I beg leave to transmit, herewith, a tabular statement, shewing the present amount of the actual debt of the Colony, with such particulars in reference thereto, as will, I trust, furnish Your Grace with the information desired on this point.

3. By an appendix to the above-mentioned statement, it will be seen that the Public Debt is redeemable, in sums of greater or less amount, in every year from the present one, to the year 1865 inclusive. But it is manifest that the estimated Revenue of the Colony, after payment of the ordinary charges upon it, will not be equal to the discharge of the portion of debt repayable in some of these years—as, for instance, the years 1857, 1858, 1860. It will, therefore, become necessary in those years, in order to provide for the redemption of the Debentures then falling due, to raise considerable sums of money by further loans, thus prolonging the period allowed for the extinction of the existing debt.

4. It is worthy of observation that nearly one half of the whole Public Debt of the Colony has been caused by the borrowing of money to compensate the proprietors of ground in the Town of St. John's for ground taken to widen the Streets of this Town after the great fire of 1846. The awards of compensation made at the time were based on what has since proved to have been a great over-valuation of property; and the proportionate high rents at which ground within the burnt district of the Town was then and subsequently taken by tenants on building leases—(rents increased in no small degree by the very improvements for which the proprietors had been compensated)—added to the compensation made to the landlords, greatly benefitted this class at both public and private cost.

5. In reply to the inquiry as to the "circumstances under which a sum exceeding £800 was borrowed of the Savings Bank when £80,000 was stated to be invested," I beg to acquaint Your Grace that by the provisions of the Law under which the Savings Bank was constituted, the deposits may be loaned on Real, Personal or Government Securities, at the discretion of the Governors of the Bank. The whole amount of deposits in the Bank is about £80,000, currency; but of this amount the sum actually taken on loan by the Colony is only £26,724 currency, for which Debentures bearing interest, (some at 5 but the greater part at 6 per cent.) are granted to the Bank in like manner as to private individuals. This sum of £26,724 currency, (£23,160 16s. sterling) forms part of the Public Debt of the Colony mentioned in the tabular statement. The residue of the deposits are loaned on real and personal securities at 6 per cent. interest, under the management of the Governors, who retain in hand, to meet current payments, a cash balance, fluctuating between £6000 and £10,000.

6. The whole of the deposits of the Savings Bank are, it is true, received into the Public Chest under the control of the Colonial Treasurer; but the monies as well as the accounts of the Bank are kept separate and distinct from the monies and accounts of the ordinary Revenue of the Colony. It sometimes happens on occasion of large payments on quarter-days, or at periods when, owing to the nature of the Trade, the Revenue is not receivable in an equal proportion with the demands upon

it, that the Treasurer may not have sufficient money in hand to meet all immediate demands. On such occasions, a portion of the cash balance belonging to the Savings Bank is, with the consent of the Governors of the Bank, made use of temporarily by the Treasurer, and returned again at short intervals, sometimes in a few days, generally in a few weeks, without interest—the transition being regularly entered in the Books of the Treasurer, as well as in those of the Savings Bank. The sum of £800 adverted to, was a temporary loan of this nature; as is in like manner, the sum of £802 0s. 3d. in the financial statement herewith enclosed.

7. In fulfilment of your Grace's directions, I transmit, herewith, a full account of the financial condition of the Colony, exhibiting (in Statement No. 2) its liabilities and assets as on the 1st of September instant; and (in Statement No. 3) a financial statement of the affairs of the Colony for the year 1854, together with an estimate of the future income and ordinary standing expenditure of the Colony; and shewing what prospect there is of its ability to repay the Loan for which the Council and Assembly have applied.

8. On inspection of the former of these two statements, it will be seen that, assuming the necessity of discharging the whole of the liabilities therein mentioned within the present year, there must be a deficit, or in other words, a balance against the Colony, at the close of the year, of £20,303 1s. 10d. From this balance, however, there is to be deducted, in the first place, the sum of about £7,000, being the amount of Treasury notes in circulation, which it is not intended to call in, and which can without any difficulty be kept in circulation on the credit of the Colony; and the retention in the Treasury of a certain amount of specie to respond such of the notes as may from time to time be presented for conversion. In the next place, notwithstanding that the sum of £11,350 has been granted for the making and repairing of Roads, I shall deem it my duty, in the present state of the finances of the Colony, if practicable, to expend no greater proportion of the grant than may be necessary to maintain the Roads and Bridges passable until the next meeting of the General Assembly, when the deficiency of means to meet this appropriation will be brought under its consideration. Still, owing to the failure of the Fishery in several localities, and the prospect of the almost total failure of the potato crop, and the demands for relief of the distress which will thus be created, and of which, I regret to say, intimations are already being given, I fear that, in addition to the ordinary appropriation for pauper relief, I shall be constrained to direct the expenditure of a considerable portion of the amount of the Road grant, in order to provide for the relief of the able-bodied poor by employing them on the Roads. The payment of the other appropriations in this statement, although they will not all be called for during the present year, must still be provided for during the ensuing one; and in order, therefore, to meet them without trenching on the Revenue of the next year, and notwithstanding that there is a prospect of the Revenue of the current year exceeding the estimate of its amount, I foresee the necessity of raising by loan, at the commencement of the ensuing session, a sum equal to one-third, or one-half of the apparent balance against the Colony, above-mentioned.

9. In the statement No. 3, the future Revenue of the Colony—assuming the continuance of the existing tariff of duties on imports—is set down at about an average of the last three years, and this may, I think, fairly be reckoned upon. Deducting from the gross income there shewn, the

ordinary standing expenditure of the Colony mentioned in the statement, there would remain a surplus of about £16,000 applicable to the reduction of the present public debt, and admitting of the gradual extinction of the contemplated loan of £50,000, if contracted. I feel bound, however, to state that it will not be safe to calculate upon the public expenditure being confined to the amount specified in the estimates submitted in each Session to the Assembly, or rather, to the amount of the ordinary standing expenditure above-mentioned. From time to time appropriations will be demanded for casual services and purposes, besides those detailed in the estimates, to which no reasonable objection can be offered. But beyond these, there will be a tendency to make appropriations for favourite objects of different parties in the Assembly, which, unless the most determined front be opposed to them by the Executive, will swell the extra expenditure to which I advert.

10. I have before had occasion to remark that, in this Colony, there being no local rates or taxes whatever, and all local expenditure for even the most minute services which can be considered as of a public nature, being defrayed out of one public chest, it is extremely difficult to inculcate that economy which necessarily results from the making the expense of such services a particular charge on the local inhabitants. But the time has come when it will be necessary for the principal towns and settlements to relieve the Public Revenue of charges upon it for purely local purposes—such, for instance, as grants in aid of the expense of maintaining fire prevention Companies, of lighting and watering—which ought to be defrayed by assessment. These subjects I shall consequently press upon the consideration of the Legislature at its next meeting.

11. A reduction in certain branches of expenditure might perhaps be effected without detriment to the public service.

* * * * *

I do not, however, think it would be prudent in the estimate of the future income and expenditure of the Colony, to rely upon a reduction of any considerable amount under the heads referred to.

12. Should the application for the loan of £50,000 be acceded to, the mode most satisfactory to Her Majesty's Government of providing a fund for the gradual reduction of the principal and interest upon it, and of placing the sinking fund to be formed for this purpose beyond the risk of diminution, will be the passing of an Act by the Legislature of the Colony, rendering permanent, or until the extinction of the loan, certain duties on particular articles of import, from the produce of which duties such a yearly amount as may be indicated should be regularly remitted to the Imperial Government, the residue falling into the ordinary revenue of the Colony to be appropriated by the Legislature. But as it would hardly be fair to the public creditors to whom the existing debt is repayable, to make the contemplated loan a preferable charge upon the present Revenue, it would be a more equitable arrangement, and one of which, I believe, the Legislature would approve, to appropriate specially to the reduction of the loan an additional tax on all articles subject to duty, sufficient to raise the required yearly amount.

13. In obedience to Your Grace's request that I would state my views as to the mode of raising a Revenue in Newfoundland in the event of Reciprocal Free Trade being established between this Colony and the United States, I beg to state that the only practicable mode in which the deficiency

of Revenue, which would thus be caused, could be supplied, would be by an export duty on fish and oil. The amount of Revenue now derivable from duties on *articles of all kinds* imported from the United States is about £15,000 per annum; and on imports from the British North American Colonies about £12,000, making together £27,000. Assuming, however, an entire remission of these duties, the deficiency of Revenue to be supplied would, doubtless, from the consequent facilities for increased importation from the United States and North American Colonies, amount to not less than £30,000. But if the arrangement for Reciprocal Free Trade with the United States shall embrace only the staple produce of those countries, viz.:—Bread, Flour, Pork, Butter, Corn and Meal, to which alone it is the desire of the Assembly that it should be restricted (as will be seen on reference to their Resolutions, adopted on the 21st of April, 1852), and beyond which it certainly would not be politic to extend it as regards this Colony, the deficiency of Revenue from the remission of duty on the articles last mentioned, imported from the United States (which last year amounted to £8,416) would, probably, not exceed £10,000, and on the like articles imported from the North American Colonies (which last year amounted to £5,237 4s. 3d.) would not exceed £7,000.

14. Taking the average for the last three years, of the following staple articles of produce exported, viz.:—Dried and Pickled Fish, Oil and Seal Skins—duties levied on them at rates equivalent to about 5 per cent. of their value, (for instance, on dried Cod Fish 6d. per quintal—pickled Salmon, 2s. per barrel—herrings, 6d. per barrel, Seal and Cod Oil, 20s. per tun, and Seal Skins, 1½d. each), ought to yield from £35,000 to £40,000. Making allowance for difficulty of collection and other contingencies, the produce of these duties may reasonably be reckoned at from £25,000 to £30,000 per annum, which would more than compensate for the loss of Revenue on imports of staple produce from the United States, as well as the British American Colonies—the commerce with which cannot be placed on any different or less advantageous terms than that with the United States. From the best information I have been enabled to obtain, I have reason to believe that such a mode of raising a Revenue in return for a freedom from taxes on provisions, would not press unfavourably upon the credit or resources of the Colony; and it seems to be admitted on all sides as the obvious substitute for duties upon imports which it may be necessary to remit in the event of any alteration in our commercial system.

15. In the event, however, of Newfoundland being embraced in any treaty of reciprocity between the Colonies and the United States, it is most desirable that a stipulation be made that a duty equal to 6 per cent. ad valorem should, for the purposes of Revenue, be levied equally on *all imports*—an equivalent duty being levied in the United States on the produce of this Colony. Such an arrangement, which is also in accordance with the views of the Assembly, and is adverted to in my Despatch, No. 41, of the 28th June last, would be the most satisfactory to all parties here, and preserve our Revenue intact. Until the public debt is somewhat reduced, it is of great importance not to disturb our existing sources of Revenue. On the other hand, if American and consequently Canadian produce must be imported free, I see no means other than duties on exports by which the Revenue can be maintained at its requisite amount. Direct taxation in this Colony is quite out of the question.

I have the honour to be, my Lord Duke,

Your Grace's most obedient humble servant,

His Grace the Duke of NEWCASTLE, &c., &c., &c.

(Signed) KER. B. HAMILTON,

From the Secretary of State for the Colonies, to His Excellency the Governor, with reference to the Address of the Council and House of Assembly, praying for a Loan of £50,000 to be expended on Main Lines of Road.

(COPY.)

Downing Street, 3rd November, 1853.

SIR,—

By your Despatch of the 16th of September, I obtain a sufficient insight into the state of the Finances of Newfoundland to enable me to answer the address from Her Majesty's Council and House of Assembly, soliciting from the Imperial Government a Loan of £50,000 for the construction of Main Roads.

2. I own I did not anticipate, when I called for the information now communicated, that it would disclose the existence of such difficulties on the part of the public of the Island, as not only put it out of my power to comply with the address, but impose upon me the duty of urging retrenchments, and requiring of you to make a determined effort to reduce their liabilities within the compass of their means.

3. I collect from Statement No. 1, in the enclosures to your Despatch, that on the 5th of September last there was owing a sum of £114,568 6s. 8d., borrowed at a large rate of interest, chiefly to carry on public works. Each of the last 10 years has added largely to this debt, and I can well believe that though redeemable by payments of varying amounts in each of the next 12 years, its extinction within that period is improbable.

4. But this is not the only debt of the Colony. In Statement No. 2, I observe £1970 5s. 3d. due for outstanding warrants and interest, and £6,933 on account of Treasury notes. You inform me that these notes are in circulation, and that it is not intended to call them in;—they constitute, therefore, a paper currency practically inconvertible, and as they rest upon a basis so unsound as the general credit of the Colony, there is no adequate security against their depreciation. They should, I think, be called in on the first opportunity.—Another sum of £2893 19s. 2d., due the Commissioners of the Lunatic Asylum, and of Colonial Building and Market House, requires to be explained, as it would seem almost as if money raised under Loan Acts for specified and defined objects had been carried to the account of the general Revenue, though I am aware of no legal authority for such a diversion of the money.

5. With regard to the Returns of Income and Expenditure for 1853, I regret to find that they exhibit a balance against the Colony of £20,303. The Road grant and Miscellaneous grants have evidently been voted without reference to the amount of the available income. I hope to be satisfied by you that the Executive is not responsible for the ruinous disproportion; but the duty of the Executive consists not merely as you suppose in economising authorised expenditure, but by doing its best by exposition and argument to prevail upon the Legislature to make no grants, the means of meeting which it does not at the same time provide. Unless this be done there is no resource, no

alternative but debt: nor do I wonder that you "foresee the necessity" of bringing a loan of several thousand Pounds in aid of the deficient income of the current year. But can I have a stronger argument than this necessity, to establish indisputably the imprudence of borrowing from the Imperial Government £50,000 for making new roads at such a time, and with the finances of the Island in such disorder?

6. My answer then to the Address of the Council and Assembly is that I cannot advise the loan. And I may consequently dispense with an inquiry into the return of the security which you offer for its repayment with interest, and into the prospect which there is that your anticipations of a surplus of income in 1854 and following years, will be realized. I know of but one way by which that result can be brought about: it is to institute a rigorous scrutiny of every item of public outlay, and by admitting the validity of such only as are supported by urgent and imperative considerations of general interest, to bring down the total expenditure of all sorts to that point which will enable you to carry on the administration of the Colony without borrowed money, and perhaps place at your disposal a surplus available for the redemption of existing debt, and for the maintenance of faith with your public creditor.

This course I have to instruct you to take, and after furnishing me with information on the several matters adverted to above, to report the progress you may make in bringing round the finances of the Colony.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

(Signed)

NEWCASTLE.

Governor HAMILTON, &c., &c., Newfoundland.

A P P E N D I X, No. 6.

PETITION

Of Robert Rodger, for office of Reporter.

TO THE HONOURABLE THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THE PETITION OF ROBERT RODGER.

Humbly Sheweth,—

That the office of Reporter to your Honourable House having become vacant by the death of the late H. Mooney, Esq., your Petitioner begs leave respectfully to offer himself as a candidate for the situation.

That feeling himself competent for its duties, your Petitioner ventures to hope that your Honourable House will be pleased to appoint him to the vacant office.

And as in duty bound your Petitioner will ever pray.

ROBERT RODGER.

A P P E N D I X, No. 7.

PETITION

Of W. J. Ward, to be appointed Publisher of the Debates of the Council.

TO THE HONOURABLE THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, IN SESSION CONVENED.

THE MEMORIAL OF WILLIAM JAMES WARD, PROPRIETOR AND PUBLISHER OF THE "MORNING POST."

Respectfully Sheweth,—

That your Memorialist, who was the first to attend the meetings of your Honourable House to report and publish its proceedings, was last year appointed Publisher of the Reports by your Honourable House, and has made the necessary arrangements for the performance of that service during the present session.

Your Memorialist, therefore, humbly prays that your Honourable House will take these circumstances into consideration, and be pleased to recognize the continuance of the said appointment of your Memorialist as Publisher of the Reports of the Proceedings of your Honourable House.

And your Memorialist, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

WILLIAM J. WARD.

St. John's, Newfoundland, February 3rd, 1854.

A P P E N D I X No. 8.

PETITION

From Inhabitants of Cape Ray and Cape Quirpon, on the subject of their being deprived by the French and Americans of the right of the Salmon and Cod Fishery heretofore held by them.

TO THE HONOURABLE HER MAJESTY'S COUNCIL OF NEWFOUNDLAND.

We, the undersigned, inhabitants of the Island of Newfoundland, between Cape Ray and Cape Quirpon, beg most respectfully to represent to your Honourable House that we have been

long residents, and most of us born here; that our forefathers and ourselves have fished the brooks, rivers and coasts, in many instances, seventy years; that of late years French subjects have violently dispossessed us of the most valuable brooks and rivers; that as British subjects we have a *concurrent right* to the Cod Fishery (as by Treaty) with French and American subjects, from which the French now exclude us.

Your Petitioners therefore pray your Honourable House to take our case into your favourable consideration, and represent the hardships and grievances we endure, to the Imperial Government, as we cannot believe that Great Britain will allow *her* subjects to be deprived of the Salmon Fisheries, hitherto used by them, or the *joint* use of the Cod Fishery with French and American subjects, as reserved to them by Treaty.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

WILLIAM GENGE.
ABRAHAM GENGE.

[And 43 others.]

A P P E N D I X, No. 9.

PETITION

Of Messrs. Brooking, for a reduction of the Light Dues on large Steam Vessels entering the Port of St. John's, &c.

TO THE HONOURABLE THE COUNCIL OF NEWFOUNDLAND IN LEGISLATIVE SESSION CONVENED.

THE MEMORIAL OF THE UNDERSIGNED,

Humbly Sheweth,—

That your Memorialists are Agents to the Canada Steam Navigation Company, and that since the 25th of June last the ships "Lady Eglinton," "Sarah Sands," and "Cleopatra"—three of the said Company's Steam vessels—put into this port for a supply of coals and provisions, and that the sum of Sixpence sterling d Ton was paid to the Collector of the Colonial Revenue at this port, for Light Dues exacted from the said vessels, under the provisions of the Act 15 Victoria, cap. 3, and amounting in the aggregate to £53 10s. 6d. sterling. We beg respectfully to draw the attention of your Honourable House to the very heavy charge in this manner imposed on such vessels, and which, we assure your Honourable House, tends to discourage the desire the said Company have to make this a Port of Call for their Steamers.

Your Memorialists humbly pray your Honourable House will be pleased to take this matter into your consideration, and to cause to be refunded such a proportion of the aforesaid sum of £53 10s. 6d., Sterling, as in the wisdom of your Honourable House the case may seem to demand.

Your Memorialists would also pray your Honourable House to sanction such an alteration in the said Act 15 Victoria, Cap. 3, as will fix a maximum amount of Tonnage on each Vessel, at which the sum of Six Pence Sterling per Ton shall cease to be imposed, so as to reduce the Light Dues, on large vessels entering this Port, to a fair and reasonable charge.

And your Memorialists will ever pray.

BROOKING, SON & CO.

Saint John's, Newfoundland, 27th April, 1854.

A P P E N D I X, No. 10.

PETITION

From Heart's Content for a grant for a Post Office.

TO THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT, AND OTHER MEMBERS OF HER MAJESTY'S COUNCIL OF
NEWFOUNDLAND CONVENED.

THE HUMBLE PETITION OF THE INHABITANTS OF HEART'S CONTENT, &c., &c.,

Prayeth,—

That your Honourable House do grant a sum of Money towards the erection of a Post Office in this Harbour, as being the most important settlement on the South Shore of Trinity Bay, as contiguous to Carbonear, containing the largest number of inhabitants, and having the most extensive outfit for the Fisheries.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

H. LIND, E. M.
JOHN PEARCY.
[And 54 others.]

A P P E N D I X No. 11.

PETITION

From Harbour Grace, Port-de-Grave, &c., in favour of the Newfoundland School Society.

TO THE HON. THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF NEWFOUNDLAND IN LEGISLATIVE SESSION CONVENED.

THE MEMORIAL OF THE UNDERSIGNED INHABITANTS OF HARBOUR GRACE, PORT DE GRAVE, &c.,

Humbly Sheweth,—

That your Memorialists, viewing the Newfoundland School Society, now connected with the

Colonial Church and School Society, as under Divine Providence, one of the main instruments in causing the inhabitants of this Colony duly to appreciate the advantages of Education, and as the means, during the thirty years of its existence, of conferring innumerable and inestimable blessings upon this country, deem it their bounden duty to record their heartfelt gratitude to the Society for the benefits already bestowed, and to your Honourable House for the favourable consideration and liberal support from time to time given to this Educational Institution.

That the School in this Town, under the auspices of the above named Society, has been in operation for eight and twenty years, and that from eighty to ninety children are daily receiving a sound religious, moral, and useful education therein.

That your Memorialists, thankfully acknowledging the many and great privileges bestowed upon them and their children through the instrumentality of this Society, and cordially desiring these privileges to be continued and extended, earnestly pray your Honourable House to give it the largest amount of support and encouragement your Honourable House feel able and consider proper to grant.

And your Memorialists, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

Harbour Grace, February 8th, 1854.

JOHN STARK.
BERTRAM JONES.
G. C. GADEN.
[And 974 others.]

A P P E N D I X, No. 12.

PETITION

From Greenspond, for Grant for the Colonial Church and School Society.

TO THE HONOURABLE HER MAJESTY'S COUNCIL OF NEWFOUNDLAND.

THE PETITION OF THE INHABITANTS OF GREENSPOND,

Humbly Sheweth,—

That we, the undersigned, friends of the Colonial Church and School Society, formerly designated the Newfoundland School Society, having been eye-witnesses of the beneficial effects of the said School Society, are anxious to bring the same before the notice of your Honourable Council.

That since the establishment of the Society in this place (which is now upwards of twenty-six years), there have been admitted into its School nearly nine hundred children, to whom the said Society has been the only means of imparting a sound and scriptural education. That there are two

hundred and seventy individuals annually receiving instruction in the said School at Greenspond, two hundred and fourteen of whom are in daily attendance.

Apprehending that the said Society may be involved in some difficulties with regard to funds, and so cramped in its useful operations in this place as well as in others, your Petitioners most earnestly pray, and humbly beg, that your Honourable Council will be pleased to *aid and assist* the Colonial Church and School Society, by continuing the usual grant which your Honourable Council has always so liberally bestowed. Then shall we be encouraged to hope that the worthy Society will be able to impart to our dear children, and to others after them, the blessings of a necessary and useful education.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

JOHN MUSSON.

L. MOORE, J. P.

[And 53 others.]

A P P E N D I X, No. 13.

REPORT

Of the Committee of the St. John's Marine Insurance Company, to the first Annual General Meeting of the Proprietors, held in the Office of the said Company, Exchange Buildings, on Tuesday, the Tenth day of January, A. D. 1854, pursuant to the Act of Incorporation.

Of the Two Hundred Shares provided for by the Act, One Hundred and Fifty-two have been issued, leaving Forty-eight unappropriated.

The first Policy was issued on the Fifth day of February, 1853; the office has therefore been in working operation Eleven months, during which time it has taken Risks amounting to £400,333, the aggregate Premium thereon being £10,546 14s. 3d., a much larger amount of business than was ever transacted by the old office in any one year, notwithstanding that other similar institutions have arisen to share the public patronage; while the amount of Premiums received exceed the average of the last Five years, in the face of a reduction in the rates charged of fully 25 per cent.

The subjoined statement will shew the Financial position of the Company up to the end of the past year, say 31st December, 1853.

STATEMENT.

DR.		CR.
To Current Expenses, including Salaries, Office Rent, and other contingencies, as ₤ acct. exhibited at the meeting.....	£595 8 9	
12 Months' Interest on paid-up Stock @ 6 ₤. cent on £1520	91 4 0	
	£686 12 9	
Balance in hand, viz.—		
Cash in Bank of		
B. N. A.....	£2070 8 7	
Gold.....	1892 3 0	
Securities.....	2546 15 4	
	6509 6 11	
From which amt. deduct for Premiums received on Risks not terminated, carried to new account	507 10 3	
	£6688 9 5	
The following claims on the Company have yet to be examined and decided on by the Committee, viz.—		
Loss on Goods ₤ Marie Dolphene	660 0 0	
Ditto on Freight per Dash	300 0 0	
Ditto on Ship and Cargo New Lancet, about.....	1000 0 0	
Average per Lena.....	60 0 0	
	£2020 0 0	
		By Deposit on 152 Shares, @ £10 ₤ Share.....
		£1520 0 0
		Profit on Risks as ₤ Account exhibited at the General Meeting
		£5675 19 8
		From which deduct for Premiums received on Risks not yet terminated.....
		£507 10 3
		5168 9 5
		£6688 9 5

Errors Excepted.

St. John's, Newfoundland,
December 31st 1853.

JOHN B. BULLEY,
Agent.

APPENDIX, No. 14.

GENERAL ABSTRACT of the Newfoundland Marine Assurance Company, as they existed at 3 o'clock, P.M., on Thursday, 12th January, 1854.

Dr.		Cr.	
To 501 Shares stock sold, £5 $\frac{1}{2}$ share paid	£2505 0 0	By Premiums due on notes and accts.	£2898 2 1
Amt. to credit of Prov. Ins. Co. due and not due	1049 16 11	Investments in Bills Exchange and endorsed notes	6119 2 9
Rent and other items unpaid	38 14 6	Cash in Bank B.N.A.	194 13 4
Balance at credit of Profit & Loss acct.	5794 7 5	Ditto in Gold, &c.	176 0 8
	£9387 18 10		£9387 18 10
To current claims	1531 7 3		
Amt. to credit of Prov. Ins. Co.	1049 16 11		
Proposed dividend of 100 $\frac{1}{2}$ cent. convertible to instalments on new shares	2505 0 0		
Surplus	708 3 3		
	£5794 7 5	By Balance of Profit and Loss account	£5794 7 5

The aggregate amount of Risks taken by this Company since 27th Dec., 1852, on separate account, and prior to arrangement with the Provincial Insurance Co. £215,158 10 0

Ditto of Risks taken on joint account with ditto ditto	155,281 0 0	370,439 10 0
Ditto of Premiums on separate account	6,743 15 8	
Ditto of ditto on joint account with Provincial Insurance Company	3,028 3 7	9,771 19 3
Ditto of current Risks at this date, both on separate and on joint account		19,973 0 0
Ditto of Premiums charged for current Risks		930 12 2
Ditto of Losses paid since 27th December, 1852		1678 5 8
The Dividend paid in July, 1853, was 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ cent. on paid up capital (then being £2755 0 0)		137 15 0
The amount of reserved Profits in July, 1853, when the above dividend was declared, was		2230 11 3
The amount of Bonds for unpaid capital as per Share-list herewith, marked A		10,020 0 0
Ditto of Real Estate held by this Company		Nil.

I, EDWARD L. JARVIS, Secretary of the Newfoundland Marine Assurance Company, do swear that the above is a true return of the state of the affairs of the said Company, up to the time above-named.

EDWARD L. JARVIS.

Sworn to before me at St. John's, this 31st January, 1854.

CHARLES SIMMS,

Com. of Affidavits.

We, the undersigned, Directors of the Newfoundland Marine Assurance Company, do certify that the books of the said Corporation indicate the facts above stated by the Secretary thereof, and that we have full confidence in the truth of this return.

JAMES J. GRIEVE, <i>President.</i>	}	<i>Directors.</i>
ROBERT PROWSE,		
PATRICK TASKER,		
HENRY K. DICKINSON,		
W. M. BARNES,		
JAMES SHANNON CLIFT,		
JAMES J. ROGERSON,		

A

PARTICULAR STATEMENT, shewing the names of the Stockholders in the Newfoundland Marine Assurance Company, on 12th January, 1854; the number of Shares held by each, the amounts paid up, the amounts secured by Bonds, and the names of the Stockholders, sureties, respectively.

Stockholders.	Shares	Paid up.			Sureties.	Amts. Bonds.
		£	s.	d.		
Lawrence O'Brien	30	150	0	0	Richard O'Dwyer	600
James J. Grieve	30	150	0	0	Eugenius Harvey	600
Robert Prowse	30	150	0	0	Henry K. Dickenson	600
Henry K. Dickenson ...	30	150	0	0	Robert Prowse	600
Eugenius Harvey	35	175	0	0	James J. Grieve	700
John Munn ...	20	100	0	0	William Donnelly	400
Kenneth McLea	15	75	0	0	William Donnelly	300
James S. Clift ...	15	75	0	0	William M. Barnes	300
James Furlong	12	60	0	0	Laurence O'Brien	240
Thos. Harrison Ridley ...	10	50	0	0	John Munn ...	200
William H. Ridley	10	50	0	0	John Munn ...	200
William Donnelly	10	50	0	0	John Munn ...	200
John J. Roddick	10	50	0	0	Robert Prowse	200
Peter G. Tessier	10	50	0	0	William H. Mare	200
William L. Solomon	10	50	0	0	Alexander Mitchell	200
John Barron ...	10	50	0	0	John Bond	200
James J. Rogerson	10	50	0	0	William M. Barnes	200
Philip Duggan	10	50	0	0	John Fox	200
William M. Barnes	10	50	0	0	James S. Clift ...	200
Patrick Tasker	10	50	0	0	David Steele ...	200
John Bond ...	10	50	0	0	James McLaughlan	200
David Steele ...	10	50	0	0	Patrick Tasker	200
Richard O'Dwyer	10	50	0	0	Laurence O'Brien	200
Nicholas Cusack	10	50	0	0	Edward D. Shea	200
James Cormack	10	50	0	0	James J. Grieve	200
Robert Pack ...	10	50	0	0	Peter Rogerson	200
James Crowdy	6	30	0	0	Joseph Crowdy	120
Joseph Crowdy	6	30	0	0	James Crowdy	120
Nicholas Mudge	5	25	0	0	John Bond	100
Alexander Mitchell	5	25	0	0	James Chalmers	100
John O'Mara ...	5	25	0	0	Samuel Carson	100
Laurence Maccassey	5	25	0	0	William Hogan	100
William Hogan	5	25	0	0	Lawrence Maccassey	100
Edward White	5	25	0	0	Robert H. Job... ..	100
Laurence Geran	5	25	0	0	Thomas Row ...	160
William W. Lemessurier	5	25	0	0	George Loveys	100
William H. Mare	5	25	0	0	Peter G. Tessier	100
Edward M. Archibald ...	5	25	0	0	James J. Grieve	100
Carried forward	449	2245	0	0	Carried forward	£8980

STATEMENT

Of the Affairs of the St. John's Water Company, for the year ending April 30th, 1853.

Dr.	CR.
To paid for materials purchased this year £14 5 0	By Balance in Bank last year..... 15 11
Paid Labour laying pipes, and keeping fire-plugs and hydrants in order 173 0 1	Amount received for Water supplied to Premises and Shipping..... 560 10 8
Paid Salary to Superintendent and Secretary..... 128 1 9	Ditto received for Materials sold..... 58 5 2
Paid Dividend on £6600, at 5 per ct. 330 0 0	Ditto received on account of outstanding Debts..... 49 8 4 668 4 2
Outstanding Debt..... 2 8 6 647 15 4	
Balance..... 21 4 9	
£669 0 1	£669 0 1
Amount due to the Bank, the same having been borrowed to pay expenses of extending works to ensure a supply of water for hydrants and plugs in case of fire..... 300 0 0	By Balance brought down..... 21 4 9
Amount due Superintendent.....70 0 0	Balance..... 403 7 3
Ditto Baine, Johnston & Co.....50 2 0	
Ditto T. McGrath..... 4 10 0 124 12 0	
£424 12 0	£424 12 0
To Balance due..... 403 7 3	

Errors and Omissions Excepted.
 Saint John's, Newfoundland,
 April 30th, 1853.

W. J. WARD,
 Secretary.

INDEX

TO THE

JOURNALS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

ADDRESS TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

On Representation Bill, 81.

ADDRESSES TO THE GOVERNOR,

In answer to Speech on opening the Session, 17.

To effect Insurance on Public Buildings, 22. Presented, 23.

To forward Address to Duke of Newcastle on Representation Bill, 84. Presented, 80.

On the subject of arresting Fires in St. John's, 70. Presented, 86.

To appoint two members of the Council to proceed to England—Presented, 86.

AMENDMENTS TO BILLS—*by the Council.*

On Telegraph Incorporation Bill, 30.

Steam Communication Suspension Bill, 37.

British Coin Rates Bill, 46.

Increase of Representatives Bill, 50.

AMENDMENTS TO BILLS—*by the Assembly.*

On Council's amendments on Increase of Representatives Bill, 55, 77.

Currency Regulation Bill, 84.

BILLS—*brought in.*

BRITISH COIN RATES BILL, 40. Second Reading, 41. Committed—Reported with amendments, 46. Read 3rd time and passed—Title, 47. Message from Assembly of having passed, 84.

BILLS—brought in.—(Continued.)

CURRENCY REGULATION BILL, 40. Second Reading, 41. Committed—Reported, 47. Read 3rd time and passed—Title, 48. Message from Assembly of having passed, with amendments, 84. Amendments read—Committed—Conference on, recommended—Committee appointed to draft Instructions, 85. The Instructions, 86.

BILLS—brought up from the House of Assembly.

ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH INCORPORATION BILL, 27. Second Reading—Committed, 28, 29. Reported with amendments, 29. Re-committed—Reported with amendments—The amendments, 30. Read 3rd time and passed, 35.

STEAM COMMUNICATION SUSPENSION BILL, 35. Second Reading, 36. Committed—Reported with amendments—The amendments, 37. Read 3rd time and passed, 38.

ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH REPEAL BILL, 27. Second Reading—Committed—Reported, 29. Read 3rd time and passed, 35.

INCREASE OF REPRESENTATIVES BILL, 37. Second Reading—Referred to Select Committee, 40. Report, 41. Committed, 46, 48, 49, 50. Reported with amendments, 50. Read 3rd time and passed, 52. Protest against, 53. Assembly passed amendments of Council with amendments—The amendments, 55. Committed, 56, 57. Conference on, recommended, 57. Assembly accede thereto—Report of Select Committee of Instructions to Conferees on, read and adopted—The Instructions, 59. Conferees appointed—Report having delivered their Instructions, 61. Assembly's amendments on Council's amendments read 3rd time and passed, 62. Conference requested by Assembly—Concurred in—Conferees appointed—Report of—Assembly's Instructions, 63. Committee on—Further Conference recommended with Assembly—Select Committee appointed to draft Instructions, 69. Report—The Instructions, 71. Assembly accede to Conference—Conferees appointed—Report, 72. Assembly request Conference on subject of last Conference—Managers appointed—Report—Assembly's Instructions, 73. Message to Assembly of having passed an amendment of Assembly on Council's amendments, and of not concurring in others, 77. Taken to Assembly—Assembly request free Conference—Managers appointed—Their Report, 78. Message sent to Assembly in reference to report—Report of Managers at free Conference, 79. Address to Duke of Newcastle on, 81. Address to Governor to forward the same—Committee appointed to present it, 84. Report. 86.

CHAIR OF THE HOUSE,

To be taken at 2 o'clock precisely, 15.

CONFERENCE,

On Increase of Representatives Bill recommended, 57. Further, recommended, 69.

On Currency Bill recommended, 85.

Requested by the Assembly,—

On Increase of Representatives Bill, 63, 73. Free, on, 78.

CUSTOMS,

Account of Goods imported—and Account Current of Receipts and Payments for the year ended 5th January, 1854, Appendix No 2.

COLONIAL SECRETARY,

Announces that His Excellency the Governor will prorogue the Legislature on Wednesday, (14th June), 84.

DESPATCHES,

From the Secretary of State on the subject of Responsible Government, Appendix No. 3.

————— In reply to Addresses from Council and Assembly, on the subject of the Fisheries, Appendix No. 4.

————— In reply to Addresses on the subject of a Loan of £50,000 for Main Roads (3 Nos.), Appendix No. 5.

DOCUMENTS,

Laid before the House by Mr. Secretary Crowdy, 24, 25, 26, 29, 55.

DELEGATION,

To Secretary of State relative to state of the Colony, 84. Address to Governor respecting, 84. Report on, 86.

ESTIMATE,

Of the charge of defraying the Public Expenditure, Appendix No. 1.

FISHERIES,

Despatch in reply to Addresses of Council and Assembly on the subject of, Appendix No. 4.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

Colonial Secretary announces that His Excellency the Governor will prorogue it on the 14th June, 84. Prorogued, 88.

GOVERNOR,

Arrives at Council Chamber, 9.

Speech of on opening the Session, 10.

Address of Council in answer, 17. Reply, 20.

Arrives at Council Chamber and assents to Electric Telegraph Repeal, and Telegraph Incorporation Bills, 38.

Arrives at Council Chamber and assents to Revenue Bill, 58. To close the Session, and assents to certain Bills, 87.

Speech of, on proroguing General Assembly, 88.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CONFEREES,

Council's—On Increase of Representation Bill, 59, 71.

On Assembly's amendments on Currency Bill, 86.

Assembly's—On Representation Bill, 63, 73.

LIBRARY, LEGISLATIVE,

Honourable Mr. Job appointed member of Committee of, 80.

LOAN,

Despatches on the subject of, (3 Nos.), Appendix No. 5.

MESSAGE TO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY,

Of having passed an amendment of Assembly on Council's amendments on Representation Bill, and not concurring in others, 77. Taken to the House, 78.

Having reference to report of Managers at Free Conference on Representation Bill, 79.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY,

With Electric Telegraph Bill, and Electric Telegraph Repeal Bill, 27.

Concurring in amendments on Telegraph Incorporation Bill, 36.

————— On Steam Communication Repeal Bill, 38.

Of having passed amendments of Council on Representation Bill, with amendment, 55.

Agreeing to Conference on Representation Bill, 59.

Requesting Conference on subject of last Conference, 63.

Acceding to Conference, 72.

Requesting Conference, 73.

Requesting Free Conference on amendments on Representation Bill, 78.

Of having passed Coin Rates and Currency Regulation Bills, with amendments, 84.

NOTICES OF MOTION,

For Select Committee on the Rules of the House, 13.

To suspend 37th Rule of the House, 14, 15, 27, 57.

To appoint Select Committee on Printing and Publishing Debates of the House, 14.

That the Chair be taken at 2 o'clock precisely, 14.

To bring in a Bill respecting Registration of Deeds, 22.

For address to Governor on Insuring Public Buildings, 22.

To bring in British Coin Rates Bill and Currency Regulation Bill, 40.

Of address to the Governor on the subject of arresting Fires, 69.

To bring resolutions of Assembly on the conduct of the Council on the Representation Bill, under consideration, 80.

To present an address to Governor for the appointment of Delegates from the Council to proceed to England, 84.

NEWFOUNDLAND MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY,

Abstract of affairs of, Appendix No. 14.

PETITIONS LAID ON THE TABLE,

Of Robert Rodger, 14, Appendix No. 6.

Of W. J. Ward, 15, Appendix No. 7.

From Heart's Content for Post Office, 27, Appendix No. 10.

Of Brooking & Son for reduction of Light Dues on Steamers, 47, Appendix No. 9.

PETITIONS LAID ON THE TABLE—(Continued.)

From Greenspond, Spaniard's Bay, Harbour Grace, Portugal Cove, Bay Roberts, Brigus, Petty Harbour, Bonavista, Island Cove, English Harbour and Ship Cove, Trinity and Heart's Content, in favour of Newfoundland School Society, 52, Appendix No. 12.
From Port-de-Grave, Bareneed and Salmon Cove, ditto, 55, Appendix No. 11.

PROTEST,

Against Representation Bill, 53.

PROROGATION OF THE LEGISLATURE,

Colonial Secretary announces that His Excellency will prorogue it on the 14th June, 84.
Prorogued, 88.

RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT,

Despatch on the subject of, Appendix No. 3.

RULES OF THE HOUSE,

37th, suspended, 15; 28, 58.

REPORTING AND PUBLISHING,

The Debates and Proceedings of the House—Select Committee respecting, 15. Report, 16.

SELECT COMMITTEES,

To draft address to Governor in reply to Speech on opening the Session, 13. Report of, 14.

To ascertain when His Excellency will receive the same—Report of, 19.

To report on the Rules of the House, 14.

To report on Printing the Debates of the House, 15. Report of, 16.

To present address to the Governor respecting Insurance of Public Buildings—Report of, 23.

On Representation Bill, 40. Report of, 41.

To draft Instructions to Conferees on Representation Bill, 69. Report of, 71.

ST. JOHN'S MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY,

Report of affairs of, Appendix No. 13.

ST. JOHN'S WATER COMPANY,

Statement of affairs of, Appendix No. 15