

THE
PARLIAMENTARY REPORTER!

OR
DEBATES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
OF
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

FOR THE YEAR

1870.

Being the Fourth Session of the Twenty-Third General Assembly.



CHARLOTTETOWN:

Printed at the Patriot Book and Job Printing Rooms.

1870.

THE
PARLIAMENTARY REPORTER.
SESSION, 1870.

Meeting of the Legislature.

On Thursday, March 3, 1870, His Honor the Administrator of the Government, Sir Robert Hodgson, came down to the Council Chamber at 3 o'clock, when he was pleased to open the Fourth Session of the Twenty-third General Assembly with the following

SPEECH:

Mr. President and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

I am happy again to meet you in your legislative capacity, and at a time generally supposed to be most convenient for the performance of your duties.

During the past summer, this Island was honored with a visit by our gracious Sovereign's third son, the Prince Arthur, and I have much satisfaction in informing you, that His Royal Highness was received with unfeigned demonstrations of enthusiastic loyalty, and his visit will, I am convinced, tend to perpetuate, in this Colony, the feeling of loyalty and attachment to our beloved Queen, and to her august family, so unmistakably evinced by all classes on that occasion.

A visit of His Excellency Sir John Young, Baronet, Governor General of British North America, preceded that of the Prince Arthur. His Excellency was accompanied by several members of His Cabinet, who availed themselves of the opportunity to discuss, informally, with members of this Government, the subject of a union of this Island with the Dominion of Canada.

Since their return to Ottawa, proposals for such a Union have been received. These proposals, together with copies of Despatches from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, addressed to the Governor General, and to the Governor of British Columbia, bearing on the same subject, will be laid before you, and "inasmuch as they convey in earnest terms, the matured opinion of Her Majesty's Government with reference to the great scheme of confederation," I bespeak for them your calm and deliberate consideration.

Some further purchases of Township Lands have been effected, and I hope, from communications which have been received from certain absent proprietors, that other Estates may be acquired on equitable terms. Papers relating to these transactions will be laid before you.

I have much pleasure in announcing to you, that Telegraphic Communication has been completed in the manner, and to the extent, contemplated by the Act of last session. The success which has attended the establishment of the line to Alberton, induces me to direct your attention to the necessity of providing similar accommodation for the Eastern portion of the Island.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

The Public Accounts will be submitted to you. They exhibit a satisfactory state of the Revenue of the past year.

The estimates for the current year will also be laid before you. They have been framed with due regard to economy and the efficiency of the Public Service.

Mr. President and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

We have great reason to be thankful to Divine Providence for the abundant returns which have rewarded the labors of our husbandmen during the past season.

Three years have now elapsed since the last general Industrial Exhibition was held in this City. Convinced of the great advantages which result from the stimulus thus applied to inventive talent, as well as to the industry of the mechanic, the manufacturer, and the cultivator of the soil,—I suggest the propriety of your organizing a similar Exhibition, to take place during the ensuing autumn.

The rapid growth of our County Towns, while it indicates increasing wealth and prosperity, points also to the necessity of making some provision for their local Government. A measure, having this object in view, will be submitted for your approval.

The large sums annually disbursed from the Treasury for Educational purposes renders it desirable to simplify the present cumbrous and expensive system of paying Teachers' Salaries. An Act for effecting this object will be laid before you.

A Board of Works has been established, in accordance with the provisions of the Act passed for that purpose, and though it has encountered many of the difficulties incident to the working of new institutions, yet under its superintendance several useful Public Works have been commenced, and others carried on, or completed.

Trusting that your deliberations may be guided by the Wisdom of an overruling Providence to the promotion of the best interests of your fellow colonists, I now leave you to the performance of your legislative labors.

Hon. members of the House of Assembly having returned to their own room, His Honor's speech was read from the Chair.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD, a member of Her Majesty's Executive Council, laid on the table the returned Writ for the election of a member for the First District of King's County, in the place of Hon. Joseph Hensley, who had accepted the office of Assistant Judge.

Hon. Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Brecken, and Hon. Mr. McAulay objected to the business of the Session being proceeded with, until the Government had informed the House what changes had taken place in the Executive during the recess, and what member thereof should be addressed as Leader of the Government in this branch of the Legislature.

Hon. Mr. Laird, Hon. P. Sinclair, and Messrs. Reilly and G. Sinclair, in reply, contended that the Government should not be called upon to make any announcements or explanations at this stage of the proceedings; that it would be improper to give the desired information to the House until new members had taken their places; and that, if the Opposition had only patience to wait a little, their wishes would be gratified.

HON. LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION maintained that the course the Government was pursuing was irregular, and he would therefore move the following resolution:

Resolved, That this House cannot proceed with the public business of the Colony until they are made acquainted with the various changes that have taken place in the Executive Council during the recess, in consequence of the elevation of the Honorable Joseph Hensley to the Bench.

When the Speaker put the question on the resolution, to the House, there appeared for it—Hon. Messrs. Haviland, Duncan, McAulay; Messrs. Brecken, Owen, Yeo, Prowse, Ramsay—8.

Against it—Hon. Messrs. Laird, Callbeck, Kelly, P. Sinclair; Messrs. McNeill,

Bell, G. Sinclair, Reilly, Arsenault, Kickham, McMillan, McCormack Howat, Cameron—14.

The Writ was then read by the Clerk, and James A. McLean, Esq., the member elect for the said First District of King's County, having appeared at the bar, was introduced to the Speaker, and took the usual oaths and his seat.

HON. MR. LAIRD laid a similar Writ and return on the table for the election of a member to represent the Fourth Electoral District of Queen's County, in place of Hon. Benjamin Davies who had accepted the office of Colonial Secretary, which was read by the Clerk, whereupon Mr. Davies, who had been re-elected, came forward, and, after complying with the customary forms, took his seat.

The following, among other Committees, were then appointed:—

To prepare Draft Address in answer to His Excellency's Speech—Messrs. Reilly and Bell, Hon. Mr. Kelly, Messrs. G. Sinclair, McNeill, McMillan, and McLean.

Public Accounts—Mr. G. Sinclair, Hon. Mr. Kelly, Messrs. Bell, Yeo, Cameron, Owen, Prowse.

HON. COL. SECRETARY said that he was now in a position to inform the House respecting the changes which had taken place in the Government during the recess. The Executive as at present constituted stood thus: Hon. R. P. Haythorne, President; Hon. George Coles, Hon. William W. Lord, Hon. Andrew A. McDonald, Hon. George Howlan, Hon. Henry J. Callbeck, Hon. Alexander Laird, jun., Hon. Peter Sinclair, and Hon. Benjamin Davies. The Leader of the Government in this House was Hon. Mr. Howlan, and, during his absence, he (Mr. D.) would discharge the duties of the position to the best of his humble ability.

On motion of the Hon. Col. Secretary, Mr. David Laird was appointed Reporter to the House for the Session, with power to choose his own Assistants.

The House then adjourned.

FRIDAY, March 4.

House met about 4 o'clock.

Reporting.

Hon. the SPEAKER read a letter which he had received from Mr. D. Laird, Re-

porter, declining the responsibility of appointing his own assistants, and suggesting that the House should authorize a condensing of the reports of the present Session, so that they might be published with as little delay as possible. Hon. the Speaker also read a letter from Mr. A. McNeill, applying for the office of Summary Reporter, which he had held in the House for several successive sessions.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY moved a Resolving appointing Messrs. Robert Gordon and Benjamin Balderston, Assistant Reporters.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND moved, in amendment, that the name of Mr. A. McNeill be substituted for that of Mr. Benj. Balderston.

Mr. BROCKEN, in seconding the motion of amendment, said he highly approved of the suggestion of the chief Reporter, as to condensing the debates of the House, for it could be no satisfaction to hon. members, or the country, to see their speeches appearing in print during the dog-days. He had no personal objection to the gentlemen named for assistant reporters by the Hon. Colonial Secretary: one thing of them he believed he could say, that though their appointment, in previous years, had been opposed by this side of the House, they had never resented it. He thought, however, that Mr. McNeill's name should be substituted for that of Mr. Balderston. Mr. McNeill had held the situation of Reporter for a number of years, and had acquired a good deal of experience in the employment. He was first appointed to the office by the Conservatives, and if he was now rejected by his Liberal friends, whom he had always supported at the hustings, he (Mr. B.) feared they would lie under the imputation of having proscribed him because he had had the manliness to express his sentiments freely on the great public question of Confederation. If this was their reason for proscribing him, he could call it by no milder language than a piece of contemptible petty tyranny.

HON. COL. SECRETARY contended that the system of summary reporting prac-

tised by Mr. McNeill would not be satisfactory to the people, who would naturally wish to know the views of their representatives on the great public questions before the House this session. Mr. Balderston had equal claims upon the Government party with Mr. McNeill, and besides he was a short-hand writer, and would be able to give a fuller report when occasion required. He (Col. Sec.) thought the language of the hon. member for Charlottetown was not respectful to the majority of the House. Such expressions as contemptible acts of tyranny did not come well from a member of the old Tory party. There could be no tyranny in economizing the public funds, and putting the fittest men into office.

HON. MR. LAIRD said that the suggestion of the chief reporter about condensing the debates had not yet been agreed upon. On some subjects a pretty full report might be required, and this being the case, he would like to ask whether hon. members of the Opposition would undertake to say that Mr. McNeill was qualified to give an extended report.

HON. MR. HAVILAND would guarantee nothing of the sort. He took it for granted that the Government were going to act on the suggestion of the chief reporter to summarise the debates, and it was on this understanding that he moved that Mr. McNeill should be one of the staff. But if the extended system was to be continued, it would be necessary to have a summary reporter, and Mr. McNeill was well qualified to fill that office.

On motion of Mr. Prowse, the hon. Leader of the Opposition obtained leave to withdraw his motion.

HON. MR. HAVILAND then moved to amend the Hon. Col. Secretary's resolution, by adding to it, that Mr. Archibald McNeill be Summary Reporter to this House.

HON. MR. LAIRD maintained that the brief summary reports were rather an injury than a benefit, as they blunted the appetite of the people for reading more full and satisfactory reports.

Mr. PROWSE said since it seemed that the reports were to be published as full as in former years, he would support the amendment for a summary reporter. The extended reports did not all appear till late in the season. They were generally only published in one newspaper, and he believed that some years a part of them never appeared in public print at all. The importance of continuing the summary reports, he thought, was proved by the hon. member for Bedeque, when he said that they blunted the appetite for reading the extended debates.

DR. JENKINS thought that Mr. McNeill's reports had given general satisfaction, and he contended that if a public servant performed his duty faithfully he should not be discharged. Mr. McNeill had been a supporter of the Government party, and for them to pass him over now would be ungrateful.

Mr. G. SINCLAIR was entirely in favor of condensing the reports. He was one of a committee last session, who had recommended that for the future something of this should be done, as the reporting to the House cost too much money for the benefits which the country derived therefrom. It would be much better to condense the debates so that they might be published in a reasonable time. He did not see what great benefit it was to the country to provide extended reports, merely to be laid up in the shelves of the library to be read by future generations. Mr. McNeill's summary reports, he maintained, were not altogether satisfactory. That reporter did not give a digest of each speaker's views, but the substance of the remarks of one or two hon. members on each side, and merely named others as agreeing with them, when on some points they might differ widely from the speakers whose views were given.

HON. P. SINCLAIR had also given his opinion last session in favor of condensing the reports, as would be found by referring to the Journals of the House. It was strange that the charge of proscription against the Government was only preferred in Mr. McNeill's case. How

was it that the compassionate gentlemen of the Opposition had overlooked Mr. Oxenham in their sympathies? He was as much proscribed by the resolution as Mr. McNeill.

HON. MR. CALLBECK thought he was the person who had most right to complain of the course pursued by the majority this session. By the resolution of yesterday two of the reporters, who were once both constituents of his own, had been passed over. But though he felt it keenly, he had not objected to the course adopted. Mr. McNeill, who undoubtedly possessed a great gift of language, had attacked him on a certain public occasion, but his words fell upon him (Mr. C.) like water on a seabird's back, therefore it was not on that account that he would decline to support his appointment.

MR. ARSENAULT said it had been customary to have a summary reporter, and he did not see why the House should depart from the usual course this session. Mr. McNeill's reports had been rather brief, but perhaps he could make them fuller if the House desired it.

MR. McCORMACK would express his opinion on this matter, as it was one of some importance. It was known that Mr. McNeill had been a strong supporter of the Government, and as he was an efficient reporter, he (Mr. McC.) would be sorry not to see him re-appointed.

The question was then put on Mr. Haviland's amendment, that Mr. A. McNeill should be appointed summary reporter, when there appeared for it—Hon. Mr. Haviland, Messrs. Brecken, Ramsay, McCormack, Arsenault, Jenkins, Yeo, Prowse, Owen—9.

Against it—Hons. Colonial Secretary, Laird, P. Sinclair, Callbeck, Messrs. McMillan, Howat, Kickham, McLean, Bell, McNeill, G. Sinclair, Cameron—12.

Adjourned till to-morrow.

SATURDAY, March 5.

Hon. the SPEAKER read a letter from Mr. Ings, asking leave to place a Sum-

mary Reporter in the House, and offering to take such compensation as the House might give.

Mr. G. SINCLAIR moved the following Resolution:—

Resolved, That the duty of the Reporters be to give a condensed report of the debates of this House, and that the chief Reporter shall furnish to each member a printed copy of the debates within one week after the speeches have been delivered."

Hon. P. SINCLAIR seconded the motion.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND said the matter referred to in the Resolution could not be satisfactorily considered, unless the House appointed a Committee to enquire into the various systems of reporting, and their report be laid before the House. Had the resolution been submitted before the Reporters were appointed, he would have offered no objection to it; but, to prescribe their duties after their appointment had taken place, was like drawing the plan of a building after it had been erected. He held in his hand the copy of a circular which had been sent to the printers by the hon. member from Princetown and the hon. member for New London, in which they enquire what the reporting and printing of the debates could be done for. He contended that such interference on the part of the hon. members was a violation of the privileges of the House. Some might set a small value on these, but it was in the concentration of all our small privileges that the glory of our constitution consisted. He would oppose any infringement upon the least of our rights, and would ask by what authority they had sent that circular? If, as a committee appointed at a caucus, it was wrong, and to such unconstitutional proceedings he would not submit. He would move the following amendment:—

Resolved, That a special Committee of three members be appointed to report upon the best system to be adopted relative to the publishing of the debates of this House during the present Session."

Mr. G. SINCLAIR begged, in explanation, to say, that his hon. friend and himself addressed the circular to the printers as private individuals, and maintained that the hon. Leader of the Opposition had no authority to make an enquiry respecting his (Mr. S.'s.) actions as a private member of the House.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND rose to a point of order, and said, if the circular was

private, why did the latter part read thus:—

"It is not our intention to have both the summary and extended reports."

Hon. Mr. MCAULAY argued that the nature of the communication was such that it would leave the impression that they sought the information for the use of the House. Their signature was not a forgery. It was certain that the House never clothed them with such authority, and no argument they could use would justify their conduct.

Hon. P. SINCLAIR said they assumed no power on the part of the House, but sought the information for their own use. Mr. Reilly and other printers had expressed a wish that they would do so. He was surprised at the attempt made to interfere with the private actions of hon. members. A recommendation with respect to the reporting was embodied in a report at the close of last Session, and they had been but seeking to know how the matter could be most satisfactorily dealt with.

Mr. BRECKEN would be sorry to impute any other than the most laudable motives to the hon. members whose names were appended to the circular, yet he felt it to be his duty boldly to state that their conduct in this matter was a most flagrant breach of the privileges of the House. If the matter was private, the House had no more to do with it than with the most delicate private correspondence a single gentleman could engage in. He would second the motion of amendment.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD was struck with the remarks of the Hon. Leader of the Opposition, and thought they came with a bad grace from the hon. member after the display made by him on the day the House was opened, when he moved a Resolution before two members had been admitted to their seats. In reflecting upon such proceedings, he (Mr. L.) could not but ask himself what the result might have been, if, at the time, the Government had been dependent upon the support of those two hon. members to form a majority? And further, to what such conduct might not lead if it should at any time hereafter be quoted or used as a precedent? Of course, he believed it was quite unintentional on the part of the supporters of the hon. Mr. Haviland, but he regretted that he could not say so much for the hon. member himself. Yet it was nevertheless true that a Resolution had been sub-

mitted while gentlemen who had been returned to this House were waiting at the Bar for admission.

Hon. Mr. McAULAY said words were signs of ideas, and if those of the hon. member were signs of his ideas, the hon. gentleman did not know in what the liberty of the subject consisted.

Hon. COL. SECRETARY looked upon the course adopted by the Opposition as a deliberate attempt to obstruct the business of the country. He could not see that the conduct of the hon. members who addressed the circular to the printers was any infringement upon the privileges of the House. They made enquiries for their own information, and were entitled to the thanks of the House, and not to its censure. Hon. members must be aware that it was agreed upon last year that an alteration should take place this Session with respect to the reporting and publishing of the Debates, and he thought both sides of the House were under an obligation to the hon. members.

Mr. PROWSE, on a previous evening, was under the impression that a summary Reporter was to have been appointed, otherwise he would not have moved that the hon. Mr. Haviland should have leave to withdraw his motion. He (Mr. P.) knew those appointed were unaccustomed to summary reporting, and thought Mr. McNeill qualified to give greater satisfaction.

Mr. BELL was not aware that the hon. members who sent the circular to the printers had signed their names as if acting for any party. They did what was right, and he felt thankful to them. It was resolved last year that an attempt would be made this session to have the debates of the House summarised to some extent, and issued more cheaply than they had heretofore been; and the valuable information obtained by the hon. members would aid in carrying out this object. A good deal had been said about the efficiency of the summary Reporter. For his part, he did not hesitate to say that that Reporter did not give satisfaction to all the members of the House. It had been intimated that we might expect to encounter the Opposition frequently this Session. If so, he assured hon. members opposite that he was not to be intimidated by any such threats.

Mr. McNEILL always had great respect for hon. Mr. Haviland, and noticed, with approbation, that he never unnecessarily attempted to obstruct the business of the House; he, therefore, looked upon the course adopted thus far this session as unprecedented. When the House was proceeding to business on the first day, and while Mr. McLean was waiting at the Bar to be admitted, the hon. Mr. Haviland moved a Resolution, and Mr. McLean might have thought he was not to be allowed to take his seat at all, and might have recalled to his recollection the time when two members from his county were not only kept out of their seats but placed in custody.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND said the occurrence to which the hon. member had just referred took place when he was a school-boy, and, therefore, the present Opposition had no more to do with it than the hon. member himself.

The amendment was then put and lost, on the following division:—

Yeas—Hon. Messrs. Haviland and McAulay, Messrs. Brecken, Ramsay, Owen, Yeo, Prowse—7.

Nays—Messrs. McMillan, Howat, Cameron, Kickham, McCormack, G. Sinclair, Bell, Reilly, Hon. Messrs. Kelly, P. Sinclair, Laird and Callbeck, Messrs. McNeill, McLean, Arsenault, Hon. Col. Secretary—16.

The Resolution was then put and agreed to—yeas 16, nays 7.

House adjourned for one hour.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Draft Address.

Mr. Reilly presented the Draft Address in answer to the Speech of His Honor the Administrator of the Government at the opening of the Session, which was received and read, and is as follows:—

To His Honor Sir ROBERT HODGSON, Knight, Administrator and Commander-in-Chief in and over Her Majesty's Island Prince Edward, and the Territories thereto belonging, Chancellor, Vice Admiral and Ordinary of the same, &c., &c., &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOR:

We, Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the House of Assembly of Prince Edward Island, thank you for the Speech with which you have opened the present Session of the Legislature. We rejoice to know that you still enjoy Her Majesty's confidence, and continue to administer the Government of this Colony.

2. We fully coincide in opinion with your Honor, as to the distinguished mark of favor conferred upon this Colony by the visit of His Royal Highness Prince Arthur; and we have reason to believe that the auspicious event will still further strengthen those feelings of loyalty and attachment to Her Majesty's person and throne, for which the people of Prince Edward Island have ever been characterized.

3. The visit of His Excellency Sir John Young, Governor General of the British North American Provinces, in company with several members of his Cabinet, has been watched with deep interest by the inhabitants of this Island. The new proposals for the Confederation of this Colony with the Dominion of Canada, and which have been received since the return of His Excellency and his advisers to Ottawa, together with the despatches of Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, relating to this important subject, will, when placed before us, receive our calm and deliberate attention.

4. We are pleased to learn that during the recess purchases of Proprietary Lands have been effected, and that there is a prospect of other Estates being acquired by the Government.

5. We are aware of the importance of telegraphic communication, and appreciate its benefits. We are glad to hear that the extension of the line to Alberton has proved successful, and we shall be prepared to make provision for similar accommodations for the Eastern section of the Island.

6. We thank you for the assurance that the accounts of the past year and the estimates for the present, will be submitted to us. It is gratifying to be assured that the accounts exhibit a satisfactory state of the Revenue, and we are equally pleased to be informed that whilst the estimates have been framed with due regard to economy, the efficiency of the Public Service will be maintained.

7. We cordially agree with your Honor that the abundant harvest of the past season is a matter for heartfelt gratitude to Divine Providence.

8. We concur with your Honor as to the advantages resulting from Industrial Exhibitions. We shall be ready to carry into effect your suggestions relating to the organization of a general Exhibition for the whole colony.

9. The intimation that the rapid growth of the County Towns calls for such legislation as will place the management of their local affairs more immediately under their own control, will ensure our attention to any measure having this object in view.

10. The experience of the past convinces us that the system of paying Teachers' Salaries is both cumbersome and expensive. Any measure which your Honor may cause to be laid before us to effect a reform in this matter, will receive due consideration.

11. We are glad to hear that the Board of Works—established during the past year—has under its superintendence several useful Public Works, and we trust that it will accomplish all the improvements contemplated by its organization.

12. Relying upon the guidance of Divine Providence, we shall, to the best of our ability, discharge our legislative duties with the earnest desire of promoting the best interests of our fellow-colonists.

Said Address was ordered to be referred to a Committee of the whole House on Monday next.

Parliamentary Reporter.

Hon. P. SINCLAIR remarked that the Parliamentary Reporter, as it had usually been published, contained columns wider than the ordinary columns of newspapers, which was one reason why newspaper proprietors declined publishing the debates in their papers. He also stated that the contractors for publishing the Parliamentary Reporter had always failed to have the work finished at the time agreed upon. He, therefore, moved the following Resolution:

Resolved, That a Committee of three members be appointed to receive Tenders for printing the Debates of this House for the present session, in the size and form in which the debates and proceedings of the Legislative Council, of the session of 1869, have been printed, and that the work be finished and a copy be furnished to each member within six weeks after the close of the session, and report thereon to the House."

The Resolution was agreed to and Messrs. P. Sinclair, Kelly and Yeo appointed said Committee.

Journals.

Mr. G. SINCLAIR called the attention of the House to the fact that the Journals of last session had not yet been received.

His Honor the SPEAKER stated that he would send a note to the contractor to ascertain the cause of the delay.

Hon. Mr. CALLBECK presented the report of the committee appointed to receive tenders for printing the Journals of the House for the present session, which stated that five tenders had been received, viz: From F. W. Hughes, which had been withdrawn by him; from Thomas Reilly, offering the printing at 32s. 6d. per sheet, binding, 5s. 4d. per copy, stitching, 2s. 6d.; from Henry Cooper—printing, 32s. 6d. binding, 5s. 4d., stitching, 2s. 6d.; from W. C. Grant—printing, 31s., binding, 5s. 6d., stitching, 2s. 6d.; W. H. Bremner—printing, 35s., binding, 5s. 6d., stitching, 3s. The committee recommended that, as Mr. Grant had not sent a specimen of paper, the tender of Mr. Thomas Reilly be accepted.

The Report was agreed to.

House adjourned till Monday.

MONDAY, March 7.

Hon. the Speaker presented a letter from Mr. W. C. Grant, explaining that the delay in laying the Journals of last session before the House, was occasioned by the disappearance of two sheets of the same while moving his material to another office, which sheets had to be reprinted after the work was in the binder's hands.

On motion of the hon. Col. Secretary, the Clerk was instructed to inform Mr. Ings that his application for a seat for his summary reporter would be complied with, but that the House would not contribute towards such reports.

Hon. P. Sinclair, from the committee to receive tenders for printing the Debates, reported that only two tenders had been received, one from Mr. D. Laird, offering to do the work for 42s., and the other from Mr. J. Ings, agreeing to do it for 44s. per sheet of four pages, and recommending that Mr. Laird's tender, as being the lowest, should be accepted.

Adjourned for one hour.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Debate on the Address.

Mr. Reilly moved that the House go into the order of the day, namely, committee of the whole on the Draft Address in answer to the speech of His Honor the Administrator.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND said he had expected that the hon. member (Mr. Reilly) in making his motion would have favored the House with a speech, as was customary in other Legislatures, showing the noble deeds which the Government that was in power last session had done, and also of the one which succeeded it, for he believed there had been a reconstruction of the Government since this time last year. The Address appeared very long, but when the complimentary parts were cut out, the portion relating to the various Government measures to be brought before the House was very small indeed. There were only two measures promised—one relating to the more efficient government of the county towns, and the other to an improved method of paying the school-teachers' salaries. The difficulty with regard to paying the teachers' salaries was on account of the great number of small warrants which were issued, but that matter could be settled by the Executive without any legislation by the House. He was in hopes that the *pro. tem.*

Leader (Mr. Davies) would have explained the policy of the Government, as two of the leading spirits who occupied positions in the Executive last year had left it—Hon. Joseph Hensley, who had been elevated to the Judgeship, and Hon. George Coles, who was in such a state of health that there was very little probability of his again taking part in the Government of the Colony. The Hon. B. Davies, who once left the Government, had again joined it, and the member for New London (Mr. P. Sinclair) had also taken a seat at the Executive Board. Some two sessions ago, the Hon. Mr. Howlan threatened to leave the Government because they refused to notice a letter from the Roman Catholic Bishop of Charlottetown, requesting a grant in aid of some schools under his care, but as the Hon. Mr. Howlan was now elevated to the high position of Leader of the majority in the House, it would seem to indicate that the Government purposed taking very different action with regard to the wishes of the Bishop than they had done two years ago. The question of reciprocal free trade with the United States, which was of great importance to the country, had been lost sight of by the Administration, unless the Hon. Mr. Howlan, who was in Washington, had been clothed with power by the Executive to make a treaty. He (Mr. Haviland) was very glad that it was stated in the Address that the visit of His Royal Highness Prince Arthur would strengthen the feelings of attachment to Her Majesty's person and throne, as it gave him an opportunity to make some remarks respecting the opinions of some members of the press and others regarding our loyalty. Mr. I. C. Hall, a merchant of high standing, but a citizen of the United States, while in Washington, this winter, endeavouring to induce the American Government to reduce the duty on several articles exported from this Island, had stated that "a large majority of the people of the Island were in favor of Annexation to the United States." The whole House would now have an opportunity of saying they were not in favor of changing their allegiance from the old flag to the Stars and Stripes. He was also very sorry his friend, Mr. Davies, had not given his opinions on the Land Question, but it appeared that Mr. Davies in the Government was very different from Mr. Davies free from the shackles of office.

Hon. Mr. DAVIES said he did not think that in a small Colony like this there was any necessity for prefacing a motion to go into committee on the Draft Address with a

long speech, enumerating the various little wants of the Colony. The policy of the Government on the Land Question had been to buy up any estates that could be procured at a reasonable rate, and although a high price had been asked for some estates, the Government had thought it better to purchase them than allow the people to remain under the proprietors. The country could not prosper when the people were in bondage to the proprietors, as all the surplus cash which should have gone to improve the farms was taken for rent. The people of this Colony have few wants, judging from the tone of the press and the expression of opinion at public meetings; no great grievance had been complained of. It appeared that the people of this country only wished to be let alone. The system of paying teachers' salaries which had been suitable fifteen or twenty years ago, had become too cumbrous on account of the large increase in the number of schools. A law for the proper management of the affairs of the County towns was important. For the want of such a measure, Summerside had been built up in a very irregular manner. Although some changes had taken place in the Government, yet its policy was not changed. Reflections should not be cast upon a gentleman who was endeavouring to get the duties lessened on our produce going into the United States market, and he (Mr. Davies) was not aware that Mr. I. C. Hall had stated that a large majority of the people of this Island were disloyal. He (Mr. Davies) believed that a larger proportion of the people of this Island were loyal than of the inhabitants of Great Britain, for he had never heard a native of this Island speak in any other than respectful terms of Her Majesty.

Mr. BELL wished to reply to the remarks of the hon. Leader of the Opposition respecting Mr. I. C. Hall. The trade of this Island was crippled for want of a market for our produce, and since the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty, the duty of two dollars per barrel on mackerel, 10 cents per bush. on oats, and twenty-five cents per bush. on potatoes, had almost closed the American market against these articles altogether. The hon. Leader of the Opposition might be very loyal, as he had nothing to lose on account of this prohibitory tariff, but others felt the loss of the American market most keenly.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND stated that he did not object to Mr. Hall trying to get a treaty, but to his saying that the majority of the people of this Island were disloyal.

Mr. BELL said it was the opinion of the greatest statesmen in the world that the whole continent of North America would eventually form one great nation. If Mr. Hall had stated that the majority of the people of this Island were in favor of Annexation, the hon. Leader of the Opposition could not say that it was untrue; he did not know the feelings of the people in the country. When a poor man had a large family to support, he would be very much inclined to pursue a policy which would enable him to provide for his family without troubling himself much about loyalty. If Mr. Hall succeeded in getting us a market for our produce, for which there was at present scarcely any demand, he deserved more praise from the people of this Island than those obstructionists, who were continually crying out that we must not do this or that on account of our loyalty.

Mr. BRECKEN remarked that the name of a gentleman had been brought up in this debate who was a high-minded, liberal man, and who, while carrying on a successful business in this Island, had done a great deal for large numbers of men whom he employed. That man had a large interest at stake, and he had perfect right to go to Washington to negotiate a treaty, but he had no right to tamper with our political position, and say that the people of this Island were willing to annex themselves to the United States.

Mr. BELL asked if the hon. member (Mr. Brecken) could say that the majority of the people of this Island were not in favor of Annexation.

Mr. BRECKEN said that had he been born under the stars and stripes, he should have gloried in being a son of the Great Republic, for he believed the Americans were as far ahead of us as the white man was in advance of the Indian, but his lot having been cast under the British flag, he believed in remaining true to it. If Confederation succeeded, the tie that bound us to the Mother Country would be drawn more closely, but if Confederation did not succeed, the next alternative would be Annexation.

The House then went into Committee on the Address in answer to His Honor's speech.

Hon. Mr. Kelly in the Chair.

On the first paragraph being read—

Mr. REILLY, in rising to move its adoption, admitted that the hon. Leader of the Opposition was right when he said

that he (Mr. R.) should have made a speech when moving the Address, but he had lately been reading May on Parliament; and had there learned that he should also have appeared in court dress, so he hoped that he might be excused for having neglected both. He felt certain that the paragraph just read, which expressed satisfaction that His Honor the Administrator enjoyed the confidence of Her Majesty, and continued to administer the Government of the Colony, would receive the cordial approval of this committee, for he believed that it enunciated not only the views of the House but of the whole country.

The second paragraph of the Address, that relating to the visit of Prince Arthur, was then read.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD said that the paragraph now before the committee expressed the belief that the auspicious event to which it referred would still further strengthen those feelings of loyalty and attachment to Her Majesty's person and throne, for which the people of this Island had ever been characterized. He had never heard in the country that there was any doubt entertained as to the loyalty of the Government, but from the remarks which had fallen from the hon. Leader of the Opposition it would appear that they were about to be put to the test on this question. That hon. member had, in effect, said, that opposition to Confederation was disloyalty. Now, he (Mr. L.) had lately read that a distinguished Canadian statesman had remarked that independence and annexation were co-relative terms. The British Government, which might be called the government of governments, did not seem to object to independence, for an hon. gentleman of influence and position in the Dominion, who had declared that he looked forward to the time when Canada would become independent, was afterwards knighted by his sovereign. It was, therefore, evident that the free expression of such opinions was not regarded with disfavor by the Imperial authorities, and why, he would ask, should we be branded with disloyalty if we pre-

ferred remaining a part of the British empire to becoming a mere province of the Dominion of Canada? He (Mr. L.) did not, perhaps, attach as much importance to the Prince's visit as some persons, still he did not doubt that the presence amongst us of a son of our virtuous Queen tended to call forth feelings of respect for her person and loyalty to her government. In some quarters, he believed, the hope was expressed that a scion of the royal House of Britain would yet occupy the throne of the Dominion. If such was the expectation of the British Government he feared they would be disappointed. Residents in America generally were too much afraid of expense to think of a monarchy. One reason why independence was so much talked of now was because the present government in the mother country, which might be said to be largely influenced by the Manchester school of politicians, was attempting economy, in order to decrease taxation, and, therefore, the Colonies were looked upon as a burden. But he was of opinion that were the question put to the British people, a large majority would declare themselves opposed to the dismemberment of the empire. It was very evident that should the Dominion become independent, it would be a very expensive country to govern, as it was composed of merely a strip of habitable territory. If this Colony, then, refused to become incorporated with the Dominion, in order to save ourselves from its burdens, he did not think we should be charged with disloyalty, particularly as we wished to retain our connection with Britain. We were no expense to the Mother Country. The Governor's salary itself was now paid out of the Island treasury. Even this paltry amount was refused us, though we have had to pay out of our own pockets for lands which the other Colonies received for nothing. Thousands upon thousands, too, were expended in supporting military establishments in the other Provinces, while, if troops were sent to this Island, we had to pay for them to the last shilling. But the state of the Dominion generally was not such as to invite us to become a part

of the confederacy. Her statesmen were accusing each other of corruption and dishonesty, words which, notwithstanding our sharp discussions, never disgraced our Legislature. Nova Scotia was not yet very contented, nor was the Red River trouble settled, therefore, taking all those things into consideration, he thought the people of this Island might very well shrink from entering the Dominion; and he had yet to learn that desiring to remain a separate dependency of the British empire could be called disloyalty, or that the wishes of the Imperial Government should deter us from declining to accept the proposals of Canada.

Mr. BRECKEN.—This question was one to which, in the language of the address, we should give "our calm and deliberate attention." We were bound to return to the people the trust which we received from their hands; but every hon member ought to express his convictions on the subject under discussion, and not merely the sentiments which he thought would catch the popular breeze. The statesmen and the press of England seem disposed to allow the colonists to take the course which they consider most conducive to their interests, whether to retain their connection with the Mother Country, choose independence, or form an alliance with the great republic. The latter did not involve very great changes. We were really the same people, for we had the same origin, language and literature. A person taken blindfolded from these Colonies and set down in the United States, would scarcely distinguish that he had passed into a foreign country. But when we discussed the question of consolidation with the neighboring States, we should not make ourselves contemptible by talking of it as a step which this Colony could take alone. We would go into annexation, if it ever came, just as soon as the rest of British America, and not one day sooner. Though the people here were to meet Mr. I. C. Hall on his return, and literally bow down on their knees and worship him for what he had said and done in Washington, it would not make the slightest difference with respect to uniting this Island with the

republic. The hon member from Bedeque had stated that some eminent Canadian statesman had said that independence and annexation meant the same thing, and that Hon. Mr. Galt, for he believed that was the statesman alluded to, looked forward to the time when Canada would become independent; hence the hon. member seemed to argue that our going into Confederation would only hasten these events. But Mr. Galt was a confederate, and he must believe that confederation would succeed first, else how could he expect that independence would come? If confederation could do this for the Provinces, make them populous, wealthy and prosperous, so that they could set up as an independent country, then confederation must be a good thing. Canada could not become independent with a sparse population engaged in clearing away the forests and driving out the foxes. She must induce the people from the crowded cities and districts of the Mother Country to come and occupy her lands and build up her manufacturing industries, and Mr. Galt's position was that confederation would do this for her, and, as a consequence, independence would follow. And he (Mr. B.), if he might be allowed to couple his name with such a talented and distinguished man, would say that he agreed with Mr. Galt. He might be told that this was putting a different aspect on the question from the no-terms resolutions, which he supported, though at the time he did so he objected to the wording of them. The case, however, was quite different now. Then Confederation was only a theory, now, with the exception of Newfoundland, it was an accomplished fact. Mention had been made of the charges preferred by Canadian politicians against each other. He supposed the allusion had reference to Sir Francis Hincks; but was that an argument why we should not go into the Dominion? Did the hon member for Bedeque, who brought up this matter, though he paid a compliment to our legislature, think that the people of this Colony were all so moral that there would never arise the person here who would tamper with the

public funds? Were we so much better than our neighbors? Look at the United States. Where was the case of Andrew Johnson, the late President of that country, who was accused of almost every crime, and yet retained his position in spite of the House of Representatives? The hon member was also boastful about our position; we did not, he said, receive a shilling from the Home Government; the Governor's salary itself was paid by the Colony, and we were now ready for the fight. Well, all he (Mr. B.) could say was that a very different tone characterized the remarks of the Leader of the Government last session when he introduced the salary question. That gentleman, who was not now a member of this House, he highly esteemed in all the relations of life. Though he held an office which he (Mr. B.) would rather have seen given to another, yet his presence on the Bench never suggested to him that he had been a political opponent. He believed that the scales of justice were safe in his hands, and he could further say that all his business intercourse with him during his political career had been pleasant and agreeable. That hon gentleman, when he proposed the payment of the Governor's salary, argued that no course was open to the House but to submit to the desire of the Home Government as expressed in the despatch of the Colonial Minister. At first he (Mr B.) thought the point might perhaps as well be yielded without any further objection. But, on reflection, after the first day's discussion of the subject, he suggested that as we had a good claim on account of the manner in which our lands were disposed of by the British Government, it might be well to try another remonstrance. But he was met by the hon members of the Government with a declaration that such a step would be useless; that there was a threat in the despatch, and if we did not pay the Governor's salary, oh we would be forced into Confederation! The Opposition had a caucus on the question, the only one they held last session, and there Hon. Mr. Palmer, who was an anti-Confederate, expressed the opinion

that there was no danger of being coerced into Union, though we declined to vote the salary, as the British American Act expressly declared that admission into the Dominion was to be by joint addresses of both branches of the Legislature. This provision in that Act was mentioned in the House, but it would not do, nothing would satisfy the Government but to go down on their knees and vote the Governor's salary. If the hon member for Bedeque was sincere then, when he voted away a paltry £2100, which he said he had no right to do, how was it he had become so bold now that he can afford to speak lightly of the earnest wishes of Her Majesty's Imperial Government?

Hon. Mr. LAIRD had been accustomed to look upon the hon. member for Charlottetown as a credit to the House, but to-night he had somewhat lost that favorable opinion. The hon member while talking about loyalty had remarked that Mr. Galt had said Confederation meant independence, and independence meant annexation, and, as the hon member agreed with Mr. Galt, he must be an annexationist.

Mr. BRECKEN would not be misunderstood. He was not in favor of annexation, but he looked upon isolation as played out. Either confederation or annexation must come, and he believed that confederation would carry the day. British institutions were being put on their trial on this continent, and if they failed of success, he would admit he was wrong in advocating confederation. He, however, looked upon our entering the Dominion as a necessity.

Mr. HOWAT.—The hon. member for Charlottetown said there were only two courses before us, confederation or annexation. He (Mr. H.) did not think so. The Channel Islands, near Britain, had never been confederated with her, and yet he believed their inhabitants were loyal. The very way to make the people here disloyal would be to coerce them to join the Dominion. This fuss about loyalty did not amount to much, for the moment Canada became independent, were we connected with her, our allegiance to the British Crown would cease. He believed there was not a more loyal people anywhere than the inhabitants of

this Island, if they were only left alone. Unless the Imperial Government was mocking us, we were at perfect liberty to enter or remain out of Confederation. If Canada became independent, her expenses would be greatly increased. His opinion, therefore, was that we should stay out of the Dominion, remain loyal, and let the people of Canada, if they chose, become rebels as they were once before.

Mr. BRECKEN admitted there had been a rebellion in Canada, but he had heard old residents of the province say that Papineau and those who took part with him in that disturbance were right. There had been wrongs and grievances in that country which required to be redressed, and the course which these men took, call them rebels if you will, resulted in obtaining for Canada the boon of responsible government. The British Government had admitted the justice of their cause when it came forward and indemnified them for their losses. Lafontaine, one of their leaders, was afterwards made Chief Justice of Lower Canada, another, for whose head a reward was offered, was made a baronet, and Sir George Cartier, who also took part in the rebellion, had been honored by his sovereign and privileged to dine at Buckingham Palace.

Hon. P. SINCLAIR thought there must be something wrong with either the head or the heart of the hon. member for Charlottetown, when he said that a Canadian was made a baronet for resisting the laws of his country. He (Mr. S.) believed that the members of the Tenant League in this Island, so strongly condemned here from time to time, by some of the Opposition party, had a much more just and righteous cause of complaint than the Canadian rebels of 1837, and yet had not adopted so high-handed a course to seek redress. The hon. member for Charlottetown also said that the Government should have refused to pay the Governor's salary. Last session, he was so indignant on this point, at last, that, notwithstanding the strong terms of the Colonial Minister's despatch, he almost offered to go and plead the cause of the Colony at the bar of the House of Commons; but this year, simply because the British Government expressed a wish that we should enter Confederation, he would give up the rights of the Colony at once, and comply with their desire.

Mr. BRECKEN presumed that the prin-

ciple on which the so-called rebels of Canada had been rewarded was because they had rendered a service to their country. By indemnifying them, the British Government had admitted that the grievances of which they complained should have been redressed before the rebellion occurred. The hon. member for New London had dragged in the complaints of the Tenant League in comparison with those which caused the disturbance in Canada. It was time this smelt-fishing in politics was given up. No resemblance existed between the two cases; yes, there was one point in which they might be said to agree—one of the Canadian rebels had been made a baronet and the hon. member for Belfast, Colonial Secretary. But, in other respects, there was a wide difference, for no bill of indemnity had been passed for the benefit of these unfortunate members of the league who had suffered imprisonment.

Hon. COL. SECRETARY was amused to hear the utterances of the hon. member for Charlottetown in this debate. While the Liberal party were working out principles which that aristocrat had opposed, he had become republican in sentiment. The hon. member had also taken the position of justifying the Canadian rebellion; some of his remarks, in fact, were almost bordering on sedition.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND contended that if the hon. member for Charlottetown had uttered seditious sentiments, it was his (Col. Secy's) place, as first officer of the Government, to have him prosecuted.

Mr. CAMERON thought the paragraph before the committee had been overlooked. The hon. member for Charlottetown had said that isolation was played out, which meant that we must become confederated with Canada, or annexed to a foreign power. There might be some persons in the country in favor of one or other of these changes, but the large majority of the people was opposed to them both. He (Mr. C.) had as yet heard no argument advanced to show that the British Government was going to coerce us into Confederation. The people had a perfect right, he thought, to act as they pleased in this matter; and as they believed that union with Canada would increase their expenses and bring no corresponding benefit to the country, they were generally opposed to it. He did not see why this Island should not remain an inde-

pendent Colony as well as others. If the Colonies in all parts of the world were to be confederated, some more general arrangement would have to be made than any yet brought to our notice.

Hon Mr. McAULAY read the paragraph in the Address referring to Confederation, which promised that the House would give the subject "calm and deliberate attention," and asked whether hon. members had forgotten it.

Mr. McNEILL had the misfortune during his short political life to lose two political leaders, and was now serving under the third or fourth, but he had learned to attach little importance to loud professions. It was generally a sign of a weak cause. When a mere lad, an old friend had warned him to beware of those who boasted of their honesty, as they rarely could be trusted. He thought he might apply the advice to the loud professions of loyalty on the part of some hon. members in this discussion. He was in Canada about the time of the rebellion there, and was aware that it resulted in good. Lafontaine got possession of the Government, and then those who were displaced from power memorialized the sovereign against those who had shed blood receiving the seals of office. But no attention was paid to their remonstrance. In process of time he had no doubt that the tenant leaguers would be looked upon pretty much in the same light as the Canadian rebels. He had yet to learn that those of them who were lodged in jail had been urged by any person to act as they had done, but this, he knew, that they did not want the sympathy of the hon. member for Charlottetown. But to turn to the question of union, that gentleman appeared to think that there were only two courses open to us, confederation or annexation. He (Mr. McN.) could not see this. Why should we be under the necessity of going into annexation now, more than we ever were? There might possibly be a few more people in its favor than formerly, but he believed we could remain out of annexation as long as Canada could. In his opinion, the time was not far distant when European rule must cease in America. Look at Cuba, where Spanish rule was struggling for an existence, and at the failure of France to uphold an empire in Mexico. He agreed with the remark once made by the Hon. Mr. Howe, that the best

course for Canada to pursue was to remain quiet; if she did so, she might prosper, but if she went about setting up a kingdom, and provoked the United States to war, she might be overrun in one week. Why the Dominion Government was so anxious to get this Island, he (Mr. McN.) could not understand. They had already plenty of territory. Canada, he contended, lowered herself in making this offer to the Island, for it looked as if they thought we were setting ourselves up for sale.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND remarked that he did not intend to speak on confederation now. When the despatches and correspondence in possession of the Government, and the despatches that might come during the session, were before the House, he would be prepared to go into this great question. And he hoped when the discussion of this important subject came on, there would be nothing heard in this House about bribery and corruption, or Canadian gold. He believed that no person in this Island had received Canadian gold to advocate confederation, nor did he think that any person had received American gold to advocate annexation. Let us have none of these vile insinuations that had passed through the press. Some of the main arguments in favor of Confederation were, that we might have a central authority for the direction of troops, and a breaking down of those hostile tariffs which prevented a free interchange of commodities. The United States, which some hon. members in this House so much admired, would not have become so great had these tariffs between them not been swept away. But this was not the proper time to go into these questions.

Hon. Mr. CALLBECK argued with the hon. Leader of the Opposition, that this was not the proper time to discuss the confederation question, but if we gave no expression upon it, it might be said that we were waiting for the current of public opinion. He believed it was our duty when proposals came from the Dominion Government to give them our calm consideration. It had been said by hon. members on the other side of the House, that, as we had to pay the Governor's salary, we would be under the same necessity to yield to the wishes of the British Government with respect to Confederation. He (Mr. C.) did not think so. We had no means of compelling the home Government to pay the

Governor's salary, and now since we had voted it, we stood in a good position to give this question a deliberate consideration. When the proposals came, he took them home, and studied them over in his mind, and the conclusion at which he arrived was that they were not fair to this Island. He thought that while Canada continued in her present unsettled state, we might as well remain as we were. If, after a time, we saw that confederation was going to be an advantage, we might then enter the Dominion. He believed that when the United States were confederated, Rhode Island obtained as good terms when she entered the Union as those states which entered at first. The people of this Island would bear taxes sufficient for the wants of the Colony; but they would object to see their money taken away and expended on works in Canada which would yield them no benefit.

The debate was then adjourned.

TUESDAY, March 8.

A petition was presented by Mr. McLean from Stephen Rose, and others, praying for the protection of the alewives fishery.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Davies, the House resumed the further consideration of the Draft Address in reply to the Speech of the Administrator at the opening of the Legislature.

Mr. Kelly in the chair.

MR. McLEAN said that no people could be called free and independent unless they had power to make their own laws, and on looking at the position we would occupy in the Dominion, were we to join it, he concluded we would be virtually deprived of that privilege. In the Senate we would certainly have no representation, because whoever might represent us there would be appointed by the Governor General, and not by us. This, he considered, would be bordering on despotism. It might be argued by hon. members of the Opposition that Her Majesty the Queen had the power of appointing the British Peers. This he admitted to be true, but she might be said to hold her position by divine right, or inheritance from King Wm. III., who was placed on the throne by the unanimous voice of the people. But no such right existed in, or should be conferred upon the Governor General of, the Dominion. He was nothing more than a loyal British subject, who received his appointment from the Crown and not from the people. It appeared to him that

the great desire evinced for confederation by certain hon. members of this Legislature arose from the attractions which \$4,000 per annum looming up in the distance had for them, and not from the conviction that such a union would benefit this Island. He thought it should have the opposite effect, and induce us more earnestly to set our faces against such proposals. Last evening he heard an hon. member refer to loyalty, who said that in this day it was in the pocket, and not in the heart, and that loyalty now necessarily led to confederation, and that confederation was a stepping stone to annexation. He could not see that such was a correct conclusion, and hoped the question, when it came up, would be fairly considered.

Hon. Mr. McAULAY said that, in this discussion, hon. members had diverged considerably from the points more immediately before the Committee. The paragraph stated that the visit of the Governor General was "watched" with deep interest by the people of this colony. He did not understand how that was done. The Government must have been apprehensive that Sir John Young was going to draw the Island up to the head of the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, and hence set a tremendous "watch" over him—even the whole of the men, women and children of the colony. Before proceeding further, he would pause for an explanation from the chairman of the Committee who prepared the Address.

MR. REILLY thought the hon. member had better finish his speech. The Committee put the word "watch" in that it might induce the hon. member to expend some of his superfluous ability.

Hon. Mr. McAULAY—Superfluous did the hon. member say? As the Address would be sent abroad, he hoped the Government would make it plain.

Hon. COL. SECRETARY knew the visit of Sir John Young and some members of his cabinet to our Island last year had been watched with deep interest by our people. They looked forward to his arrival with pleasure, and when he came were delighted to see him, and paid him every respect.

Hon. Mr. McAULAY contended that a visit was like a ghost, invisible, and therefore could not be watched.

MR. REILLY—They looked forward to the results of the visit.

Hon. Mr. McAULAY—Had the address said so, then it would have been understood, if he had not expressed an opinion on con-

federation for the last three years, and did not intend to do so now, but would give his views when the proper time came. He hoped he would then be found able to give a satisfactory opinion on the question. As to all the people watching, half of them never heard that Sir John Young was coming to the colony.

Mr. McNEILL considered the only object the hon. member could have in finding fault with the Government was to induce the people to get rid of those who had, and were now, watching the ship of state so faithfully.

Mr. BELL did not understand why any fault should be found with the expression in the Address. The members of the Legislature represented the people, and all the interests of the country were, for the time being, committed to the keeping of the Government. He could not see how the Government could show their interest for the welfare of the country better than by carefully watching the movements of any party who were suspected of aiming at depriving us of our privileges, nor could he perceive any word more appropriate or suitable than the one used. It was well known that the visit of His Excellency had something to do with confederation, and hence they were watching to see that no occasion should be given to confirm those alarms which appeared in the public press of the country.

Mr. KICKHAM—The Hon. Mr. Haviland said last night that each hon. member should express an opinion on this subject. At present we had power to levy our own taxes, regulate all our own affairs as we thought proper, and place whom we pleased in authority to manage our public affairs. For the last half century we had done so without receiving any assistance from Canada or elsewhere. We had lived without their aid so far, and he felt convinced were able to do so yet.

Mr. PROWSE.—Perhaps it was well that the sentiments of all the members of this hon. committee should now be known on the important question of confederation. When he came to the House this session, he expected that he would have to oppose the majority on this question, but, to his surprise, he found the Government committed to the principle of confederation, as this committee was asked to give its calm consideration to the question. He thought it would have been more consistent for the Government to have expressed their decided

opinion on the subject, than to be waiting to feel the public pulse. The Government had not expressed any decisive opinion, and believing that public men should do so, he must condemn such conduct. The Government of Newfoundland did not express an opinion so undecided, but distinctly said that no terms would be accepted.

Hon. COL. SECRETARY could not understand why the hon. member should condemn the government for submitting the question to the consideration of the House, when the hon. member himself said the subject should be well considered by each hon. member.

Mr. PROWSE was not in favor of confederation on the terms proposed, but was in favor of the principle, and believed it would be difficult for this Colony to remain in isolation much longer. He knew that loyal men who had a sympathy with our institutions were making strenuous efforts to connect the whole of British America under one government. Last year we were called upon to provide for the payment of the Governor's salary, and when he reflected that the sum annually required to meet this demand represented a capital of £42,000, at 5 per cent., he felt that the demand was a large one, and thought it was but the commencement of a pressure which might be continued, if we refused to accept reasonable terms and enter the Dominion. It was commonly said that straws showed how the wind blew, and this circumstance declared to us the determination of the British Government, and he believed their wishes should have weight with us. He was not afraid of the terms that had already been proposed, and believed the Dominion Government was disposed to do full justice to this Colony. He felt that if the Dominion would bear a fair proportion of the expenses of our public works, in addition to the construction of a railroad throughout this Island, then the question should be formally considered. If a railroad was proposed to be built in any other way than in connection with the Dominion he would oppose its construction. He considered it the duty of the Government to state the terms we should accept, and give the Dominion Government to know that if they were granted we would unite with them. As to increased taxation, he thought we could bear it as well as the other Colonies, and ours would be no higher than theirs would be.

Mr. CAMERON said the hon. member was last year opposed to confederation, and he was surprised to see what a change had

come over the spirit of his dream. He thought if the hon. member was justified in changing his mind on this important question, he certainly gave no reason to show it. Some hon. members appeared to think that if we resisted confederation it would lead to annexation. The tendency of the remarks of the hon. member for Charlottetown led to this conclusion. The hon. member for Murray Harbor said, if the Dominion would agree to build a railroad for us he would be willing to enter confederation, but that he would oppose the building of one out of our own resources. His (Mr. Cameron's) opinion was that our chances for a railroad outside of confederation were greater than if we were joined to the Dominion. Judging from what had already taken place, he saw no reason to suppose that even if we were to enter the Dominion, that the conditions upon which we might enter would be always held inviolable.

Hon. Mr. MCAULAY regarded the discussion of the question now as altogether out of place.

Mr. HOWAT was of a different opinion, and thought hon. members should now give their views at once; others might have changed their opinions on this subject, but he saw no reason why he should change his. Although we should get terms that we might regard as favorable, the power of changing these would always rest with the Dominion. When the delegates went to Quebec, they said the terms were favorable, and he believed one of those who signed them sat in the House.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND asked if he meant him.

Mr. HOWAT.—Yes.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND was glad that he signed his name to that document.

Mr. HOWAT.—Those who signed the Quebec Report said the terms were good, yet other and better were now offered. This he regarded as showing that no confidence should be placed in the offer. The Imperial Government had already said that the Dominion Government had power to alter or change the constitution, which he regarded as a clear proof that any terms which might be agreed upon could be altered. The Dominion Government was now making strenuous efforts to get us to unite with Canada. Strenuous efforts were also now being made in some parts of the Dominion to upset the present Government, and what guarantee had we if a new Government was formed that it would not overturn, and set aside any arrangements

their predecessors might have entered into. It was said that our produce would be shut out of the Dominion markets, but this should not alarm us. All the Provinces had fine capabilities for agriculture, and would soon have to turn their attention to it. They then would supply their own markets. He saw no reason why we should place ourselves in a position to be taxed by the Dominion. The hon. member for Murray Harbor said he was not afraid of high taxes; that if the Dominion could stand them so could we, but he thought that was a race our people would not wish to run. There were islands in the British Channel that had retained their own government, and why might not we do the same? He would not consent to surrender our privileges. We could be as loyal out of the Dominion as in it, and our duty was to oppose confederation.

Mr. McNEILL said it was well known that the terms of the Quebec report were condemned by the people of this Colony, and yet, without any offer from this Island, the Canadians came down here and proposed ether terms. When the first terms were offered, they were considered fair by some, these last were regarded as better, but, as the hon. member for Tryon said, what guarantee would we have that they might not be altered? Why, our agreement with them would probably prove no stronger than a rope of sand! The other Provinces might complain, even as Ontario was doing respecting Nova Scotia. They might say that the concessions made to us were unfair to the other Provinces. Money seemed to be the object, and the only one now in the way, in the opinion of many; but he would not look at it from that point of view. He would like to have the opinion of an experienced man like the hon. member for Georgetown (Mr. McAulay) and hoped he would favor the committee with it; he was sorry that the hon. Leader of the Opposition was in favor of confederation, for if he was opposed to it he felt sure that no undue influence would ever induce him to betray the country. He would, therefore, be glad to see him in the anti-confederate ranks, and regarded it as unfortunate that he was pursuing a course which, if carried, would prove so detrimental to the interests of the country. He viewed the matter also from another point. One hundred years ago, his grand-father came to this country, and, in common with others, had to encounter many hardships, such as clearing their farms, opening up new roads, and contending with wild beasts and land agents. The

country had since prospered, and that entirely by the industry of the people. We had no resources for the construction of our public works. The other Provinces derived a revenue from their public lands, and it appeared to him hard that a resort to any unfair means should be thought of to force us into a connection we disliked. It was now but one hundred years since we were separated from Nova Scotia. Since then we had managed our own affairs as well, if not better, than our neighbors, and if Canada had studied her own interests she would have seen that it was no use to be proposing new terms. To accept of any terms would be to give up our independence. We elected our men for four years, and could replace them with others, if they did not do right, but, once into confederation, what power would we then have to alter the government? He read the lecture which was delivered in the city, last fall, on confederation, and noticed that an argument was drawn from the union of the thirteen colonies in favor of confederation. He contended there was no analogy between them. Their union was cordial; they were united by a common interest, being drawn together to fight for their liberty; and by the arrangement made between them they had prospered commercially, as they exchanged their products with each other. In Newfoundland, wealthy men engaged in fishing, but the superior privileges conferred upon the French fishermen by the government of France, rendered their fishing, to a great extent, a failure. With regard to the union of the colonies, he felt that we were not prepared for it, and did not believe we would ever be forced to go into union with Canada. It had been laid down that parliament could not destroy itself, and this was admitted by good authority and laid down by some of the best minds in England. He did not think Nova Scotia was fairly dealt with, and with her example before us, he believed this Island would never return men to the Legislature who would destroy our parliament.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND said the hon. member was not correct in saying a parliament could not destroy itself, for facts in this case were stronger than theory. In the reign of Queen Anne, the parliament of Scotland destroyed itself. The parliament of Ireland did the same, and so did that of Jamaica. Hence the theory of the hon. member did not hold good.

House adjourned for one hour.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND said he did not intend to make many remarks on the question of confederation until the despatches and papers relating to that subject were laid before the House, but he purposed replying to some hon. members who had spoken on the subject. He agreed with the remark of the hon. member from East Point (Mr. McLean) that no people were independent unless they had a right to make their own laws, but he took exception to the application of that principle to the union of this Island with Canada, for, in case such union should take place, our local government would still make our local laws, and we should have representatives in the Parliament at Ottawa who would assist in making the general laws of the Dominion. It had been said that we would only have five members in the Dominion Parliament, but if we joined the United States we would have no representatives in Congress at all, for, according to the American law, no place could have a representative unless it had a population of one hundred and twenty-seven thousand. There was territorial representation in the Senate. The Dominion was divided into three sections, and each section sent twenty-four members to the Senate. The hon. member (Mr. McLean) had been very indignant that the senators should be appointed by the Governor General, and not elected by the people; but the former great leaders of the Liberal party in this Island, Messrs. Coles and Whelan, had always argued in favor of having the Legislative Council nominative, and not elective. The hon. member (Mr. Howat) had informed the House that he (Leader of the Opposition) had been guilty of signing the Quebec Report, but he would say that he was in very good company in doing so, as all the leading statesmen of the colonies had done the same. The only delegates from this Island who had not signed that Report were the Hon. Colonel Gray and the Hon. George Coles, who were in the United States at the time it was signed. The hon. member (Mr. Howat) had stated that our

trade with Canada was nothing, and that we had better therefore hug our isolation; but if he would look at the statistics he would find that our trade with the Dominion was equal to that with Great Britain, if we excepted the new ships sent to England. Large quantities of butter, lard, and pork, which was becoming a large article of export, were sent to the Dominion.

Mr. HOWAT said that the Hon. Leader of the Opposition had misunderstood him. He referred to the future, and stated that they had plenty of land in the Dominion capable of producing all they could consume.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND was glad that the hon member (Mr. Howat) only referred to the future, and that he acknowledged that the inhabitants of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick did require our produce at the present time. The agricultural capabilities of Nova Scotia had been over estimated. A great part of it was utterly sterile. The soil of this Island was much more easily cultivated than that of Nova Scotia or New Brunswick. It would not be so easy as some hon members thought for us to find a market for our produce, if the Dominion treated us as a foreign state, and taxed all our exports, especially at the present time, when all our products were prohibited from the American market. The first thing that should be done was to ascertain whether a union with the rest of British America would benefit us or not, and when that question was decided, it would be time enough to talk about the terms. He (Mr. Haviland) had given it as his opinion four years ago, that confederation was only a work of time. Then there were only three or four confederates on the Island, but now there were more than the hon member for Belfast (Mr. Duncan) would like to see. The young men of the country, who were being liberally educated, would understand this subject, and would be strong advocates of confederation. In the middle of the nineteenth century to say that isolation was preferable to confederation, was contrary to the spirit of the age. If states were better apart than joined, why

had the United States not permitted the Southerners to have their independence instead of expending so much to force them back to their allegiance? The petty German States were being absorbed by the larger countries around them. Scotland had prospered since her union with England, and was now ahead of almost any other country in proportion to her size. If we joined the Dominion we would be of some importance, and not the miserable, wretched sand bank in the Gulf of St. Lawrence that we now were.

Hon. Mr. DUNCAN said that this isolated sand bank in the Gulf of St. Lawrence was more prosperous than the lower provinces, and he believed also was better off than Canada; and if, as had been argued, the union of two provinces was for the benefit of the poorer one, this was an argument against our joining the Dominion. If the Dominion should put a duty on our exports, we could turn our potatoes and barley into pork, and find a market for that in England. He (Mr. Duncan) had received a statement from an intelligent farmer that he could raise pork of the value of £82 10s. at a cost of £76, reckoning potatoes at 1s., and barley at 3s. per bushel. Thus a farmer could get a remunerative price for his potatoes without the trouble of hauling them. Some time ago New Brunswick required a large quantity of our oats, but of late years they had shipped oats to England themselves, and in a few years New Brunswick and Nova Scotia would grow all the produce they required. If we required £80,000 to supply our local wants now, when we had a population of about one hundred thousand, what would be the consequence when our population should increase to two hundred thousand, were we joined to the Dominion? for the only additional amount we would then receive would be £24,000, (eighty cents per head for one hundred thousand,) which would be utterly inadequate to meet our requirements, and a resort to direct taxation would be inevitable. Canada could not give us terms which would be fair to us and themselves. If we should be obliged to go into Confederation, as some hon

members had stated, that was no argument why we should voluntarily go into it—we should not commit suicide because we had to die. He (Mr. Duncan) believed that confederates were increasing in number, for he had heard the present Leader of the Government party (Mr. Davies) state, at a public meeting of his constituents, that if they had changed their views on confederation, it would make a great difference with him, intimating that he would be ready to change his opinions to suit the times.

Hon. COL. SECRETARY, in reply to Hon. Mr. Duncan, stated that he had never made use of the language attributed to him by that hon. member, but had merely asked his constituents, at the meeting referred to, if they had changed their opinion on the subject of confederation. The people at that meeting had almost unanimously declared against confederation, but he (Col. Sec'y) had told them that they should give the subject their calm consideration, and not look upon all the advocates of confederation as insincere. At first he (Col. Sec'y) had thought the terms somewhat liberal, but on closer investigation, he had seen the injustice of them. The Canadian government had performed one act of justice towards us, in stating that our lands had been taken from us unjustly. The offer made by the Canadian government was not sufficiently positive. They were first to endeavor to induce the British Government to give us compensation for our lands, and he (Col. Sec'y) did not think the British government would pay any more attention to their requests than they had to ours. The Dominion government not only asked us to give up our revenue, but to give them power to tax us at whatever rate they might think proper, and we would have no privileges under confederation that we did not now enjoy. It would be better for us not to have any representatives in the Dominion Parliament, because if we sent five members there, we would be responsible for all the laws passed by that Parliament, and could not protect against them. The Governor General would have the appointing of the senators, and as it would be done by the advice of his ministers, they would be all chosen from one political party—the party which had carried confederation. It was the policy of the present government to keep on friendly terms with both the Canadian

and Imperial governments, so that we might be allowed to remain in our present position. If we treated the despatches from the British government on the subject of confederation with contempt, the Colonial Minister might make it a pretext for recommending that this Island should be forced into union. The British government should put us in the same position with respect to public lands as Nova Scotia and New Brunswick were, before they asked us to join the Dominion. Instead of receiving a revenue from publiclands we had been paying a heavy rent, and if we received fair play we should get the interest of about one million pounds sterling paid to us annually by the British Government. Had Scotland not united with England she would probably have been just as wealthy as she now is, her prosperity was owing to the energy and industry of her inhabitants. Our union with the Dominion would be no advantage to us, as the Canadians did not want our oats or pork, which were our principal articles of export.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND said that Mr. Owen Connolly had a contract to deliver four hundred barrels of pork in Quebec on the opening of the navigation.

Hon. COL. SECRETARY quoted the following from the speech of Mr. McKenzie, one of the leaders of the opposition in the Commons of the Dominion Parliament, published in the *Globe* newspaper of 25th February, 1870:

"We find at one end of the Dominion chronic discontent, at the other end open rebellion; we find all the Provinces that were then out of the Dominion still out of the Dominion. We find that, although this government has enjoyed the most powerful support that any government has received in this country since 1849, they have utterly failed to accomplish what they promised, and what they charged the Opposition with wishing to obstruct them in doing. * * * * The financial department is in such a state of utter disorder that it is quite impossible to give the slightest attention to any document coming from it. Last session a report was taken three times for correction, and came back incorrect after all. The *balances are false*. The late Finance Minister brought down a statement, made in 1868, showing the amount of interest on the public debt. At the beginning of the next session we were informed that there was an error of \$200,000 or \$300,000. We find that most extraordinary irregularities have taken place in the Receiver General's department; that there has been no proper system of book keeping; that the ledger had not been posted for years; that it is very nearly impossible for any one to get a proper statement of our debenture debt. I make these statements simply because they are known to every one,

and the extraordinary revelations made in connection with one of the officers of the government some time ago, show a state of things which no merchant in the country could endure, and which would bring ordinary commercial affairs into ruin in a couple of months."

In view of such a state of affairs, he (Col. Sec'y) thought the charge of bribery and corruption brought against the Dominion Government was not without foundation, and we would act the part of wisdom in refraining from linking our destinies with a country under such a government.

Mr. BRECKEN thought it would have been better to have left the discussion of confederation until all the documents relating to it had been laid on the table. As the "better terms" were sent by the Dominion Government shortly after the visit of Sir John Young and some of the members of his cabinet to the Island, the inference was that our government had given them to understand that some such terms would be acceptable to the people; and if so, the conduct of the present Leader of the Government party (Mr. Davies) was unaccountable. The hon. member had certainly been very inconsistent; one moment lauding the Canadian Government to the skies because they coincided with his views on the land question, and the next moment declaring them so corrupt that he did not wish to have any connection with them. The bug-bear of taxation had been brought up to frighten the people, but the Canadians could impose no taxes on us that they did not put upon themselves, and if we were wealthy, as had been stated by some hon. members, we would be able to bear taxation. It was a deplorable piece of ignorance on the part of the Colonial Secretary to say that strangers might be appointed to represent us in the Dominion Senate, for a section of the Act expressly provided that they should be taken from the Province which they were to represent.

Hon. COL. SECRETARY said he had not made such a statement, but that the senators would all be chosen from one political party.

Mr. McLEAN did not believe there was any such clause in the Act, and wished the hon. member (Mr. Brecken) to point it out if there was.

Mr. BRECKEN said it was also provided in the Act that, if a senator, after being appointed, left the Province which he represented and went to live

in another country, his seat would become vacant, and a permanent resident of the Province would be appointed. He (Mr. Brecken) believed the present government of Canada were an extravagant set, and probably they had some dishonest officials, so that the accounts might not always be correct, but that was no more an argument against confederation than the want of proper attention to roads and bridges by a member of this House would tell against responsible government. He (Mr. Brecken) had been charged with saying that anti-confederation meant annexation; what he meant was, that unless we united with the other colonies, we should be absorbed by the Republic. The statesmen of Great Britain were in favor of consolidation, as was evidenced by their not interfering when Prussia swallowed up the little kingdom of Hanover, the birth place of some of England's sovereigns. When King George, the poor blind ruler of Hanover, was driven from his throne, the statesmen of England had not raised a voice against it, because they believed in the great principle of confederation—the happiness of the many must prevail over the comfort of the few. The United States could not make a treaty with us, and every offer they made now was only for the purpose of tampering with our loyalty.

[The hon. member here read a letter which had appeared in the *Cape Ann Advertiser*, but the Reporter was unable to obtain a copy.] Hon. members were in the habit of disparaging the people of Canada, but if they would travel through that country they would find as fine a set of men as were to be seen in any country. The following article appeared in the *London Times*, which would show the feelings of the people of England respecting these colonies. Respecting Mr. Beaumont's resolutions it said:

"The first three relate to the short comings of the mother country, the remainder to the means of remedying them. The first resolution declared the duty of England to afford "protection" to every colonist. 'As British subjects in the colonies no less than in the mother country are bound to render, and do render, allegiance to the Crown of England, they are no less entitled to the constitutional rights of British subjects; and to withhold from them any such rights which are applicable to their situation would be a grave offence on the part of any responsible officer of the Crown.' The sonorous language about protection from the Crown of England being the constitutional right of every British subject, does not imply any dereliction of duty on the part of the mother country as against a European enemy. The colonists know well that if France or the United States threatened them, the mother

country would strain every nerve in their defence. A few years since we sent the Guards to Canada in the depth of winter, and hurried to sea the squadrons which should guard the British American coast and the West India Islands. Was there here any failure in duty, any shrinking from the responsibilities which England had incurred by the planting of colonies, any disregard of the colonists as fellow-subjects or as men? To persist in ignoring the plain and just, and equitable distinction which has been laid down by the home government is to trifle with public opinion. It has been declared that England is ever ready to defend the colonies from external and civilized enemies, but that it belongs to themselves to deal with local tumult or with the barbarous races who may exist within their borders. The pretence that such an apportionment of duties is an abandonment of our own, or a withdrawal of a due protection, tends to make us suspect the spirit in which the colonists call for a closer union. As to the severance of the colonies from the Empire, we retain the opinion we always expressed, that politically, socially and commercially, the colonies are in the highest degree valuable to England, and ought to be retained. When their abandonment was urged some years ago by Mr. Goldwin Smith, with the dogmatic intolerance of his school, we combated the proposal, and should it be renewed, we would combat it again. But there is a great difference between maintaining an honorable connection with free fellow-subjects, and making them helpless by keeping them in leading strings like children. God forbid that the colonies should be abandoned! But if ever this comes to pass, it will be the result of a conviction on the part of England that their inhabitants look only to the loaves and fishes of the Imperial system, and that the dependencies are suckers and not feeders of the body politic."

Mr. BELL did not see the first thing we would gain by confederation. The Dominion could provide no market for our produce or our fish; and whatever inducement they might offer to us in money, as we had seen to-day, might be taken from us again. The British American Act had been violated by the late arrangement with Nova Scotia, and what was given us one year by the Ottawa parliament might be taken away another. It ought to be our great aim to open up trade with the country that would furnish us a market, and Canada could do nothing for us in this respect. The confederation scheme was highly objectionable in that it offered almost a fixed income for a rapidly increasing revenue. Though the tabular statement issued in Charlottetown showed that a considerable quantity of goods were imported from the Dominion, and claimed that under confederation they would come in here free, yet on examination it was found that a large proportion of these articles were of English manufacture, or were the

produce of the West Indies, and would be subject to duty under the Canadian tariff. With respect to the exports to the Dominion set down in that statement, a great portion of them were only articles forwarded through New Brunswick to the United States. For example, those statistics showed that a quantity of fish had been exported to the Dominion, and he knew that the part of the country from which he came sent almost all that quantity over the New Brunswick railway to St. John, for the American market. Our isolation here prevented us from having any trade with the outside world for about five months in the year, consequently it would be hard for us to pay equally with the other Provinces in supporting the public works of the Dominion. Once into confederation, the general parliament could tax us as much as they pleased, and only grant us what they thought proper; they might even refuse to give us what they promised. This \$800,000 which they offered to settle the land question, they had no right to pay, as the grievance was not of Canadian but Imperial origin; therefore, we might expect, if we entered the Dominion, that the first time our representatives asked for money, they would be told that Prince Edward Island had already got her share and would have to be content. In answer to the hon. Leader of the Opposition's remarks with respect to his (Mr. Bell's) annexation tendencies, he might say that his great desire was to see this Island obtain a free market for her fish and produce. He thought, too, that any observer of events must come to the conclusion that this continent would some day be under one government; and though he was a Scotchman, and would yield to no person in loyalty to his sovereign, he did not think that our interests should be overlooked. In his opinion, there would be nothing improper in petitioning the home government to allow us to change our allegiance; he would never give his consent to strike one blow or shed one drop of blood against the Queen's authority, but he could not see that it would be disloyalty to ask in a peaceable way for separation from her government. John Bright, now one of Her Majesty's cabinet ministers, had expressed the opinion that America would be one from Baffin's Bay to the Gulf of Mexico, and he (Mr. B.) contended that we should not be called disloyal for holding the same views.

Mr. BRECKEN.—The British American Act, it was said, had been violated, and the question asked what guarantee had we that the proposals of the Dominion, if accepted by this Colony, would not be receded from again by the general parliament? True there was a party in Upper Canada that did grumble at the increased allowances made to Nova Scotia, as being a violation of that Act, but he thought if it were an error, it was one on the right side, as Nova Scotia had had nothing taken from her. We had as yet been no party to any arrangement with the Dominion, and to say that any compact entered into between her and this Colony, would afterwards be altered by the general parliament, was simply absurd. The hon. member from Alberton had stated that Canada could not effect a removal of the restrictions on our trade. But what prospects, he (Mr. B.) would ask, had this Colony of obtaining free trade with the United States on her own account? A reciprocity committee from Congress had been here, and their visit had only resulted in showing that there was not the ghost of a chance of the Island alone getting the restrictions on her trade with that country removed. Any person who had listened to the extract read from an American paper by the hon. Leader of the Opposition must be convinced that any concessions in that direction must be obtained at the expense of our loyalty. It was said by some that were we to enter confederation we would lose the glorious privileges of self-government. Well, that was a very taking argument. Self-government was a great blessing, and we were undoubtedly about as free as any part of the world. Greater freedom existed here than even in the United States, as was evidenced by the difficulty there a short time ago between President Johnson and Congress. Here there could be no dead lock of that kind, for as soon as this House passed a vote of want of confidence in the government, the administration was overthrown. Here also we could worship God as we pleased; but if we became a part of the Dominion, would our freedom in this respect be tampered with? The liberty of the press was another of those glorious privileges of which we boasted in this Colony, but was the press less free in Canada? Would the right of trial by jury be taken from us were we in the Dominion? Had the people there not the same sun to shine upon them, the

same dews to moisten them, and the same showers to water their fields as we had in this Island? Then why all this outcry about losing our self-government, when the whole question between us and Canada resolved itself into one of money? In considering the subject of confederation, there was no occasion to soar to the regions of political fancy; just look at our various public officers, what a miserable pittance they received. Yes, it was money we needed, so let the government go to work and make up their bill, and tell Canada what they wanted. At a recent public meeting in this city, he had heard gentlemen in high-sounding strains ask their auditors whether they would sell their rights for money. Such language could only be addressed to the passions of the people, for it must be evident to every unprejudiced mind that not one feather would be plucked from the eagle of our liberty by uniting with the Dominion. It was useless, as he said before, for us, a separate colony, to think of getting free trade with the United States. When the delegates, General Butler, Judge Poland and that other talented gentleman, Mr. Beck, were here the other summer, he (Mr. Brecken) put the question to Mr. Beck whether he expected their visit would accomplish anything towards establishing reciprocity between their country and this Island. He answered, no. In fact, he remarked, he was only put on the committee by Speaker Colfax, to hold one end of the political rope whilst General Butler held the other, and he was very glad of it, for they had had an exceedingly pleasant time; but, said he, you will have no reciprocity treaty until you have it with the whole of British America included. He (Mr. Brecken) knew that our fisheries were valuable, but an agricultural people, such as ours, did not care to engage in them; our neighbors, however, who had not so fertile a country as this Island, would prosecute them. Nova Scotia would also become a manufacturing province, as she possessed the coal and the iron, and all these industries would tend to make a market for our produce. These were some of the results which we might expect from confederation, but whether we entered it or not, we could not stop the progress of events in the Dominion. Many in the country thought this agitation was started by a set of young politicians in Charlottetown, who saw that there was no scope for them in this

Colony, and wished to have the wider field of Canada for their ambition. Charges of bribery and corruption had been freely made against the advocates of confederation, but the expression of a little independent sentiment in this House had had a wholesome effect, for within the last day or two nothing had been heard about Canadian gold. No person had a right to hold up past political actions to any one, and say, you ought not to pursue this or that course. Every hon. member should have the manliness to express his own convictions. When this great anti-confederate party would be returned at the next election, he hoped they would not play a fast and loose policy on the question, like what the hon. Colonial Secretary had done when he went down to the Uigg meeting, and asked the people there whether they had changed their opinions and were now in favor of confederation. A voice in the crowd answered, "no," and he replied, "then I am with you!" (Laughter.)

Mr. McLEAN maintained that he was right with respect to what he said in the morning about the senators of the Dominion; they were to be appointed by the Governor General, and it made very little difference where they lived, as it would be their interest to please him. We, at least, would have no control over them. The fewness of their number was also an objection. In the United States, the smallest state had as many senators as the largest; but, in the Dominion, it was not so. Upper Canada had 24 senators, Lower Canada 24, and the Lower Provinces 24, except Newfoundland should come in, when the number would be 28. He contended that this arrangement was against the Lower Provinces; in his opinion, they ought to have a majority in the Senate, so that if any encroachment upon them should be attempted, it might be counteracted by that body.

Mr. BRECKEN.—The last speaker was a new member, and he would not employ the same language towards him which he did to the Colonial Secretary, who ought to know better. The senators, no doubt, would be nominally appointed by the Governor General, but he must act according to the advice of his council, who were responsible to parliament.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD.—Hon. members of the Opposition had twitted the Government for holding any conference with the delegates from Ottawa, if they did not intend to en-

tain their proposals. He did not see what harm could result from asking these gentlemen what they were able to do for us. He (Mr. L.) was not present at these negotiations, a circumstance for which he was sorry. But had he been with his colleagues on the occasion, he would not have objected to hear their proposals, so that any terms they might offer could be placed before the people at the next general election. He considered it was the duty of members of the Executive to ask the so-called all-powerful government of the Dominion what it could do to aid us in obtaining a redress of our grievances. It was admitted on all sides that we had been wronged by Britain with respect to our lands, and were this government, this noble government of Canada, to give us some tangible proof that they had an irresistible influence with the Imperial authorities, it would go a great way to remove his objections to confederation. He was surprised that the hon. Leader of the Opposition, who was such an admirer of free trade, did not look to his own favorite, model country, Canada, and vent his righteous indignation against her Japanese trade policy, instead of wasting all his eloquence in condemning the restrictive tariffs between this Island and the Dominion. Here we imposed a duty on such articles as wine, tobacco, &c., for a revenue must be raised from something, as governments did not live on air; but surely it was better to replenish the treasury in this way than to impose a tax on newspapers, printing paper, books, and notes-of-hand. In the Dominion, even knowledge was taxed, but here we were free from all such restrictions. The hon. member for Charlottetown must also receive a little notice; but he (Mr. L.) had to confess he remembered very little of what that gentleman had said; his words, indeed, were pleasing to the ear, but they left little behind them but an echo—an echo, too, of the sentiments some person else had uttered before. Well, he (Mr. Brecken) seemed to be very much exercised about the views expressed by the members of the government to the delegates from Ottawa. He (Mr. L.) thought it made very little difference what had passed at the informal meeting with these gentlemen, for it was quite probable that they had formed their conclusions chiefly from outside information. About the time of their visit, it was stated in the *Toronto Globe* that the government here was in a tottering condition, and that, no doubt, a change in the sentiments of the people would be seen when the general election came off next spring. If this was the

opinion entertained by the Canadian delegates, it was altogether unlikely that such far-seeing statesmen would base their proposals on the views of a shaky administration. It had been said that Canada had at present an economical government. He was glad to hear it, for evidently such a character could not be given its predecessors. The customs' revenue of the Dominion for the year ending June 30, 1868, was in round numbers \$8,000,000, and the interest paid in the same time on the public debt over \$4,000,000. This was a debt, too, incurred without any expensive war. What would her case be when she had to provide a standing army to defend her frontier from ocean to ocean, and a navy to protect her commerce on every sea? The hon. member for Charlottetown (Mr. Brecken) said isolation was played out. If it was played out, how came it that we were so well off on this Island, with a trifling public debt, and free newspapers, books and no stamp duties; with a people, too, as happy and contented as those of any other country in the world. Nor need we refer to this Island alone, for where was the British colony that had not prospered without confederation, unless there was some natural cause to prevent it? It might be answered, however, that it was time for these colonies to cast off the leading-strings of the mother country. He (Mr. L.) was of opinion that they would be allowed to choose their own destiny, either to remain as they were or to set up for themselves. The British people, he believed, as he said yesterday, were opposed to the dismemberment of the empire. As to the good looks of the Canadians, so much commented on by the same speaker, (Mr. Brecken) he (Mr. L.) was sure they could not produce a finer looking gentleman than that hon. member himself. (Laughter.) The peace of the Dominion, he (Mr. L.) feared was nearly at an end. This very day a paper had been put into his hand, containing a series of resolutions proposed in the Ontario legislature by no less a person than Mr. Blake, complaining that the solemn compact entered into between the Provinces had been broken, and the British American Act violated by the Dominion parliament giving to Nova Scotia nearly \$2,000,000 more than was specified in that Act. Then, again, the North-West territory had been purchased, at a cost of £300,000 sterling. What right, he asked, had the people of the several Provinces to pay this money for lands which should be the property of the settlers in that country? It was no wonder that the half-breeds of

Red River had rebelled against being literally sold—no wonder that the Hon. Joseph Howe should caution them to look after their own rights as inhabitants of the territory. Now was the time for them to see to their lands, and not be like this colony, oppressed by a system which nothing short of a miracle could relieve us from. It had been argued that this new nationality, the Dominion, would start on its career as strong as the United States were at first. But the relative positions of the two countries he (Mr. L.) contended were very different. The United States had variety of climate, and, consequently, a market to a great extent within themselves. Then, again, the young republic had no powerful rival state on its borders that necessitated it to keep up an expensive military establishment. As to the liberal terms which we might receive from Canada, on condition of our entering the union, he considered them of very little account. He believed that before ten years the whole financial arrangement between the Provinces of the Dominion would be re-adjusted, and very properly so, for a government could not be expected to prosper if based upon wrong principles. Hence he was opposed to this Colony asking the Dominion to indemnify us for the loss of our lands. It would be unjust to tax her people to remove wrongs which her government did not cause. Any sum that Canada might give us now for the settlement of our land question, would undoubtedly be counted against us when the re-arrangement which he anticipated in the affairs of the Dominion took place. Let the home government redress our land grievances, and then we would be able to enter confederation on something like equal terms with the other Provinces. But even then, he would like to see our rights as a local government placed on a more substantial basis than the will of a parliamentary majority at Ottawa.

Mr. BRECKEN—The hon. member for Bedeque had referred to the resolution brought up in the Ontario legislature against the additional allowances to Nova Scotia. It was well known that when confederation was proposed, it was cordially entered into by Hon. George Brown and other Upper Canadian politicians, as a scheme whereby they might free themselves from the difficulties of their position. When the delegates went to the Quebec conference they were fully aware of this, and compromises were

made, but he (Mr. B.) did not think Ontario had much reason to complain of what had been done for Nova Scotia, considering the improved position which she herself occupied in the confederacy to what she held under the union of the two Canadas. The hon. member (Mr. Laird) appeared to justify the course pursued by the rebels at Red River. The people there were chiefly half-breeds and indians, and because they preferred living in a semi-lawless state to coming under an organized government that would foster civilization and the arts of peace, they forsooth were to be held up as patterns to all true patriots. The terms proposed by the Canadian delegates, said the hon. member, were of no account. He (Mr. B.) wondered when the memoranda came down to this House whether anything like this sentiment would be found recorded there; and whether the overshadowing power of the Great Republic would therein be set forth. He would ask, looking at the respective positions of Great Britain and the United States, whether a war between them was to be apprehended? Did the hon member not know that there were millions of British gold invested in the United States? And further, would not one week's war cost the United States more than all British America was worth? He (Mr. B.) was sorry to hear a member of the government argue that we should not take the \$800,000 from the Dominion for the settlement of our land question. The British government would never pay us that money after all she had expended in supporting military establishments in these Provinces; and Canada, in consideration of this, might well give us the amount offered. The Dominion held property belonging to the mother country of much greater value than \$800,000, and he (Mr. B.) could see no impropriety in our taking that money from the Ottawa government. The Hon. Mr. Coles, at the time of the Quebec conference, saw no impropriety in it either, when he asked for £200,000 to settle our land question. Reference had been made to the newspaper postage and stamp duties

of the Dominion. He (Mr. B.) admitted those taxes were obnoxious, particularly in a new country; but were we to condemn everything about Canada because some of her duties were objectionable? In the United States even photographs were taxed, and go where we would, something of the sort would meet us. The present government of the Dominion would not always remain in power; the reformers of Upper Canada, who were mostly Scotchmen and economists, would yet get control of the finances, and then we might look for the abolition of all obnoxious taxes. But taxation was being increased in this colony; last year our duties were raised one per cent., and if the public works were carried out which we required, he believed that in a few years our tariff would be up to 15 per cent., or as high as it now was in the Dominion.

Hon. P. SINCLAIR scarcely knew what side of this question the hon member for Charlottetown was on till to-night; but he had now come out squarely in favor of confederation. The Scotchmen of Canada had come in for a share of his admiration; he thought they were so economical they would keep down taxation. He (Mr. S.) could tell that gentleman that these Scotchmen, or their forefathers, came from a country much more heavily taxed than even Canada, and perhaps would not be able to keep down these burdens in their adopted, any more than in their native, country. That hon member had a great deal to say about confederation, but he had never shown what benefit it would be to this Colony. He had soared away to the glory argument, and asked if we would not have the same sun to shine upon us, and the same dew to fall upon us in the Dominion as we had now. He (Mr. S.) wondered if we were to become subjects of the Sultan of Turkey whether we would have a different sun to shine upon us! All this was beside the question. We had our rain and sunshine independently of any earthly government, and our duty was to consider those things which a change of our constitution might

bring upon the Colony. We knew we were lightly taxed at present, and that in a general way our revenue, from the improvement of the country, would keep pace with our expenditure. With respect to the proposals from Canada, he did not look upon them as any better than the Quebec Scheme, as revised at the London Conference, with the exception of the increased number of our population on which the 80 cents a head would be paid; and the \$800,000 for our lands, which was only an offer of the amount asked by Hon. Mr. Coles at the first conference, namely, £200,000 Canadian currency. It had been stated on the floor of this House that we had a very large trade with the Dominion. He (Mr. S.) had looked into the matter, and found that our exports to Canada during the last three years had decreased from £2,133 9s. 6d. to £1,093 19s.; while our export trade with the United States during the same period, in the face of a hostile tariff, had increased from £21,633 4s. to £48,031 19s. 7d.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND merely rose to ask the hon. member from Wilmot Creek (Mr. Laird), who had such a horror of taxes on newspapers, and the like, why it was that we had to pay three pence postage here on a letter to the neighboring Provinces, while throughout the Dominion it was only three cents? and why postage from Britain to Canada had been reduced to three pence sterling, and to this Island it was still six pence; and to those who had to pay the fine by late mails, thirteen pence half-penny currency?

Hon. Mr. LAIRD—The postage referred to was only a temporary inconvenience, which, he believed, would be remedied with as little delay as possible; but the taxes in the Dominion were a deliberate charge imposed by parliament.

Debate adjourned till to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, March 9.

Summerside Lock-up, &c.

Mr. McMILLAN presented a petition from the people of Summerside praying

for the erection of a Lock-up and other arrangements.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND heard that Summerside was prospering, but never before knew that such a want gave indications of the flourishing condition of any place. It had been said that the French trace their glory to their army, the Spaniards to their church, and the Americans to their schools; but Summerside was going to trace hers to a lock-up.

Mr. McMILLAN said they did not want the lock-up for themselves, but for some who occasionally came from Charlottetown and the Dominion.

Mr. HOWAT did not think such a building was needed in Summerside. He could speak from experience, and knew the conduct of the people there was such that they did not require a lock-up. He thought their ideas were a little in advance of their wants.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND was surprised to hear the remarks of the hon. member, for he being an out-and-out supporter of the Government, and the matter prayed for being in accordance with a measure promised in the opening speech, he thought it strange to see him opposing it.

Sea Manure.

Mr. BELL presented petitions from the inhabitants of Tignish and Kildare, praying that measures might be adopted for defining the right of parties to kelp and other sea manure thrown upon the shore by the action of the sea. The hon. member in moving that they be received, said the people felt a lively interest in the matter to which the petitions referred, as they involved a question which was of great importance to the farmers. It was well known that larger quantities of that manure frequently drifted on the shore in front of some men's farms than they could use, yet others would not be allowed to take it, and consequently it went to waste. He desired to see an Act placed on our statute book, clearly defining who had and who had not a right to this manure. Magistrates felt the want of such a law, and not unfrequently parties were fined for taking

some of this kelp, who did not like to risk a lawsuit in the Supreme Court to test the correctness of the decision given against them.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND said the question was not a new one. Several petitions had been presented to the House on the subject by hon. members from Queen's County. In 1868, one had been presented by the hon. Mr. Henderson, which was referred to a committee to report thereon, and this committee found the question so difficult that it was abandoned. But there were not so many difficulties attending the question as the hon. member supposed, for it was a well defined principle of law, recognized in England and America, that where a farm was bounded on the shore, all manures or other substances which were left by the action of the sea above the ordinary high water mark, belonged to the owner of the farm. Nor did he see so much hardship in the carrying out of that principle, as some supposed, for the man whose farm was thus situated was always having a portion of it washed away, so that he frequently lost land that, at one time, he paid a high price for. He knew some farms that were, to a considerable extent, thus washed away. Cases had been decided in our courts on the subject, and he thought the legal view of the matter was pretty generally known.

Dr. JENKINS was disposed to look with disfavor upon these petitions, for the petitioners did not ask to be protected in a right, but for the passing of a law to deprive others of theirs. To enact such a law as was asked for by the hon. member would only lead to contention.

Mr. KICKHAM knew the question was before the House a year or two ago, yet he would like to see some definite result arrived at with reference to the matter. He might have a farm fronting on the sea, an abundance of manure might be driven ashore, which, on account of some ill-feeling he might have towards a neighbor, he would prevent him from taking any of it; a storm might remove

it, or it might become wasted and benefit no one. He would be glad to see such a measure passed as the hon. member referred to.

Mr. BRECKEN—This matter, if he recollected right, had been brought before the House by the Hon. Mr. Coles or Kelly at one time. The hon. member from Alberton asked for a bill to define the rights of parties to this manure, but they were defined already. He knew there was something reasonable in the arguments brought forward by the hon. member for Souris, yet when it was known that all such manures left between high water and low water mark were common property, he thought it ought to be sufficient. He believed the hon. member for Tryon was aware that a case had been brought into the courts by a person in his district. He remembered he was Attorney General when the action was brought, and recollected the defendant succeeded in winning the case on the ground that all that was driven up above the ordinary tide mark belonged to him.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD suggested that the hon. member should move that the matter be referred to a committee of the whole House.

Mr. REILLY moved that a special committee be appointed to report upon the petition. It was a question in which he felt much interested, and wanted information upon.

Hon. P. SINCLAIR thought it would be better to appoint a committee to report upon the petition. He would second the resolution of the hon. member for St. Peters.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND thought appointing such a committee was a waste of time. He would prefer having a printed copy of the report of the committee of 1868 sent to all the magistrates in the Island. That committee was composed of some of the best minds in the House.

Mr. PROWSE said the question was one in which he felt much interested, and one which he knew the country expected

action to be taken upon. To leave the matter to be decided by precedents which the lawyers might bring forward would be very unsatisfactory. Many who suffered great annoyance in endeavoring to procure some of this valuable manure put up with much they would not otherwise do if the rights of parties were defined by law. If it was public property below a certain mark, it should be known; and if all the the kelp in front of a farm belonged to the owner, the sooner it was made known by law the better. The country should not be kept in doubt any longer. He would support the motion.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD stated that his farm was on the shore, and he had obtained this manure on the shore of other farms as well as his own. He knew this to be one of the best manures that could be had, and was aware that large quantities of it were wasted. It came ashore in such quantities in some places, that the owner of the farm in front of which it had been thrown did not use a tithe of it. He believed when a right of way leading to the shore had been used for over twenty-one years by the public, it constituted a title by possession on their part which could not be broken by law, if people had but the courage to try it. He felt it was the duty of the House to legislate for the many, even though it should be at the expense of the few.

The resolution that the petitions be referred to a committee to report thereon was agreed to.

Committee—Messrs. Bell, Reilly, Laird and Prowse.

Debate on the Address resumed.

Hon. the SPEAKER said he was an anti-confederate, had been one from the first, and none of the arguments used had in the least induced him to change his opinion. He was sorry that since last session the learned member for Charlottetown had strayed from the anti-confederate ranks, and whose able support they had thereby lost; but the hon. member might have had good reason for changing his mind on this subject. He would look for a moment at the finance side of the question. We were to receive £100,000, and for which

we were asked to give up the rights and liberties of the people of this Island. He would ask was such a sum a sufficient compensation for the liberties, rights, privileges and revenues of this Colony? Our revenue this year was up to £90,000, and he did not doubt but that in two years more it would reach £100,000. If we became, or were now a part of the Dominion, we would then have a uniform tariff. Ours now was but 11 per cent., while that of the Dominion was 14 or 15 per cent. If our tariff had been as high as that of the Dominion for the past year, the revenue would have come up to that figure. Out of union, as we now were, with the tariff of this year, he felt that, according to the increase of population, in two years our revenue would be equal to the amount we would receive, and that in ten years it would greatly exceed that amount. He would like to know to whom would this increased revenue belong? Would Canada put her hands into her own treasury and pay that surplus over to us? In consideration of the loss sustained by this Colony in having been deprived of its public lands, it was proposed to allow us £200,000, which sum, if possible, was to be obtained from the Imperial Government; if not thus secured, Canada proposed to give us the money herself, but he doubted very much if she would ever pay it. The amount of our indebtedness, £150,000, had been incurred for a laudable purpose. So much was this the case, he had never heard any complaints from the people respecting it. No, not even among those who were on properties for which the Government had been allowed to purchase at rates which made it necessary to fix the price higher than twelve or thirteen shillings per acre, which was the highest price fixed by law for these lands. The country was improving from one end of the Island to the other; homesteads were being erected, and the people were contented. He could not, therefore, but conclude that the purchasing of the lands had been a benefit to the country. It was, he considered, the duty of the land office to see that the lands *sold were paid for* as the instalments became due; of the Government Surveyor to mark out and describe lands that were to be disposed of, in the different parts of the country, and of the Government to use their efforts to have them taken up and improved. By pursuing this course our debt would be gradually wiped off, without the aid of

Canadian money. He did not doubt but that Great Britain desired this Colony to unite with Canada, but did not believe she would use force or compel us to do so against our will. Under our constitution, every man had freedom of speech and action, and as there were no more loyal people under the British flag than those of this colony, he had no fears that coercive measures would ever be adopted. Great Britain had no claims upon us. We paid our civil list, were buying out our lands, and had made provision for the payment of the Lieutenant Governor's salary. In this he thought we had acted prematurely. We should have tested the home government more fully on this question. However, as we had now to pay him, he thought we should have the privilege of appointing that officer. Having been thrown upon our own resources, we ought to be left to enjoy our own opinions. This colony was small in comparison with Canada, but, like those of the New Dominion, we were an agricultural people, and their products were similar to our own. Any market Canada could offer us were, like Halifax, easily supplied. We had had markets in England, Newfoundland, the West Indies and the United States, but none suited us so well as the latter. Since the repeal of the reciprocity treaty in 1864, we found the British market a good one. He did not know but that we had done as well since 1864 as we had from 1854 up to that time. In all the markets we go to, except Canada, where our products were taken, there we could purchase our supplies. In England we should buy our goods, because they took our products in return; while in the Dominion if we bought goods, we had to pay for them with the gold and silver which was required for circulation among ourselves. We were told that an inter-colonial free trade would spring up, but how, he was at a loss to see. When the despatches were laid upon the table the question would be more fully considered, meantime he would prefer to bear the ills we had than fly to those we knew nothing of.

Dr. JENKINS, in rising to speak, did so under a deep sense of responsibility, and felt how unable he was to set the question before the public in its proper light. He had always been in favor of confederation in the abstract, but opposed the Quebec Scheme because he considered it was unjust to this Island. He consider-

ed it an important question, and thought the committee should look at it from such a stand point of view as would enable it to see what its duty was. He thought all would concede that our entering the Dominion was a matter of indifference to her people. Canada would scorn to give us £200,000 to induce us to unite with her. When confederation was first mooted it was a matter of indifference to Canada whether we joined them or not; it was the same still. Canada, in this matter, was merely the mouth-piece of the mother country. The Dominion counted their revenue by millions; we counted ours by thousands. Our revenue would be about the fortieth part of theirs. He could not see that our entering into confederation would be the least advantage to Canada. The reason the 800,000 dollars was offered us, was simply because Great Britain suggested that she should deal liberally with the Island, and he could not see that it was fair to say Canada would take it out of us in another way, for the Dominion could not tax us without taxing her own people. In many parts of the Dominion they were already complaining, and even groaning under their municipal taxes, and no doubt they would resist any undue increase in their tariff. He believed the holding of those colonies was a source of weakness to Great Britain, and the means through which the United States caused her much annoyance; and that if she should even be forced to protect these North American colonies against the United States, it would cost an immense loss of blood and treasure; and even then he doubted if it could be successfully done. Great Britain seemed to say to the colonies, "you have grown to your manhood. It is dangerous for us to hold you any longer; we will allow you to do for yourselves." It was a step toward independence, and one that would eventually lead to annexation. He did not intend to enter minutely into the financial part of the argument, but would merely say that, assuming we were, by the terms, to lose something, he thought it unreasonable for this colony to suppose it would be allowed to resist the Imperial policy. If we did not unite and become a province of Canada, we would be tacked on as a dependency of the Dominion. It appeared to him that the people had been struck with a panic, and that the officers (he meant the gov.) should have endeavored to rally and in-

spire them with new courage; instead of thus acting, the officers in command told the people to run from the imaginary foe—confederation. He came in contact frequently with the country people, had a firm faith in their good sense and intelligence, and believed they were prepared to deal with this question properly. The present leaders of the people seemed to think that by trimming their sails to meet the popular breeze they would be able to command the ship of state and steer it into the harbor whither they wished to go. But candor induced one of the officers to admit last evening that the probability was the popular breeze would land him in the bosom of his own family. The time he believed had arrived when public men would have to take a stand upon this question. If we refused fair terms, he was persuaded a pressure would be brought to bear upon us. He would prefer that Great Britain should compensate us for the loss of our public lands, but if this could not be effected, he could see no valid reason for refusing to accept payment from the Dominion. The idea that it would entail disgrace upon us to accept the \$800,000 was ridiculous.

Mr. Howar said the hon. member for Charlottetown (Dr. Jenkins) seemed to think the people had been struck with a panic. It was not so, and the hon. member would find that the antis had as much courage as himself, nor could he (Dr. Jenkins) prove his assertion. It was the mature and deliberate opinion of the people of this Island that to enter confederation would be to give up their liberty, and he would have the hon. member to know that the people were not so ignorant, or easily struck with a panic; neither would he find them ready to run from an imaginary foe. They valued their privileges, and were prepared to defend them. The hon. member for the city (Mr. Brecken) said that the game of isolation was played out, and that we could not expect to be allowed to remain much longer as we were. In a few minutes afterwards he said the government ought to make proposals to the Dominion, and if they were not accepted we could fall back into our former position. If isolation was played out, he did not see how it could be possible that we, after making proposals to Canada, could fall back into our former position. The hon. member said also that after the next general election the members around this board would be

all antis, and that they would be an inferior class of politicians. This certainly was not very complimentary to the people of this colony, eight out of every nine of whom were anti-confederates. Did the hon. member believe that all the talent and respectability of the colony was confined to this small minority? The hon. member appeared to have arrived at such an absurd conclusion. That they were so incapable of judging for themselves he (Mr. H.) did not believe. He was aware an impression prevailed, or was attempted to be created, to the effect that if the \$800,000 was received as an equivalent for the loss of our public lands that they were to be had by the tenants as a free gift. He (Mr. H.) endeavored to disabuse some people of this impression by assuring them that it would in no way alter the arrangements now in operation under the land purchase bill, but that the tenants would have to pay for their lands by instalments as they now did. He did not believe we, even if we were to join the Dominion, would receive that money. The despatch merely said they would use their endeavors to obtain it; and he felt satisfied the Dominion government would keep the question open for an indefinite period of time. This Island did not want Canadian money to buy out the lands of the proprietors; if the proprietors would sell, there was money enough in the colony to pay for those estates.

Mr. BRECKEN said our position was different from that of Nova Scotia or New Brunswick. When confederation took place, they were from the first a part of the New Dominion, and the exceptions which had since been effected in favor of Nova Scotia, and which were complained of in Ontario, could not apply to this Island, for if we were going to join the Union, we would be doing so for the first time. Nova Scotia entered the union and afterwards complained of the terms. Her case was therefore like that of a contractor who, after he completed his engagement, demanded a larger sum than he was to receive. The hon. member should recollect that the powers of parliament were unlimited, and those powers might yet be used to cripple us. In our present position, upon what were we dependent but the good faith and protection of the British government? With respect to isolation, his opinion was that it was played out.

Mr. HOWAT wished to know, if isolation was played out, how could we fall back into our former position?

Mr. BRECKEN said if the government saw their way clear to propose new terms, the effort might be made, and if it was unsuccessful, we could resume our former position. He had stated that in all human probability at the next general election thirty anti-confederates would be returned to this House, and he said they would be selfish men—men whom a barley loaf would not satisfy. And he had said history proved this to be true, viz:—that any party or government who were not opposed by a healthy opposition was sure to soon become corrupt, and be disposed to ride rough shod over the shoulders of other men. But when making these statements he spoke in general terms, and of the general results of any party that were weakly opposed; nor did he mean but that it would in a limited sense apply even to the present party; and if the hon. member misunderstood him (Mr. B.) he was only sorry for the obtuseness of that gentleman. The hon. member had asked who sent us here. He (Mr. B.) had as much respect for the opinion and manliness of his supporters as the hon. member for Tryon had for his, and he believed the day was not far distant when they would view this matter differently from what they did now. He was sensible of the gravity of the question, and never for a moment supposed the farmers and electors generally on this Island would accept of confederation without considering it carefully, and acting entirely on their own judgment in the matter.

Mr. McNEILL understood the hon member yesterday to say that annexation would take place unless we went into confederation. Now if such a consequence were to result from our keeping out of the Dominion, he would not be surprised if the United States would reduce their tariff in favor of this Island, for, doubtless, if we had free trade with the United States, very few persons would be heard favoring confederation. Notwithstanding all he (Mr. McNeill) had heard, he still saw no reason why we should not remain as we were; for he thought it mattered little to Canada whether we united with her or not, for Canada, he believed, would eventually amalgamate with the United States. The hon member for the city (Dr. Jenkins) said so, only he would like to see us unite first with Canada, in order that it might be the sooner brought

about. It seemed to be the opinion of several distinguished men that annexation would, in the course of time, take place; and if it was true that it could not take place until we united with Canada, then, if such was the case, he did not wonder that Great Britain felt some anxiety on the subject, especially if she had a wish to retain the colonies. He thought the offer for union, if we desired it, should have been made by us, but as we had declared ourselves opposed to entering confederation, he thought the Dominion should not have made proposals to us at all. An argument had been attempted to be drawn in favor of confederation from the union effected in Germany; but he thought it did not apply to our case at all. If he understood what a panic was, he thought it was a feeling suddenly effected—something that took place very quickly—which he thought would not apply to the question of confederation, which had, in one form or other, been for six years before the people of this Island, who were as much opposed to it to-day as when the question was first mooted. Perhaps our young men now in college, when they came to occupy our places, might not see so much danger in the connection; and no doubt by that time it would be better understood. Public opinion might change, but at present it was entirely opposed to altering our position, and he felt convinced it would be dangerous for any Government to seriously entertain the question. Probably it was premature to provide so readily for the payment of the Lieut. Governor's salary, but he considered it was the last demand that could be made upon us, and perhaps none voted for it with more reluctance than he did. He thought that demand would yet appear as a blot upon Great Britain, whenever the history of this Island was considered, and the transaction recalled. Her statesmen might yet regret that they were parties to a demand which reflected dishonor upon those who made it. All we wished was fair play, and to be left alone. The force of argument which the confederates might have, and the influence they could command, we might safely meet with the unwavering fortress of public opinion. The people would refuse to accept of confederation upon any terms until the British Government did justice to this colony; and if that were done, our next duty would be to see if a union was likely to prove a cordial one; if not, it would be far better to keep out of it altogether. As long as he had a right to raise his voice in the Legislature, he would maintain that this colony was unjustly treated by Great Britain.

They separated us from Nova Scotia for the benefit of the proprietors; had made us pay our own civil list, and make provision for the payment of the Lieut. Governor's salary; all of which this colony was now doing; and it was also fast buying out the estates of the proprietors. It would, therefore, be exceedingly unjust to force us to unite with Canada.

Mr. McCORMACK thought the question had been pretty well ventilated, and when the proper time came to discuss the subject, he would be prepared to give his opinion. He was opposed to confederation, and represented a district that was also opposed to enter into a union with Canada, and his intentions were to oppose entering into confederation as long as it would be possible to do so; nor could he understand why Canada should manifest so much anxiety to get this Island into the Dominion. He thought it was a matter which concerned the people of this Island only, and Canada, in his opinion, should allow us to do our own work. He was satisfied we could manage our own little ship much better than they could do it for us, and thought if we went into the Canadian cradle and asked them to take care of us, we should receive a very severe rocking at their hands.

Mr. G. SINCLAIR said the protection of our little colony was a matter of grave importance, and caution should be used lest we hastily or unguardedly disposed of our rights. His opinions had not undergone any change from the first. He was opposed to confederation then, and was opposed to it still, even in the abstract. The hon. member for the city and isolation was played out, but he (Mr. S.) saw no occasion for drawing such a conclusion, or for making such a statement. Confederation did not originate with the Imperial Government. A proposal was made by Nova Scotia for a legislative union of the Maritime Provinces, and the hon. member for Georgetown (Mr. Haviland) did not then regard the movement as emanating from the Home Government, but as one evincing the desire of some of the colonial politicians who desired a wider field and broader basis for the display of their abilities. To the meeting originating out of that proposal of Nova Scotia the Canadian politicians came, and they, by proposing a wider sphere than the Maritime Provinces as a political field, aimed through the movement at settling the dispute between Upper and Lower Canada, and thereby had succeeded in having the two Canadas separated, and a stop put to the continual bickerings which took place be-

tween them. He believed all the interests of the other Provinces would be much better promoted had they yet retained their former position, and had full control as formerly in the management of all their local affairs. Reference had been made to a panic; but it was well known that the people of New Brunswick were induced by some such means to vote themselves into confederation, and he believed all would now allow that Nova Scotia was not fairly treated; and, knowing as we did, that Nova Scotia had made so many fruitless efforts to free herself, and that discontent still existed in New Brunswick, what would likely be our condition in the future when such was now the case with those who were geographically united with Canada? Our position was such that no terms could be offered to induce us to unite with the Dominion, or that it would be our duty to accept, which would be fair to the other parts of the Dominion to offer. He did not think that we should, even if going into union, accept of a fixed revenue. No man would accept of a position for a fixed salary where the expenses and labor would be constantly increasing; neither should this Island, even if it was going into union with Canada. Our wants would increase, and with them our expenses also. If we were in the Dominion we would have to bear the fortieth part of their expenses for all general purposes, and if we looked at the difference between our indebtedness and that of Canada, we would find that ours was by £20,000 less than it would have been had we been, previous to this, a part of the Dominion; hence, had we, after the union of the Provinces, been separated from the others, like Ontario from Quebec, we would have been allowed £20,000 less than was now offered us, and if we went on at the same rate, our position would be constantly improving. He thought that for several years to come we would not require a railroad, and therefore could live under a cheap mode of taxation. The country was yet in its infancy, and had but merely commenced the development of its resources, so that in twenty years time he believed the commercial and agricultural prosperity of this Island would be such that we ourselves would be astonished when we compared it with the past. We required to improve our facilities for trade; to buy in the cheapest market and sell our products where they would command the best price. As to the advantages to be derived from a free trade with the Dominion, he saw little to encourage us to hope for many benefits from that source. If the Dominion succeeded, we could ask to be admitted at any time. With

respect to the \$800,000, it had little influence with him. He thought it would be a long time before we should receive it; nor did he see what security or guarantee we had that we should ever obtain it. He was inclined to oppose confederation *in toto*.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND said it was difficult, if not impossible, to ascertain what the views of hon members were on the government side of the House on this question. He understood the hon member (Mr. Callbeck) to say that when he first saw the proposals of the "better terms" that he was in favor of them, and the same views were said to be entertained by Hon. Col. Secretary.

Hon. Mr. CALLBECK thought the hon member must have misunderstood him. What he said was that he took the terms home and gave them a careful perusal; and, after doing so, was convinced they were not just to Prince Edward Island.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND still thought the spirit of the hon member's address was, that he considered the terms favorable when he first read them; at all events he (Mr. H.) so understood him. He had listened to the remarks of the hon member for Bedeque, and admitted that they had more weight with him (Mr. H.) than those of all the other hon members who had spoken, for it was obvious the hon member had studied the subject; but still he must confess he could not tell to which side the hon member belonged, for, during the delivery of his able address, he first inclined to one side, and then to the other. But in his statements he led the committee into a few of the secrets contained in the correspondence which took place between the Government and the Canadian delegates. The hon member for Princetown stated that had we been in the Dominion at the time of the union, it would have made a difference of £20,000 in the annual amount we would have received out of the general revenue. But the hon member should recollect that the debt of Canada had been caused by the construction of important public works, which cost us nothing, but from which we, in common with them, would receive important advantages. One of the chief complaints of Upper Canada was, that Lower Canada received more than her fair proportion of the revenue for her public works, and the same objection was now being made respecting the Maritime Provinces. If, as some hon members concluded, confederation or annexation was our destiny, and if the views of hon members entertaining such sentiments were correct,

they would do well to study the constitution of the United States; for if they did, they would find that each state must defray all state expenses by a state tax, and that no state received aid for any purpose out of the general revenue. Hence, confederation presented advantages superior to annexation in this respect.

Adjourned for one hour.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND, in reply to the hon. member from St. Peters, Mr. (McCormack) who said he did not understand what Canada wanted of us, stated that Canada wanted us to assist her in forming one united nation, extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific, without any hostile tariffs to obstruct trade, a uniform currency, and a connected postal service. There were reasons laid down by some of the ablest statesmen in favor of union. Lord Carnarvon, in a despatch sent to our Lieutenant Governor in 1867, stated—

"That in time of war and tumult, the armed force of British North America should be one under one supreme command—that in time of peace, their commerce, their post, their great lines of communication, and, with due regard to local usage, their civil and criminal jurisprudence, should be governed by the same rules; that an extended public opinion should be brought to bear on the settlement of narrow local controversies, and that the most important affairs of British North America should be administered by a combination of the ablest men whom it can furnish—these benefits appear to me so indisputable, so pervading, and so permanent in their character, that I should be wanting to my duty if I did not express to you, and through you to the community over which you preside, my earnest hope that no trifling obstacle will be allowed to interfere with their full attainment."

The principles enunciated by Lord Carnarvon had been endorsed by the government which now wields the destinies of the British Empire, by its leading men—Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Bright. Mr. Bright had been looked upon as a man who was anxious to get rid of these colonies, but this was a great mistake. Despatches had been sent out by the Colonial Minister, giving reasons for confederation. The British government wished us to unite, not that she might get rid of us, but that we might be no longer in leading strings, but become a

powerful nation under the meteor flag of Great Britain. The London *Times*, the leading newspaper of England, as had been quoted by Mr. Brecken last night, repudiated the idea of Britain giving up her colonies—Englishmen would shed the last drop of their blood in defence of these colonies. We had also the opinion of a statesman, who was even, if possible, more radical than John Bright, Mr. Forster, who said—

“I rejoice that the question of the colonies has been brought forward, inasmuch as it has made it clear to me that neither in England nor in the colonies do we intend that the empire should be broken up.”

He (Mr. Haviland) did not wish for either annexation or independence, but to retain our connection with Great Britain. While we were under the ægis of Great Britain there would be no danger of our being swallowed up by the United States, but if we retained our present isolated position, that result would be almost inevitable. It was not the glory argument alone that would induce England to retain her hold of these colonies, there was also the necessity for having a friendly port for her ships in case of war with America. It was not boasting to say that Britain was mistress of the seas. The Americans themselves acknowledged that they had no navy that could cope with that of England; and when the *Monarch*, that took the remains of George Peabody to America, dropped anchor in American waters, she had been thronged almost day and night with an admiring crowd. When Mason and Slidell were taken out of a British ship by the Americans, England demanded them back, and sent the flower of her army across the Atlantic to be prepared for any contingencies that might arise. A great deal had been said about the Munroe doctrine, held by the Americans, but that did not interfere with us, it was only to prevent nations of Europe from establishing new colonies on this continent. The hon. member from Wilmot Creek (Mr. Laird) had laid down the principle that the Dominion would never prosper because they had paid gold for some of their territory, but the United States was a prosperous country, and a

great part of their territory had been purchased. In 1803 the United States purchased the whole of the region west of the Mississippi, then called Louisiana, which included not only the present State of that name, but Arkansas, Missouri, Wisconsin, Iowa and the vast, wild region of the west, for fifteen millions of dollars. In 1818, the disputes with Spain were settled by a treaty ceding the whole territory of Florida to the United States as an indemnity for the claims of American merchants against that power. Five millions of dollars were paid by the American government to the claimants, which may be considered the purchase money of Florida. New Mexico and Upper California were purchased from Mexico in 1848 for fifteen millions of dollars. They had also recently purchased Russian America for a considerable sum. The States of America would never have become such a great nation had they remained separate. The whole revenue that could be raised by the States before they united was only three hundred thousand dollars, although their population was about four millions; while the revenue of the Dominion with about the same population amounted to fourteen million dollars. If the Dominion was going to come to grief, as had been stated by some hon. members, why was it that the Americans were watching the course of events in these colonies so anxiously. The governors of some of the States had thought it necessary to warn their legislatures against what was now taking place in these Provinces. They knew that if we had not a bond of union, we would be like the bundle of sticks—very weak when separated, and likely soon to join the Republic. Governor Chamberlain, of the State of Maine, had made use of the following language to his legislature :—

“The effort is now being made in the British Parliament to effect the consolidation of the Provinces. If it is successful, the result cannot but be injurious to us. The friends of this country in the Provinces are earnestly opposing the scheme. It is a matter of more concern to us than may appear at first sight, and I cannot fail to press the subject upon your attention, not doubting that you will see occasion to make such remonstrance as you are able, and to secure

the most potent dissuasions of the United States Government."

The speech of Senator Sumner had ended in a fizzle, but it had put the people of Great Britain on their mettle, and they had stated that they were prepared to defend their Government in the position she had taken on the *Alabama* question. One of the greatest statesmen of America, Secretary Seward, gave the following as his opinion of British America:—

"Hitherto, he says, "in common with many of my countrymen, I have thought Canada, or, to speak more properly British America, a mere strip lying north of the United States, easily detachable from the parent state, but incapable of maintaining itself, and, therefore, ultimately, nay, right soon to be taken in by the Federal Union, without materially changing or affecting its condition. *I have dropped this opinion as a national conceit.* I see in B. N. America, reaching, as it does, across the continent, from the shores of Labrador and Newfoundland to the Pacific, and occupying a considerable belt of the temperate zone, traversed equally with the United States by the Lakes, and enjoying the magnificent river St. Lawrence, with its thousands of islands in the river and gulf, a *region grand enough* for the seat of a great empire. In its wheat-fields, its inexhaustible lumber lands, the most extensive now remaining on the globe, its invaluable fisheries, and its yet undisturbed mineral deposits, I see the elements of wealth. I find its inhabitants vigorous, hardy, energetic, perfected by the Protestant religion and British constitutional liberty. I find them jealous of the United States and of Great Britain, as they should be, and, therefore, when I look at their resources, I know they cannot be conquered by the former, nor permanently held by the latter.

Those opinions of a great statesman did not coincide with that of hon. members who looked upon the Dominion as a narrow, insignificant strip. The Americans had a great deal to do with respect to the disturbance in the North-west territory; Americans had been settling there with the expectation that it would finally become a state of the Union. The New York Chamber of Commerce had sent their opinions of this great region to Congress:—

"The region of Lake Winnipeg, like the valley of the Mississippi, is distinguished for the fertility of its soil, and for the extent and gentle slope of its great plains, watered by rivers of great length and admirably adapted to steam navigation. It will, in all respects, compare favorably with some of the most densely peopled regions of Europe. In other words, it is admirably fitted to become the seat of a numerous, hardy and prosperous community. It has an area equal to eight or ten first-class American states. Its great river, the Saskat-

chewan, carries a navigable water line to the base of the Rocky Mountains. It is not at all improbable that the valley of this river may offer the best route for a railroad to the Pacific. Red River, in the north, navigable in connection with Lake Winnipeg for eight hundred miles, directly north and south, is one of the best adapted for steam in the world, and waters one of the finest regions of this continent. Along the shores of this lake for a distance of two hundred miles northwards, the mean summer heat is equal to that of Bordeaux in France, and at Cumberland, on the Saskatchewan, the summer temperature is higher than that of Paris. The soil is for the most part a black mould of great depth and fertility, producing a plump and heavy wheat of from twenty to forty bushels to the acre. Potatoes, barley and oats can be profitably cultivated between the forty-ninth and fifty-fourth parallels of latitude, and Indian corn to the fiftieth. A hundred miles to the east of the Rocky Mountains commences a great coal-bed, sixty miles in width, and extending over sixteen degrees of latitude, to the Arctic Sea."

Had quotations been taken from the periodicals of the Dominion, hon. members might say the descriptions had been too highly colored, but as they had been taken from those who were almost enemies of the Dominion, they would not likely be overdrawn. Since the Canadians had obtained this vast territory, and the emigration fever was rife in Great Britain, it was probable the population of the Dominion would increase very rapidly; and stalwart energetic men, when they took up their abode in a new country, soon earned for themselves a competency, and added to the material wealth of the country. Some hon. members had stated that if we bought any goods in the Dominion we would have to pay for them in gold, but statistics showed that we exported to the Dominion, in 1868, £107,473 19s 1d. worth of our products, while, during the same year, we sent to England, not taking into account new ships, £103,764 13s. 8d. worth, and to the Republic only £48,031 19s. 7d. worth, so that our exports to the Dominion were greater than to England and nearly three times as much as to the States. Woollen cloths could be purchased more cheaply in the Dominion than in Great Britain, for the manufacturers of Canada were now exporting to the old country and competing with British manufacturers, although obliged to pay a fifteen per cent. tariff. Boots and shoes also, and ironmongery

of all descriptions were manufactured in Canada, and under confederation we should get all these articles duty free. A great deal had been said about bribery, but if the confederates were taunted with having received Canadian gold, they could retort by saying that their opponents had received annexation greenbacks, but he (Mr. Haviland) did not believe that either party had received any bribes. Confederation was only a question of time, but all reforms were agitated a long time before they were carried, because there was a certain class of persons who were always averse to change. He (Mr. Haviland) was surprised that there were so many members in the House who had not spoken against the principle of confederation, but had only objected to the terms which the Dominion had offered us. It was a childish argument to say that Canada would not pay the \$800,000, as it could be definitely settled how and when the money should be paid, before we consented to unite. If hon. members were of opinion that confederation would be an advantage to the people of this Colony, and would be the means of extending the period of British rule on this side of the Atlantic, it was their duty to let the Dominion Government know on what terms they would consent to go into the Union, and if Canada refused to comply with reasonable terms, the fault of not having these colonies united would lie with her and not with us.

Mr. REILLY said that when this question of confederation was mooted a few years ago, he was one of the first to take up the subject in the press and show the injustice of the Quebec scheme. He was gratified at the time to find that the views of the vast majority of the people of the country accorded with his own, and on reviewing the position then taken, the only mistake he had to acknowledge as having made at that time was stating that the scheme had been got up by ambitious colonial politicians, whereas it was now known that it was the settled policy of the Imperial parliament. He desired to approach the subject with calmness and not be guilty of using such

unparliamentary language as the hon. member for Charlottetown (Mr. Brecken) had used towards hon. members on this side of the House, when he referred to them as this and that man. Such language was inexcusable in one who prided himself on his parliamentary experience. A union of these Colonies founded on proper principles, might, at some indefinite period in the future, prosper; but the scheme had been too hurriedly prepared during the progress of the American civil war, when, as it appeared to him, the British Government became alarmed at the colossal military strength displayed by the Republic, and wished to have a nation established on this continent that would be a counterbalance to republicanism. In this the Imperial Government were perfectly right, and he regretted that the treatment of the parent state towards this Colony had been such as to have its call upon our loyalty responded to with coolness and indifference. There was not the slightest fear but that the British Government would always protect Her Majesty's subjects, for a proof had been given when they expended such a large sum of money in rescuing a few captives in Abyssinia, and also in the case of Mason and Slidell. A nation that was to last throughout time should be gradually formed, and a great mistake had been made in forcing confederation on these Colonies in such a hurry; and to this cause might be attributed the disturbance at the Red River and the disaffection in Nova Scotia. The people of this Island had opposed the Quebec scheme because it was unjust, and he (Mr. Reilly) was prepared to oppose the present terms, for they were better than those of the Quebec scheme only in a pecuniary point of view—there was no difference in constitutional points. The people of this Island had been unjustly dealt with by Her Majesty's Government, in regard to the land question, and although they were still thoroughly loyal, yet if an attempt were made to force them into confederation, it would test their loyalty pretty severely. When the people of this Island were called upon to surrender

their free government and join a people with whom they had hitherto had little connection, they were justified in acting very cautiously. The system of representation in the Dominion Senate was unjust—Canada had an overwhelming majority. In the republic of America, the smallest state had the same representation in the senate as the largest. The Dominion would have many railroads and other public works, for which, in the event of union, we would have to help to pay, while we could make no use of them for many months in the year. Instead of receiving the fixed sum of eighty cents per head, we should receive a certain amount in proportion to our taxation so that as our revenue increased we would get the benefit of it. These were some of the reasons which induced so many persons to avow themselves anti-confederates, and which he would, when the propositions came before him, enter into more fully. The hon. member for Charlottetown had not been very courteous in designating those who opposed confederation, "powder monkeys," "camp followers," and "smelt fishers." When the union of Ireland and England was consummated, Catholic emancipation was guaranteed, but over twenty years elapsed before it was obtained, and the land question was still unsettled.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND said that Catholic emancipation had not been mentioned in the act of union between England and Ireland, but only promised by some members of parliament, and they had failed to carry it.

Mr. REILLY said that we had only the promise of a government which, having so many difficulties to contend with, could not reasonably be expected to carry out their promises, were they ever so desirous of doing so. The people of this Island had so far worked out their destiny, and they could get along very well for the future without uniting with Canada. He (Mr. Reilly) would never agree to any action being taken on this question without the consent of the people.

Mr. BRECKEN—Did the Queen's Printer allude to him when he said that some hon. member had called him (Mr. Reilly) "that man"? If he (Mr. B.) had used the expression, he had done so unintentionally, and would withdraw it. That hon. member was in error when he charged him with calling persons in this House "powder monkeys."

Mr. REILLY understood him to use the expression.

Mr. BRECKEN—It was applied to parties outside of the House. The hon. member had twitted him (Mr. B.) with using disrespectful language, but such a charge came with a very bad grace from one who, through the *Vindicator*, had attacked female virtue, and defamed the teacher of the Normal School.

Mr. REILLY would not allow the hon. member to misrepresent him, or proceed without proof for his assertions.

Mr. BRECKEN—The documents were in the Library, and could be obtained if necessary. The hon. member had denied that he was in favor of confederation, but he (Mr. B.) could prove that his views on that question were the same as his own. It was amusing to see him stand up here and claim to be an anti-confederate, when every person knew that he had been playing fast and loose on the matter. It would have been more honorable in him to have given some credit to another journalist in the colony, who had been a much more consistent opponent of confederation than the Queen's Printer. The hon. member had referred to the Abyssinian war, and to the Mason and Slidell affair in support of the view that the mother country would protect her colonies. These cases were indeed evidences that Great Britain would not allow her subjects to be ill used by savages, nor her flag to be dishonored on the high seas. The abrogation of the reciprocity treaty was a charge which had been brought against the Canadian government, but he (Mr. B.) had good reason to know it was the Americans themselves who abrogated the treaty. We had heard that when the hon. member for St. Peters came into this House a political child, he came in an anti-confederate. True, he did; and when we remembered that he had, through the agitation of this question, been enabled to defeat an honorable and talented gentleman, who had long served his party faithfully and well, it did not much redound to his credit. Yes, that gentleman, after his faculties had become impaired, he (Mr. Reilly) had bitterly attacked, and sought to deprive of his bread, though trained in his office and

taken into his confidence; and it was not until the clouds of the valley had closed over one to whom he owed so much, and who could no longer meet him in the political field, that he passed upon him a feeble eulogy. There was no doubt that the hon. member for St. Peters had obtained his seat in this House because he was an anti-confederate, but what were his opinions now? His paper had been until lately pretty silent on the question, but it had hinted that it was this Island's best policy to get as favorable terms as she could, and enter the union; and he had heard a similar expression of opinion from himself.

Mr. REILLY asked what he had heard from himself.

Mr. BRECKEN—That as Hon. Mr. Howe had accepted the situation on receiving better terms for Nova Scotia, our true interest was to get the best terms we could and go into the union also.

Mr. REILLY denied it.

Mr. BRECKEN—He might deny it as much as he pleased, but it was nevertheless true. Yet this was the gentleman—this was the hon. member who stood up here and told him (Mr. B.) that he ought to carry out the wishes of his constituents. There was no occasion for such advice, for, though he (Mr. B.) had the whole power in his own hands, he would not vote the Island into confederation without the consent of the people. He entirely disapproved of the manner in which Nova Scotia had been thrust into confederation by her legislators.

Mr. REILLY said the hon. member had travelled away from the subject under consideration to bring up matters connected with a newspaper, of which he (Mr. B.) had been part proprietor, but of which he had not been responsible editor; but he could say this, that the statements referred to as having been libellous in that paper had been proved by the affidavits of parties some of whom were now in their graves. With respect to the Hon. Mr. Whelan, he admitted that he had been for a short time in that gentleman's office, but when there he had always held his own independent views. He was under no obligation whatever to Mr. Whelan. We were both at one time opposed to union, and it was he that receded from that position. After the step which Mr. Whelan had taken, much as he (Mr. R.) admired his genius and respected him for the valuable service he had rendered the cause of Liber-

alism in this colony, there was no course open to him (Mr. R.) but to oppose him on the question of confederation. It was not true that he had taken the bread from the late Queen's Printer. The office which he (Mr. R.) now held, he had never solicited from the party. With respect to his silence on confederation, he contended that it was not his place, while communications were being held with the government, to discuss the question. But he would ask where the hon. member for Charlottetown was now himself, if not on the fence? He had been a supporter of Mr. J. C. Pope's no-terms resolution, and here he was to-day speaking in favor of confederation.

Mr. BRECKEN explained that when he supported the no-terms resolutions, though he did not then like the wording of them, it was because he believed that the Quebec scheme would be adhered to. It was said at the time that not a word of it would be altered, to the dotting of an "i" or the crossing of a "t"; and if that were the case he thought it would be dangerous to open negotiations. In voting for these resolutions, he considered it advisable to let his consistency go, and do the best for the country.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD said the hon. Leader of the Opposition had this afternoon, in justification of the purchase of the North West by Canada, called his attention to the fact that the United States had frequently purchased territory. But he (Mr. L.) would ask whether the Republic had ever purchased territory where the people of the place were opposed to the transfer? He thought the hon. member could not point out a single instance of the kind. And more than that, he would ask when the Thirteen Colonies united whether any one of them received a sum of money to induce it to enter the confederacy? They could not afford such things; they had no pampering mother ready to guarantee them loans to make purchases or offer inducements; their very poverty was a guarantee that the arrangements between them would be founded on justice and fair play. The hon. Leader of the Opposition had stated that the Dominion was the third maritime power in the world; this might be true of Canada commercially speaking, but where was her navy, or the funds to build it? One of the causes of the Red River rebellion, he said, was the influx from the United States of immigrants who had gone there to stir up opposition to the transfer of the territory to the Dominion.

He (Mr. L.) would pit against this statement that of a greater statesman than even the Leader of the Opposition, namely, the Hon Joseph Howe, who said that the North West troubles chiefly arose from the disaffection of the employees of the Hudson Bay Company, who thought they would get nothing by the sale of the territory—that all the money would go to the shareholders of the Company, and their claims would probably be entirely overlooked. The inhabitants of Red River were not all half breeds and indians, but many of them were Scotchmen, who would not like to see their liberties trampled upon; however, though they were all half breeds that was no reason why their rights should not be respected. If any government was to propose purchasing this Island irrespective of the wishes of the people, he (Mr. L.) could fancy how the shrill tones of the hon Leader of the Opposition's voice would be raised in indignantly denouncing the proceedings. The hon member had also referred to the importance of having a railway running through British territory to the Pacific. Hundreds of miles of country through which such a railway would have to pass were barren, and the whole of it covered with snow nearly six months in the year, consequently the expense of keeping the line clear, together with the limited traffic it would draw for some time, would make it no very desirable undertaking. He (Mr. L.) thought it necessary to allude to remarks several times made by hon members of the Opposition respecting the course pursued by parties outside this House. He maintained that if any hon member wished to reply to statements outside, he should go outside to meet his opponent, and not come in here to make accusations under the protection of the sergeant-at-arms. Some gentlemen appeared to be horrified because one portion of the press had charged the other with "bribery and corruption."

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND said his remarks on this subject were in reply to the hon member, Mr. McNeill.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD.—Forty-eight hours ago, before Mr. McNeill had spoken in this debate, the hon Leader of the Opposition had referred to the charges of bribery and corruption made outside the House, and he (Mr. L.) would ask what right had the squabbles of the press to be dragged in here?

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND said he had the right to speak in this House on any outside question he pleased.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD.—Let the press outside answer the press outside; but since the matter had been brought up here, he would venture to say, judging from documents which had been published, that a portion of the press of the Colony had been tampered with, he would not say through the agency of Canadian, but of confederate gold. When he used the expression confederate gold, he meant some inducement that caused a reversion of policy. Now, this was rather a serious matter, for if the press, which was the fourth estate, could be tampered with, might not hon members of this House be dealt with in the same way, and then what would become of the rights of the colony? Hon members need not be so very indignant about the alarm sounded by the press; bribery had been brought to bear in the case of larger unions than ours. Look at the conduct of certain members of the Irish parliament at the time that country became united with England. Unhappy had been the results of that union, and he (Mr. L.) contended that where money was held out as an inducement to any country to unite with another, no union on such a basis could be expected to succeed.

Mr. BRECKEN would call it bribery when any inducement was held out to a public man to make him swerve from his own opinions. But he did not think that if a person chose to invest some hundreds of pounds in a printing establishment, it could be called bribery. It was easy to understand the difficulties with which the press had to contend in this country. They took up a certain course and pursued it, and if the cause they advocated should break down, they had then to turn right round. The hon member for Bedeque no doubt referred to a certain case which had lately occurred in this city, where a bill of sale had been given. If a man's talents and acquirements had been bought over to advocate a question, then it would be bribery; but, on the other hand, if it were only presses and type that had been bought, it would be simply a mercantile transaction. He (Mr. B.) had great respect for a portion of the anti-confederate press; it had hitherto accorded him justice, and sometimes perhaps more than justice, but if he should now happen to differ from it, he felt assured that such divergences would only be for a short time. He (Mr. B.) could not agree with the hon member for Bedeque when he argued that the government had only met

the delegates from Ottawa informally, or simply as private gentlemen. If this was the case, why, he would ask, was their visit referred to in the opening speech? The delegates were authorized to come here by a resolution of the Dominion parliament, and it was not very probable that they would consider their mission fulfilled by merely holding a conference with the members of the government as private gentlemen. No, no; Sir George Cartier, the Hon. Mr. Illey, and the Hon. Mr. Kenny were too shrewd and experienced politicians to lay themselves open to the taunt of Mr. Galt and others in the Canadian parliament that they had offered terms to the Island government which the latter would not accept. He (Mr. B.) presumed that the proposals from Ottawa were something like the terms which the delegates had been given to understand, by the government, would be acceptable. If not, it was strange that the Dominion government should waste paper in sending down these proposals here. If the hon Colonial Secretary had used the strong language in presence of the Canadian delegates which he had in this House, and the hon member, Mr. Callbeck, had told them it was better for this colony to wait until we saw how the Dominion succeeded, he (Mr. B.) felt certain we would not have had such proposals brought to our notice. Whether it was before or after the visit of the delegates that the hon member for West River took the terms home with him, lighted a candle, and in the silence of night studied over them until he arrived at the conclusion that they were neither just nor liberal to this colony, he (Mr. B.) was unable to say, but he hoped that ere this time the Canadian gentlemen had received the benefit of his cogitations. (Laughter.)

Hon. COLONIAL SECRETARY said that the hon member for Charlottetown had referred last night to the blind king of Hanover being driven from his throne, and instanced Britain's non-intervention in the matter as an evidence that she was in favor of Prussian confederation. The conduct of the British government with regard to that king, and the German question generally, was more influenced by the opinions of the Manchester school of politicians, than by any desire to see the consolidation of the Prussian empire. With respect to the taunts of the Opposition about the government not having power to settle the land question, he (Col. Sec.) believed they were just as able to settle the land question here as Mr. Gladstone was to settle the same question in Ireland. Probably most hon members had seen that

the Canadian government had advertised for six schooners to protect the fisheries. He contended they would do no good as regarded the fisheries, and would be very apt to create a disturbance with the American government, and bring on a war, which might involve this colony in trouble and expense.

Adjourned till to-morrow.

THURSDAY, March 10.

Small Debt Court.

Mr. OWEN presented a petition praying for the establishment of a Small Debt Court at Cardigan Cross Roads.

Question of Privilege.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND said it was not often that he attempted to interfere with the Press, but in the last *Herald*, a paper conducted by an important officer of the government, and a member of this House, in the leading article under the heading "Legislative," he found he was charged with having committed a breach "of privileges, which was regarded as an outrage upon the House." This statement he (Mr. H.) had, in justice to himself, to say was not correct. He appealed to the chair to say whether he had, on the day the House was opened this session, committed a breach of the privileges of the House, as stated by the *Herald*.

Mr. SPEAKER said the hon member had not. If he had he (Mr. S.) certainly would have called the hon member to order.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND was satisfied, as he regarded the opinion of the hon the Speaker more important than any statement of the *Herald*.

Mr. REILLY did not agree with the propriety of calling in question in the House statements contained in any newspaper. If any publisher of a newspaper erred in any statements he might publish, he presumed the necessary correction would be made when attention would be called to it.

Debate on the Draft Address resumed.

Mr. ARSENAULT said as the question to which the paragraph referred was an

important one—one which might be regarded as the question of the day—and as it was expected that each member of the committee would declare his opinion on confederation, he would offer a few remarks. From what he had heard, he considered that the principle was admitted by almost every hon member who had spoken, except the hon member for Tryon (Mr. Howat) who had declared himself a no-terms man, and the hon member for Belfast (Mr. Duncan) who had also avowed himself a no-terms man. He (Mr. A.) supposed they might be regarded as the political giants of the anti-confederate ranks. While he was not in favor of the terms offered, he was not opposed to the principle, for were he to say he was opposed to confederation on any terms, to his mind it would sound like disloyalty. (Hear from Mr. Haviland.) It was the desire of the home government that the matter should be fairly discussed, and in the opening speech the Legislature was asked to give a calm and deliberate consideration to the subject. Some hon members had attended meetings and ascertained the opinions of the people, and formed their views at those meetings in accordance with the majority. His constituents had held meetings also, and those of them whom he heard speak upon the subject said they would not oppose terms that would be just and equitable; but if his constituents were equally divided on the question, he would feel it to be his duty to go against it with the hope that at some future time the people would view the question more favorably. Some hon members had spoken as if entering confederation would be selling our country. He did not see it in that light. He viewed it as an alliance, and that with people like ourselves. Those here who claimed to be descendants of natives of Scotland, Ireland, England or France, going to Canada would meet with the same class of people, (hear) the same customs, institutions and laws as were here. He viewed it in the light of the alliance of a young gentleman to a lady. If the one was suited for the other, it would be an advantage to both. But

one important condition was, it must be mutual, otherwise it would be an injury, if not the ruin of them both; and such were the conditions required before we should think of joining with the Dominion. Were we to unite with Canada, we would still have the management of all our local affairs, but if the union was effected against the will of the people, the alliance would not be happy, consequently he would be sorry to give a vote that would mar the happiness of the country. He thought the terms we would accept should be named, and if the Dominion would not grant them, then we would have a good excuse for remaining as we were; but if we said we would accept of no terms, he thought we could not fairly meet the people.

MR. HOWAT.—Name your terms.

MR. ARSENAULT would not take so much upon him. He had voted against the government on the resolution in favor of Mr. A. McNeill as summary reporter, because he considered him a useful officer. He had heard that some voted against Mr. McNeill because he opposed the government on confederation; if so, he thought it was a weak cause if it required this action to uphold it. It had been said that the synopsis of the debates printed in the papers was one-sided. The leading article in the *Patriot* of this morning was so. We heard something from the hon member for Georgetown (Mr. McAulay) about "watching," but he would like to know if the hon member (Mr. Howat) was the watchman of the House? At all events he had told him outside that he was watching him (Mr. A.) He knew that the hon member for Tryon was coming out with a long no-terms pledge. Before his constituents he had no doubt he (Mr. H.) would take the pledge, and with them he would leave the hon member. The government did not say it was against fair terms, neither was he (Mr. A.)

HON. THE SPEAKER said his hon friend the Leader of the Opposition and himself did not agree respecting the imports from the Dominion yesterday. He had taken some pains to ascertain what was exported to and imported from Canada.

HON. MR. HAVILAND.—The hon Speaker and he (Mr. H.) need not go into a dispute on this question. If he meant Canada, then he (Mr. H.) admitted he was correct, but understood the hon member to say the Dominion.

HON. THE SPEAKER was going to show that the payments made to Canada by our merchants were, to a great extent, made in bills of exchange, or in gold, which, as a consequence, was drawing from this Island the circulating medium required at home. In 1868 our imports from Canada amounted to £20,486, and our exports to £1,093, which was all he could find in the returns, and he wished to ascertain how the balance had been paid? It must have been drawn from the banks, and therefore had not been paid for by articles which were the growth and production of this Island, hence it must have drawn away the gold and silver required among ourselves. The exports to the United States from this colony in 1869 amounted to £72,308 14s. 9d., and this had been wholly paid for by the products of our farms and fisheries, and undoubtedly that was the country which best suited this colony to trade with. If we could induce the United States to reduce her tariff on some of our products which suited their market, it would be of greater advantage to us than an intercolonial free trade with the Dominion. The United States was a market we could not overstock, and were it not that since the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty we had the markets of Great Britain to go to, he did not know what we would have done. If the British Government would give us the privilege of our own waters, and allow us to enter into a commercial treaty with the United States, we would, he had no doubt, find that an arrangement could be arrived at which would be mutually satisfactory, and greatly to our advantage. But this Great Britain would not allow. But he believed, on account of our being out of the union, the United States had and would retain a more kindly feeling for the people of this colony than if they formed a part of the Dominion of Canada.

HON. MR. HAVILAND had misunderstood the hon the Speaker on the previous evening. Canada was a part of the Dominion, and so were Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and although the balance of trade was against us in Canada proper, yet it was not so in the other Provinces. Our merchants who purchased goods in Manchester paid for them in gold, which they procured in Liverpool or London for the products which find a market in these parts; and so was it in the Dominion. Bills in Canada were probably paid with gold procured in Halifax.

Mr. HOWAT would ask the hon member for Egmont Bay if he had, at the time of his election, expressed views similar to those he had now given utterance to? He felt that if he had, the hon member would not have had the trouble of stating them before this hon committee. The hon member classed the greater portion of the people with himself, and stated that they admitted the principle of confederation. This he (Mr. H.) did not believe. The hon member had said that the greater portion of the committee had accepted the principle, but he (Mr. H.) would leave him and his constituents to settle that point. He (Mr. H.) believed there were but two classes—the no-terms men and the confederates. He did not see what grounds we had to suppose that we could get terms that would justify us to accept, and confederates admitted the Dominion government had power to change the terms when it pleased. Were we in the Dominion, the terms granted by the present Ottawa government might be considered too liberal by their successors, who might therefore denounce them as a species of bribery by which we had been induced to join the Dominion. The hon member (Mr. A.) had not the moral courage to state the terms he would accept. No, he was watching to see what others would say. In regard to the wish of the Imperial government he (Mr. H.) was not yet certain that it had expressed any anxiety on the subject, and, even if it had, the Imperial Government changed also, and the next one might be quite indifferent about the

matter. Besides, our experience in the land question had proved to us that a despatch was not a law. Those who rebelled in Canada were not only forgiven, but their leaders were promoted by the home government to positions of honor, clearly proving that those who resisted the Imperial will were then right; and it would very likely be so with the people of this Island if they continued to resist confederation. Could the statesmen in England have a correct knowledge of the position of the people of this Island? It was unreasonable to suppose they could. He would admit the hon. Leader of the Opposition was an experienced statesman, yet he went to Quebec, signed the Report there agreed to, which he had since said was unjust to this Island. He (Mr. H.) merely mentioned this to show that even the hon. member was at that time mistaken, and he feared was mistaken yet; yes, and the greatest statesman might sometimes be mistaken. He understood the Hon. Mr. Haviland to say the Dominion would always retain her connexion with the old country; then, if so, how could she be called great until she was independent? There was another point. The hon. member said that many articles upon which we had now to pay a duty would, under union, come in free, but would the hon. member say the Dominion Government could do with less of a revenue than at present? No! such would not be the case; and when all her contemplated public works were undertaken, it would be found that the taxes would have to be increased.

Mr. ARSENAULT said that at the last election the hon. member for Tryon had a pledge which he desired candidates to subscribe to; but he believed those who did not do so had been just as faithful to the country as those who did. When he was returned he was not asked to take a pledge, nor was confederation spoken of. He did not speak about it, nor did the people. He supposed the *Patriot* might be regarded as the greatest anti-confederate paper in the Island, and yet it was not opposed to terms. When the new terms were made public, that journal

said that "they were not just and fair." The *Patriot* would, therefore, he inferred, have supported them had he considered them to be just and fair. It was said the \$800,000 were to be given to purchase out the lands from the proprietors, therefore he did not see that the price of lands would be so high if we joined the Dominion. Our land purchase act required that each estate should be made self-sustaining, at least as nearly so as possible, but in the event of our going into the Dominion and receiving that money, he thought the lands might be sold at a lower rate. If he was not correct, he would like an explanation.

Hon. P. SINCLAIR said the hon. member was not correct in the view he had taken. If the \$800,000 was received, it would be handed over to the local Government, which would have the management of the lands, and as there was a law which, while it required that each estate should, as nearly as possible, be made self-sustaining, yet it also prohibited the Government from making any profits on the land. He would be sorry if any such opinions were entertained in the country, for if so they were not correct and might do harm. But he must say he did not for a moment suppose that any hon. member of this committee entertained such an opinion. The price of the land was now reduced to cost and charges, and if we were into confederation the people would find that it would not be had any lower than it could be had now.

Mr. BRECKEN.—It was true the tenantry, even if we went into confederation, would have to pay as high for their lands as they did at present. The only difference would be that we had now to take it out of the general revenue. If the Dominion gave us the \$800,000, it would make no difference in so far as the price of the land was concerned. He agreed with the hon. member for Tryon that there were but two alternatives—*no terms, or terms*. The hon. member was more manly than the government which he supported, in his views upon that question.

Mr. HOWAT said he was not a supporter of the Government.

Mr. CAMERON.—Perhaps it would be those who were for just and equitable terms that would, in naming them, be as much of no-terms men as the hon. member for Tryon. For his part, he did not see what terms could be offered which would be an equivalent for what we were expected to give up. For it would not be possible to name terms to which some objection might not be taken. He (Mr. Cameron) contended that this Island was not to gain so much by the saving of duties on importations from the Dominion as some imagined, for the excise duties in Canada were so high that it would necessarily keep prices up to nearly their present rate, if not quite as high a figure as they were now bought at. One disadvantage would be that our duties would be immediately raised to 15 per cent., and probably very soon to 20 per cent. Certainly we had no guarantee that such would not be the case, for by the Imperial Act they could raise a revenue by any modes of taxation they might choose to adopt. The hon. member for Egmont Bay said he opposed some of the present terms, but was willing to accept fair terms. He believed the hon. members who said so might be as hard to satisfy as any of the no-terms men, for he felt satisfied the Dominion could not give terms that would be satisfactory, so that the action of the fair-terms men and the no-terms men would have the same effect, and for that reason he would oppose the scheme entirely. A great deal had been said about the railroads of Canada and the advantages this Island would derive from their use; but he might ask, would our remaining out of confederation deprive us of such advantages. His opinion was, that by entering into a union with Canada we had much to dread from the construction of the railroads and other contemplated public works of the Dominion. Nor did he believe the Pacific railroad would ever prove, even if built, as beneficial as its advocates imagined. One reason why he thought so, was, because it would consist of detached parts, and to show

the difficulties that had to be encountered, he thought it sufficient to state that the route selected was 200 miles north of a direct line, and this line had to be chosen in order to avoid passing through the territory of the United States. He regarded our isolation as our best protection, and thought we had more to hope than to dread by remaining as we were; nor could he see what better position the Dominion was in, with its population of four millions, when placed beside the United States with her 42,000,000, than we were. As to the great value of the North-west territory, he much doubted the correctness of statements which had been made. The population was only about 20,000, and, in 1868, they were in a state of starvation. The numerous obstacles to be encountered and overcome would, for a long time, continue. The country was liable to plagues, grass-hoppers, locusts, drought and inundations, any one of which was sufficient to destroy the crops of the country, and frequently did so. The country around Winnipeg had frequently been inundated. Great portions of its crops, after droughts, which were frequent, had also been destroyed by fire. The argument used, that the British government desired us to unite with the Dominion, he regarded as weak. Had we acted upon the expressed desire of the Home government, he felt convinced that this Colony would never have made an effort to have freed itself from the hands of the proprietors, and the tenantry to-day would still be under them. As to our being forced into confederation, he thought the opinion of John Bright and other distinguished statesmen in England, when speaking on the Nova Scotia difficulty, supplied the best answer to that objection. Mr. Bright said:—"Your scheme (of confederation) must break down if the Nova Scotians resolve they will not have it. It is not possible to coerce them. There is no statesman living in England who will venture to bring about the shedding of one drop of blood upon the continent." And no doubt the same arguments would be used and applied to this Island. That was if the argument contained in the logic of force was ever to be used. The hon. member for Egmont Bay had drawn a comparison between our union with Canada and that of a party getting married. He thought the comparison would not hold good, because there was too great a disparity between them; nor did

he at all think the rule would hold good in this case, for the party wooing was too extravagant and unequal to suit little Prince Edward Island. With respect to the idea that the \$800,000 was to be given to the tenantry, from whatever source the opinion originated, he thought it was somewhat generally believed. But he thought it would be a long time before that money would be received; the promise was all we should ever obtain.

Mr. BRECKEN observed that the terms offered to this Island were much more favorable than those offered to Nova Scotia. Our indebtedness was arranged on the same principle as that of the other Provinces. They, for their debt, had handed over to the Dominion government some costly and valuable railroads, the construction of which had greatly increased their liabilities; but our indebtedness was caused mainly by the purchase of the lands of the Colony, which would not be given up to the Dominion government; and yet for this debt we were credited, while we would give no equivalent to the general government. Yet to the extent of that indebtedness were we offered better terms than those given to Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

Hon. Mr. McAULAY admitted that the indebtedness of the Provinces was taken equally into account, but thought it was proper to enquire from what cause their indebtedness arose? The other Colonies got into debt by building railroads with borrowed money, and in their construction they circulated the money paid for building them among their people, so that they had received a two-fold benefit from them, the use of the roads and then the benefit arising from the circulation of the money. But how was it with us? We had the satisfaction of doing the patriotic work of buying out our own lands, which were wrongly given away. For the Cunard estate alone this Colony paid £57,000, all of which had walked away from the country; not one shilling of it was circulated among our people, and the same was true of other estates which were purchased by the government of this Island.

Mr. BRECKEN thought the fact had been overlooked by hon. members, that while Nova Scotia and New Brunswick had built these roads they had handed them over to the general government, and to the use of these, we, if in the Dominion, would have a common right, while they cost us nothing.

Hon. COL. SECRETARY said that Nova Scotia and New Brunswick were gainers by handing their roads over to the general government, for they were not paying working expenses; and he believed there were very few railroads that did pay the cost of working. He was told that one of the best lines in England—that between Liverpool and London—would not pay, if the traffic on it was confined to that between the two cities alone.

Mr. BRECKEN thought the roads in New Brunswick were paying, and even if they were not, it would be no argument against their construction, for they opened up the country and aided in developing its resources. Public men did not look upon them in the light of a paying matter, but in the broader view of the many benefits their construction conferred upon the country.

Hon. Mr. CALLBECK.—The hon. Leader of the Opposition said he understood him (Mr. Callbeck) to state that when the better terms came down he had said he was prepared to accept them, but he had been misunderstood, for, under no circumstances, would he consent to do so without submitting the matter to the people. For his own part, he would never consent to unite with the Dominion while it remained unconsolidated and discontented. Nova Scotia was forced in against the will of her people; nor could he see why it should have been kept in, for it was never united to Canada in accordance with the well-understood wishes of her people. If he understood the hon. member for Charlottetown (Mr. B.) correctly, he said if the Americans were disposed to conquer those colonies, they could do so, but that they would find them too expensive to hold. But until Great Britain gave us to understand that she would not defend us any longer, he would feel disposed to consider that she intended to stand by us. As to terms, he considered that, no matter what they were, it would be found that, like water, they would eventually find their level. If we were living in Nova Scotia and found that this Island had received more than a fair share of her proportion of the general revenue, he was inclined to believe we would feel disposed to make up the difference in some other way. Our Province could not expect to enjoy an advantage at the expense of others. The hon. Leader of the Opposition said yesterday he was glad that those on his (Mr. C.'s) side of the house had not gone into figures.

Hon. Mr. HAYILAND said it would be better if hon. members would reply to statements in which they did not concur, at the time they were made. He (Mr. H.) alluded to the tabular statement, and said he had no faith in the figures, but that there were something more grand in the question in which he had faith.

Hon. Mr. CALLBECK stated he had not admitted the principle. He had said that he considered it his duty to give proper consideration to any proposal coming from the British Government, and considered hon. members had a right to express their views. The British Government had frequently pledged itself to defend this Colony, but he was not aware that this pledge extended to the Dominion. The inter-colonial railroad, it was said, was being constructed more for military than commercial purposes, hence it would be of little commercial advantage, nor did he think the benefits to be derived from a free trade with the Dominion would prove as important to this Island as some supposed. He was aware that some thought vessels would be allowed to run from one Province to another without having to go to a custom house; but he found that a rule had been laid down by which a vessel on the payment of £5 could have a permit so to run; but then the master had to keep a book in which all the shipments were to be entered, which he thought would be found a troublesome arrangement. He admitted that goods coming in, which were the manufacture and production of the Dominion, would pay no duty, but doubted if they would be any cheaper, for he noticed that a spice mill had been put up in one of the Provinces, and a duty of 25 per cent. was placed upon ground spices, as a protection, he supposed, to that mill, and, of course, spices bought there would be that much higher than if this duty had not been imposed. Nor could manufactures be carried on successfully in the Colonies unless a high protective tariff was imposed. He was not aware that goods of any kind could, to any extent, be had on advantageous terms in the Dominion. A drawback on some goods could be had, it was true, but only when the bills amounted to a certain sum, and these purchased in one establishment. He knew if the free list was examined carefully, it would be seen that it was wholly limited to the articles manufactured in the Dominion. He objected also to the representation in the Senate. The senators in the United States had every six years to return to their constituents. In the Dominion, the ap-

pointment was for life, and he believed they need not, unless they chose, remain in the Colony they represented. He knew that the Receiver General for Nova Scotia spent a large portion of his time in Ottawa, and when a man had two homes it was hard to say where his interest was. He was far from considering that the taxation to which we should be subjected under confederation, ought to be considered as a bugbear, unless it could be shown that for such a corresponding value was to be received, which he thought could not be proved in this case. Reference had been made to salaries. He knew Mr. Kenny received £1,250 currency, as Receiver General, and did not, he thought, do as much as our Treasurer, who held quite as responsible a position, that was when all things were fairly considered. The Receiver General had a staff of six clerks, each of whom received £500 currency a year, and when one of these, some time ago, was found minus the funds which should have been forthcoming, he would ask if Mr. Kenny was held responsible? Mr. Kenny was not held accountable, hence he concluded that our Treasurer occupied a more responsible position than that of the Receiver General of the Dominion. It had been said that if we desired to have faithful officials they should be well paid; but he was satisfied that large salaries did not always secure a faithful discharge of duty. A large salary not unfrequently drew men into society and expensive habits of living that were injurious. He believed our public officers had proved themselves as honest and efficient as if their salaries had been higher.

Mr. BRECKEN hoped the hon. member did not bring that forward as an argument why our officials should not receive a fair salary.

Hon. Mr. CALLBECK did not bring it forward as such, but for the purpose of showing that it should not be used as an argument in favor of confederation. He knew that the municipal taxes in Canada were very high. He noticed that, in one county, (Dundas) it was as high as one per cent., and that a farmer whose property was valued as being worth £600 was assessed £6. It was true: they lowered the tariff from 20 to 15 per cent., but were forced to resort to a tax upon newspapers and other articles to make up this deficiency. Nor could we by accepting the terms offered expect to maintain our schools and other public works without resorting to direct taxation in some shape or other.

The third paragraph was then agreed to. House adjourned for one hour.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

House in committee on the Draft Address.

The fourth paragraph was read, relating to the purchase of proprietary estates.

Hon. COL. SECRETARY stated that during the recess the following estates had been purchased:—6,139 acres from Hon. T. H. Haviland, at four shillings per acre; 18,028 acres from Haviland and DeBlais, at eight shillings and nine pence per acre; and 3,728 acres from Mr. Hodgson, at thirteen shillings per acre, which made a total of 27,895 acres, at a cost of £11,643 4s. The Palmer estate had also been purchased, but as the title deeds had not yet been received in the Land Office no particulars could be given.

The paragraph was agreed to.

The fifth paragraph, relating to telegraphic communication was read.

Hon. COL. SECRETARY said he was happy to state that the telegraph line to Alberton had been completed, and a branch line had also been extended to Port Hill. It was also intended to run a line to Georgetown during the coming season.

Mr. BELL said that the telegraphic line to Alberton had been of great service to the people in that locality, and the operator had informed him that it was as remunerative as any line on the Island. It was such a convenience that the people were surprised that they had been content so long without it. A line should also be extended to Tignish, as the fisheries at that place were important, and a telegraph would enable the masters of fishing vessels to communicate with their owners with great facility. Twenty-eight hundred barrels of mackerel had been shipped from Tignish to Shediac, *en route* to the United States, last season, of which there was no account in the custom house.

Hon. the SPEAKER was glad that the telegraph to Alberton had given satisfaction, and he hoped that soon a line would be extended to Georgetown.

The clause was agreed to.

Two more paragraphs were also read and agreed to.

The eighth paragraph was then read, relating to exhibitions.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND stated that this was an important paragraph, and he expected to hear some statements from members of the Government respecting our agricultural resources, our infant manufactures, and all

our sources of wealth, and also the benefits that had resulted from exhibitions for the last two or three years. The exportation of wool was a loss to the Island, as it might just as well be manufactured into cloth, and thus furnish employment for a number of our workmen.

Hon. Mr. CALLECK said that the reports of past exhibitions had been published, and there was no necessity for giving any fuller explanation of them. It was intended this year to have a central Exhibition, as it was considered it would excite more interest among competitors than the county exhibitions.

Mr. McMILLAN thought that a central exhibition would not be much benefit to King's and Prince Counties, and a grant should be given them to hold county exhibitions. The people residing near the North Cape could not avail themselves of the advantages of an exhibition in Charlottetown, on account of their great distance from it.

Mr. HOWAT wished to know if the Government intended to withhold the usual grant for county exhibitions. It was out of the question for people at the extreme ends of the Island to attend an exhibition in Charlottetown.

Hon. Mr. CALLECK explained that exhibitions were to be held in King's and Prince Counties, and the successful competitors there could afterwards bring their articles to Charlottetown and compete with those of Queen's County at the general exhibition.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD said that hitherto Queen's County had an advantage over the other Counties, as, for instance, most of the stock imported had been kept near Charlottetown; and some persons were of the opinion that the other Counties could not compete with Queen's, but he believed that private individuals had imported stock that was better adapted to this country and more profitable to the owners than any imported by the Government. The Stock Farm had not returned to the country either directly or indirectly one per cent. on the money invested. A great deal of money was squandered by government employees in charge of such establishments, and he believed the best way to improve our stock would be to give encouragement to private individuals who would import or raise superior animals. We were not behind other countries in several branches of manufacture. Mr. I. C. Hall had stated that a bait-mill made in Charlottetown was supe-

rior to anything he ever saw in the States. Our manufacture of woollen cloth would compare favorably with that of any other country, and while we remained in our present isolated position the duty on imported cloth would foster our manufactures. Protective tariffs were necessary until manufactures became properly established in a country. He (Mr. Laird) regretted that more capitalists had not invested their money in the Charlottetown Woollen Factory, which was a safe place to invest, and would eventually be profitable.

Mr. McCORMACK considered that people living in the vicinity of East Point or West Caps would not derive much benefit from an exhibition in Charlottetown. Animals could not be driven such a long distance and look well, neither could agricultural produce be transported without great difficulty. The exhibition at Georgetown last year was a splendid affair, and one piece of cloth which took a prize there was afterwards sent to the exhibition in Charlottetown and carried off another prize, thus showing that the people of King's County were not behind those of Queen's in the manufacture of such articles.

Hon. P. SINCLAIR said that the Government had no intention of depriving Prince and King's Counties of their usual exhibitions, but if a general exhibition was to be held, Charlottetown was the most suitable place, being near the centre of the Island. He (Mr. Sinclair) believed that there were articles exhibited at the Prince County exhibition last year superior to any at the Charlottetown exhibition.

The paragraph was agreed to.

The ninth paragraph, relating to County towns, was read.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND said it was gratifying to learn that the County towns had increased so rapidly that it was considered necessary for the Legislature to give them power to manage their own affairs. There was one county town, St. Eleanor's, which he (Mr. Haviland) thought was retrograding, and Summerside, he understood, was the great emporium of trade in Prince County. According to this paragraph, the hon. member from Summerside (Mr. McMillan) would be disappointed in getting the lock-up and other things which his town required, as Summerside was not a county town.

Hon. COL. SECRETARY explained that the Bill which the Government intended bringing forward would apply to any town in the Island, and it was intended to place the

act on the Statute Book, and when the inhabitants of any town should make application, the government could grant them power to choose officers to superintend the public affairs of the town.

Mr. McMILLAN said that, although the Hon. Leader of the Opposition spoke contemptuously of a lock-up for Summerside, yet it was required, as in summer a great many strangers, not always the most civil, visited that place, and as St. Eleanor's jail was about three miles distant, some place of confinement for unruly subjects was necessary. He (Mr. McMillan) had seen people from the Dominion, and also inhabitants of Charlottetown, act in Summerside in such a manner that a lock-up would have been the most suitable place for them.

Mr. BRECKEN asked if it was the intention to incorporate Summerside; if so, he thought the act premature, as the expenses attendant thereon would be more than the inhabitants of that town would like to pay. It would be well to have the court house and jail removed to Summerside, as it was the principal town. The people of Charlottetown had to build their own lock-up, and the people of Summerside should do the same.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND remarked that there were several towns in King's County—Montague, where a large amount of business was done, and another greater town in the East where all the wise men came from, Souris. The wise men of Souris had lately decided that it was the proper place for the terminus of the railroad. If any town required a lock-up, surely it was Souris.

Mr. KICKHAM remarked that, had not the Hon. Leader of the Opposition mentioned the necessity of a lock-up in Souris, he had intended to introduce the subject himself. A number of Americans visited Souris every year, and as many of them were lawless characters who recklessly perpetrated various crimes, a place of confinement for such offenders was an absolute necessity. Last year, a barn containing a large quantity of agricultural produce had been set on fire by some of these miscreants.

Mr. PROWSE thought that in those places where so much lawless conduct prevailed, a great deal of money would be collected in the shape of fines, and as that money was paid into the Treasury, the government had a right to provide a lock-up. As regarded Montague, he was not aware that the people desired a lock-up, but there was one thing which they required very much and for which they had petitioned the legis-

lature many times, namely, a wharf. More grain was shipped at Montague Bridge than at any other shipping place in King's County, and it was absolutely disgraceful that a wharf had not been built there before now. Great inconvenience was experienced in shipping produce, and in some instances vessels were obliged to leave on account of the impossibility of getting near enough the bridge to take in a cargo.

HON. COL. SECRETARY, in reply to Mr. Prowse, stated that the Board of Works had the matter under consideration, relative to a wharf at Montague, and he believed that next season one would be built there.

The clause was agreed to.

The next paragraph, relating to the payment of school-teachers' salaries, was read.

HON. COL. SECRETARY remarked that as nine entries had to be made of every warrant paid by the Treasurer, it was considered advisable to lessen the number by having one hundred or two hundred pound warrants issued, and let the school teachers be paid by the Treasurer or the Secretary of the Board of Education.

HON. MR. HAVILAND remarked that hon. members could now congratulate themselves that our system of Education was perfect. Year after year alterations had been made in the Education Act, but now the only amendment required was a simple method of paying the teachers' salaries. This paragraph was a guarantee that we should hear no more about separate schools or grants to sectarian colleges. It would appear that his lordship the Roman Catholic Bishop of Charlottetown had made a great mistake when he asked for a grant for certain schools under his supervision. When the Government had refused to comply with the request of the Bishop, the Roman Catholic supporters of the Government had taken the sulks, and the hon. member from Tignish (Mr. Howlan) and some others had absented themselves from the House for several days, so that the wheels of government were at a stand-still. But a change must have come over the spirit of their dreams, for now the hon. Mr. Howlan was Leader of the Government party, and had brought down this paragraph in the Address. It was a gratifying circumstance that the hatchet had been buried, and that both Catholics and Protestants were going to be content.

HON. COL. SECRETARY knew that the hon. Leader of the Opposition could not object to the system proposed for paying the teachers' salaries; but he pretended to

say that the Government could have made the change without coming to this House. The Government did not think it right to depart from the practice hitherto adopted of issuing warrants to teachers, without being authorised to do so by statute.

MR. REILLY could not be called selfish in supporting the paragraph under consideration, for by the proposed method of paying the teachers' salaries, the amount of public printing would be materially lessened. With respect to separate schools, he would only say that when the hon. Leader of the Opposition was ready to introduce a measure recognizing such institutions, he would be prepared to give him his support.

HON. P. SINCLAIR said the printing in connection with teachers' warrants cost considerable, though at the rate other printing was done, he did not say it was an overcharge. The method proposed would save expense, but the hon. Leader of the Opposition did not seem to care about it. He did not even appear to take as much interest in the proposed telegraph line to Georgetown, though it would be a direct benefit to his own constituents, as he did in some other matters.

MR. McMILLAN thought the teachers of Summerside ought to receive as high salaries as those of Charlottetown. They had to pay as much as for their boarding, and they taught quite as many scholars. In the Summerside east school there were about 97 scholars, in the west school 75, and in the grammar-school 55.

HON. MR. HAVILAND.—The hon. member for New London did not appear to think that he (Mr. H.) took as much interest in his own district as he did in other parts of the Island. What was he to fly into a great state of excitement about? Was it over the trifling allusion in the address to a telegraph line to the capital of King's County? That line was no more than his constituents had a right to. Nor would the Government supply the whole funds; a part of the expense would be met by subscription. The hon. member need not try to throw an apple of discord between him (Mr. H.) and his constituents. When that gentleman had represented his district as long as he (Mr. H.) had represented Georgetown, he might talk with some show of reason. There was only one question on which he (Mr. H.) and his constituents might be at variance.

Mr. BRECKEN did not think that the proposed change in the method of paying the teachers' salaries was a very important matter to put in the speech of Her Majesty's representative. The whole question of education, however, was a very difficult one. A great many different opinions were entertained as to the best system to be adopted. He believed that several hon members of this House were returned pledged to effect a change in the system at present in operation in this Colony; and as they were backed by influential men in the community, it was strange that they had shown so little respect to the wishes of those who had sent them here. Without saying what might be the merits of denominational schools in themselves, he thought that in a country like this, their introduction would cause a great deal of dissension. The system now in force here had been on its trial for the last four years, and if it had withstood all the pressure brought against it, this itself was an undoubted testimony in its favor. Could it be that there were hon members on the government side of the House who were in favor of another system, and yet all this time had been silent on the question? Because gentlemen on this side of the House were not likely to support denominational schools, that was no excuse for those of the majority who approved of them not to come forward in a manly way to carry out their views. There was nothing in politics to compel a man to support a government, though he saw that by joining the opposition he could not better a cause dear to his heart. He might stand aloof from both parties and test the question at the next general election. He (Mr. B.) would have thought that those hon members, who believed that the government—which was largely indebted for their position to the influence of a certain Rev. prelate—in thrusting his memorial for an educational grant into one of the pigeon-holes of the Executive Council office, had denied them a simple act of justice, would not have continued to accord that government their cordial support. But though a simple vote of thanks was the unsubstantial return his lordship had received for his memorial, his co-religionists in this House had scarcely raised a murmur. The denominational school bone of contention having thus being buried, he (Mr. B.) was in a position to congratulate the advocates of the secular system that it had obtained such a valuable certificate

of character. Education was a branch of the public service that was bearing heavily upon the income of the Colony. He admitted its importance, but thought that about one-third of our revenue was too much to expend on education alone, when there were other branches of the service requiring more attention than they received. The Conservatives had tried the experiment of making the districts bear a part of the expense of supporting the schools, but it did not give satisfaction. For this, he thought, the teachers were in a great measure to blame, for they resorted to the practice of underbidding each other, thus when one district procured a teacher without giving any supplement, it was almost impossible to raise it another. He contended that the expense of the system would grow upon the Colony; the efficiency of the teachers, as well as their number, would have to be increased. As the country improved parents would not be contented to see their children receiving only an ordinary education; and the better the article the higher it would cost. The other wants of the Colony would also increase, therefore it appeared to him that some expedient would have to be adopted to lay a part of the burden of supporting the schools on the people directly. This was the course pursued in other countries. Look at Upper Canada, which had a most efficient school system; there, though a large subsidy was paid by the government, the amount raised by the people themselves was more than double the allowance from the public chest. In the United States the schools were chiefly supported by local assessment. In Nova Scotia also a large part of the school fund was raised in a similar way; and though the measure, which was introduced by Hon. Dr. Tupper, seemed to be very unpopular for a time—so much so that this was given as one of the reasons why it would not be prudent for his government to test the country on the confederation question—yet he (Mr. B.) believed the Act was now giving general satisfaction. It was proposed that we should have municipalities here for the improvement of the towns and villages—to give them good streets, public buildings, and better order—then why should not the people in like manner bear a little direct taxation for their schools? In short, if this Island was right in her method of supporting education, every other country was wrong. He was not an advocate of the

denominational system for a mixed community, but he would say to those who were in its favor, if they wished to carry their scheme, they should, by all means, support the principle of local assessment. As long as education was paid for wholly from the public chest, they could not expect to succeed. He maintained, as he before remarked, that the secular system was the best for this Colony, because it caused the least dissension. That religion should underlie all education, he admitted, but thought that it should be confined to the domestic circle, the Sunday school, and the church. It was common, however, in most countries, to give grants to denominational institutions for higher education. This principle, which he believed was carried out in Nova Scotia and some of the other provinces, might, perhaps, be sanctioned, because there the pupils would be all of one communion; but in mixed schools, even with a conscience clause, the inculcation of religion was almost sure to cause heartburnings and trouble.

Hon. Mr. CALLBECK did not agree with the hon. member for Charlottetown in thinking that local assessment would be an improvement upon our present system of supporting education. He (Mr. C.) contended that it was better for the country that the government should bear the whole burden of our public schools than to incur the expense of collecting local assessments. He held in his hand a work, entitled a "Sketch of Canadian History by James Croil," published in the year 1861, which showed that, in the county of Dundas, in that Province, the receipts of the municipality, of which Williamsburg was one of the principal towns, from taxation, licenses, and fines, amounted in all to only \$2,945, while the cost of the department was \$581. At this rate, he thought it would be more economical for the colony to have its educational expenses wholly defrayed by the government.

Mr. REILLY would like to hear from the hon. member for the city who it was that had asked for separate schools, and who might be the hon. members of this House that were pledged to support a change in the present system in favor of such schools? He was aware that the Bishop had applied for a grant in aid of certain institutions under his control, and that was all he (Mr. R.) knew about the matter.

Mr. BRECKEN would answer the hon. member's question by asking another. What kind of institutions did the Bishop seek aid for in his memorial?

Hon. Mr. LAIRD said the hon. Leader of the Opposition had stated that an order in council would have been sufficient to effect the desired change in the method of paying the teachers' salaries; but he had yet to learn that an order in council could do away with an act of parliament. Warrants could not be issued by the present law for a greater amount than the service performed by each teacher. It might be all very well in the palmy days of conservative rule to issue warrants for large sums not specially provided for by this House, and place them in the hands of officers not over exact in their transactions, but the present Government did not wish to carry out the practice. By the proposed measure the Governor in council would be authorized to issue warrants for large sums, such as a thousand pounds or so, at a time, and the money would be kept in the treasury, and drawn for to pay the teachers when they had complied with the requirements of the law. The hon. member for Charlottetown had dragged into this discussion the Bishop's memorial, perhaps because he felt that he had failed to discharge his duty towards that reverend gentleman in not aiding him to obtain the grant which he desired. He (Mr. L.) entertained a high respect for his Lordship, and believed that he was sincere in thinking that he had a right to what he prayed for, though he (Mr. L.) might hold a different opinion, and, consequently, decline to accede to his wishes. The hon. member appeared to argue that it was absurd to think that, in a few years, we should be able to pay one-third of our revenue for education. It did not say much for his intelligence, to speak of this as an absurdity, when it seemed we could now actually afford it. The hon. member must have been looking forward to the time when his voice would be resounding in the legislative halls at Ottawa, and the revenue of this colony reduced to so low a figure that it would be unable to support education from the public chest. Last year the Government had paid the teachers the full amount of their salaries, expended a considerable sum on public works, and yet had a balance in the treasury, though they had raised the tariff only one per cent. But it was no

wonder the late government had to ask the people to pay a part of the teachers' salaries, for they had squandered the public funds in building barracks, and organizing and training military companies, whose services as such could only be regarded as legalized murder. The hon. member for Charlottetown had taken up the question of separate schools, and though he had expressed his opinion against them, he had ventured to speak favorably of grants to denominational colleges. A part of the Bishop's memorial prayed for a grant of that kind, yet while it was before the House, the hon. member had not uttered one word in its favor. It, therefore, appeared that on this question, as well as on confederation, he had changed his opinions. The remark had been made in this debate that a wise man might change his opinions, but a fool never; and if the saying was a true one, the hon. member must be getting wise very fast. (Laughter.) He (Mr. L.) believed it was wrong for the Government to grant money for any denominational object, as long as the public funds were collected from people of various religious persuasions; and he contended that the state might just as properly be called upon to pay clergymen as to educate them. He might go further and say that, in his opinion, it was not right to vote money for any school, college or institution of the kind, which was not under government control. If public money was granted to denominational colleges, it ought to be divided equally between the different churches, which was almost impossible. He, however, did not believe in granting money to any denominational institution; the main thing which government had to look to was to see that all within its bounds obtained a good common school education, so that they could read the Book of books and learn their duty for themselves. Some contended that a high education did not tend to make a man behave himself.

Mr. BRECKEN.—The hon member said that education did not make a man behave himself.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD did not give it as his own opinion.

Mr. BRECKEN understood him to endorse the statement. If education was not calculated to fit men for conducting themselves more properly, and to make them better citizens, then our efforts to

support it were valueless. The hon member for Bedeque also stated that he (Mr. B.) had changed his opinions on confederation. He could tell that hon gentleman this, that they both thought alike on the question, but he (Mr. B.) had the manliness to express what he thought upon it, and the hon member had not. That was about the only difference between them. Again, the hon member had argued that it was right for the state to support education entirely from the public funds. In reply it might be sufficient to say that if he was right, all the rest of the world were wrong. He (Mr. B.) had great respect for the hon member's opinions, but he could scarcely go so far as to set him before all others. In regard to separate schools, he would again repeat that he was opposed to them. In a country like this, especially, it would be absurd to establish the system. Most of the teachers here only continued in the profession four or five years, and who would think of entrusting the religious education of his children to a young man who was making teaching only a stepping stone to something else? Besides, if a teacher went into a district where there were some half dozen creeds, one of which might or might not be his own, how could he consistently with his convictions teach aught but what he himself believed? The working of the system would be impracticable, and a conscience clause would not much mend the difficulty, for those who were excluded from a part of the instruction, would look upon themselves as being placed in an inferior position. He (Mr. B.) was not trimming on this question. A correspondent in one of this morning's papers—some fool probably, as he appeared to be ashamed to sign his name to his letter—had charged him (Mr. B.) with inconsistency in advocating confederation. He had all along said he would as soon cut off his right hand as vote the Island into union against the wishes of the country. He looked upon this House with respect to this question as a mere debating society—it could not accept proposals without referring the matter to the people—but was he or any other hon member to be tongue-tied on this account? They, rather, he contended, should be commended for having the courage to express their opinions freely and fully on what was for the present the unpopular side of this question. And he would also state his views freely on the subject of denominational grants.

He did not advocate supporting sectarian colleges from the public funds; what he did say was that he could see no harm in giving a part of what was necessary for their support out of the general treasury. We must have higher education. It would be creditable to this Colony if she had not to send her young men abroad to obtain a knowledge of the professions. Some of the most promising Island youths who had distinguished themselves at college were farmers' sons, and what he would say was, that if by giving a small grant to denominational colleges, we could assist the cause of higher education, it would do no harm. But this was different from supporting the Bishop's schools. The hon. member for St. Peter's (Mr. Reilly) had asked a question. He (Mr. B.) would now answer it by reading the Bishop's memorial, which would show that his Lordship had virtually prayed for separate schools:—

To His Excellency George Dundas, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor, &c., &c., &c., in Council:

The humble Memorial of the undersigned, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Charlottetown, respectfully sheweth: That, in the year 1833, the late Right Reverend Aeneas Bernard McEachern, Roman Catholic Bishop of Charlottetown, did establish a College, or institution of learning, at St. Andrew's, in King's County, which he endowed with certain lands and property, which were invested in Trustees by an Act of the Legislature, the same year, for the support of said College.

That, with the aid of a grant from the Legislature every year up to 1844, the College was kept in active operation, when it was deemed advisable by the late Right Reverend Bernard Donald McDonald, then Roman Catholic Bishop of Charlottetown, to erect a College on a larger scale, near Charlottetown, now called St. Dunstan's College, and which he endowed with certain lands in the Royalty of Charlottetown; and in aid of which the income arising from the property of St. Andrew's College has been appropriated since it was opened in the year 1856.

That, in the year 1857, a Female Boarding and Day School was opened in Charlottetown, conducted by the ladies of the congregation of Notre Dame, in which most of the higher branches of a female education are taught; while a large number of the poor children of the city have been and are still taught free of any expense whatever.

That, in the year 1862, another school was opened on Pownall Street, known as St. Joseph's School, conducted also by some of the ladies from the Convent of Notre Dame, which, although numerously attended, very few of them pay any fees whatever.

That another female boarding and day school was opened in Miscouche, in Prince's County, in 1864, in which the usual higher branches of female education are taught, and at which a large number of pupils attend daily.

That, between the four educational institutions, just named, there are upwards of five hundred pupils in attendance, three fourths of whom, being of the poorer classes, pay nothing whatever.

That, whilst your Memorialist feels convinced that the education imparted in those institutions just named, is superior to any that can be had in the District Schools, he feels it a grievance that he gets no aid from the public school fund of the Colony, not even as much for the number of children taught free, as should be paid for them if they attended District schools.

That, in seeking for a redress of this grievance, Memorialist disclaims all idea of any exclusive privilege—nothing more than even-handed justice is desired; and that he has, for some years, with no little sacrifice and inconvenience, endeavored to establish and maintain those institutions, which he considered essential to a sound Catholic education, in the earnest hope that, one day, simple justice would be received at the hands of the gentlemen composing the Legislature.

Your Memorialist, therefore, earnestly entreats your Excellency in Council to consider impartially his case, and ask the Legislature to alter the present school law, so as to permit his schools to participate in a fair proportion of the school fund, according to their numbers and efficiency, or a special grant to answer the same purpose, and your Memorialist will ever pray.

[Signed]

† PETER MCINTYRE,
R. C. Bishop of Ch'town.

Ch'town, March 3, 1868.

By this memorial it would be seen that the Bishop did not pray merely for a grant to St. Dunstan's College, or for his other institutions in Charlottetown, but for an alteration in the present school law, so as to permit *his schools* to participate in a fair proportion of the school fund; and as one of those schools was at Miscouche, another had since been opened at Summerside, and others could be opened elsewhere, the demand of the Rev. prelate might be said to extend to the whole Island. In his opinion it was well that the prayer of the memorial had not been granted, for it would have committed the country to the principle of supporting separate schools, which he thought would cause a great deal of dissension. The Wesleyans were erecting an institution in Charlottetown, for which, he understood, they would not ask government support; but probably other denominations would fall in and make it a general Protestant institution.

ERRATUM.—On page 50, in Mr. Laird's remarks on the paragraph relating to exhibitions, for, "The Stock Farm had not returned to the country either directly or indirectly one per cent on the money invested," read, the Stock Farm had returned to the country but a small percentage on the money invested.

Many were beginning to think that for colleges, though under the control of religious bodies, a small grant might not be improperly given; but he was entirely opposed to the establishment of separate schools.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD.—The hon member for Charlottetown had boasted of his courage because he had expressed his opinions freely on confederation, and exposed himself to the attack of some writer in the newspapers. Whether he was pursuing a course contrary or not to the understanding on which he was returned to this House, was a matter which rested between him and his constituents; but he (Mr. L.) held that no hon member was deserving of praise for courage in opposing the popular voice. He (Mr. L.) contended that when a representative of the people had changed his opinions through conscientious convictions, and found he could not advocate those principles on which he was elected, his duty was to resign his trust into the hands of those from whom he received it. The hon member's reference to other countries in regard to the method of supporting education was a very poor argument indeed. All other countries might be wrong in this matter. We had tested the principle in this Colony of paying the teachers' salaries wholly from the public chest, and we had found it to work well; this, therefore, was a far better guide for us than what some great country did, or some distinguished man thought. He (Mr. L.) supposed the hon member for Charlottetown had changed his views on confederation, because some great man was in its favor. Great men were only but men, and often erred, consequently we should judge for ourselves, and do what we thought was right. Our scheme in this Island for settling the land question had attracted attention in high quarters, and was being quoted as a judicious method of dealing with the difficulty. Even our educational system had received honorable mention from no less an authority than Judge Poland of the United States congressional committee, who had described it as almost perfect; and a late American paper had stated that a people such as those of this Colony, who paid about one-third of their revenue for education, would be worth getting into the Republic. The hon member for Charlottetown had come out to-night with some feeble arguments in favor of a grant to St.

Dunstan's College; but when the Bishop's memorial was under consideration two years ago, he had not a word to say in its support. He now fought valiantly when there was no foe before him; his conduct was strikingly like that of the man who came forward to do battle for his country when the war was over. (Laughter.) The time to have displayed his courage and stood up for the claims of the Bishop, who was one of his (Mr. B.'s) own constituents, was when that Rev. gentleman's petition was before the House.

Mr. BRECKEN.—The hon. member for Bedeque had begun his remarks by leveling a shot at him (Mr. B.) for opposing the popular voice. That gentleman did not appear to understand the first principles of politics. When a person was not prepared to vote on a question, which had to go before the people again, he could not be charged with betraying their trust. When the documents came down from the Government relative to the negotiations with the Canadian delegates, he (Mr. B.) thought it would be found that the members of the Executive themselves had violated their pledges. The hon. member for Tryon had said to-day that those who admitted the principle of union were confederates, and only no-terms men were anti-confederates; but when he did so, the hon. member for Bedeque had not the manliness to rise and state whether he was with his colleague or not. Respecting his (Mr. B.'s) reference to the practice of other countries in regard to education, it was only the financial aspect of the question on which he spoke; and he was in error if the experience of a few years more did not convince those who had to manage the monetary affairs of the Colony that the policy of paying the teachers wholly from the public funds was a mistaken one. The hon. member had said that the American people were charmed with our system of supporting education; if so, why did they not adopt it, instead of their own principle of local assessment. No doubt Judge Poland was pleased when he heard the proportion of our revenue that was devoted to public instruction; but had he been acquainted with our whole expenditure—had he known how miserably our government officers were paid, and the small allowance voted for roads, bridges and other works of a necessary character, he would probably not have been so complimentary in his remarks. The Bishop's memorial also came in for a share of the last speaker's attention. Why, he

asked, did not he (Mr. B.) support it when it was before the House? Well, this was about the best point the hon. member had made. He (Mr. B.) had already stated that he was opposed to separate schools, because they were calculated to cause dissension in the community; and as regarded a grant to St. Dunstan's College, that was but a small part of what his Lordship prayed for. Besides, he (Mr. B.) did not say that denominational colleges should be wholly supported out of the public funds.

Mr. Prowse thought it was, perhaps, well that this question had come up. He did not believe that the opinion of the country on separate schools had undergone any change. He was sorry to hear the hon. member for Charlottetown say that he would not look upon it as very objectionable to give a small grant to St. Dunstan's College. In quite a different light did he (Mr. P.) regard this matter; he looked upon a grant to that College as very objectionable, indeed, because it would be but the entering in of the small end of the wedge that would rend asunder our educational system. The question of sectarian grants was pretty well agitated a few years ago, when the small allowance to each of the churches in Charlottetown for pews to accommodate the members of the Legislature was discontinued, and he hoped it would not be revived. He contended that to pay ministers of the gospel out of the public funds was just as right as to support educational institutions for training men in a way which we did not know would tend to make them successful ministers of the gospel. The hon. member for Bedeque had alluded to the failure of the amendment introduced by the late government to require the school districts to raise a small part of the teachers' salaries. The amendment, which was right in principle, worked well enough in some localities; but others objected to it when the question was put to them at the last election, for it appeared that what the people had once received from the general treasury they liked to be continued. But the hon. member opposite had made a wonderful charge against the Conservative government, when he said they took the money that ought to be used for school purposes to build barracks and train up men to commit legalized murder. He (Mr. P.) considered that such language coming from a member of the Government was a disgrace to the Colony. To see a man who was sworn to uphold the laws, come forward here and characterize efforts to suppress riotous attacks on the

officers of justice as legalized murder, was a humiliating spectacle.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD rose to explain. He did not refer to efforts to keep the peace. With respect to war, however, he held peculiar views; it was training men under the sanction of law, to take the lives of their fellow-men, that he regarded as a species of legalized murder.

Mr. McNEILL.—When this paragraph was read he did not think it was going to call forth such discussion. He pretty much agreed with the views expressed by the hon. member for Charlottetown on this question. His own belief was that if denominational schools were to be introduced as a part of our educational system, we would have to give up free schools altogether. The people of this Island had derived great benefit from these free schools; and he thought it was pretty much from their intelligence on this account that they were opposed to confederation. To give up our independence for a sum of money would place us in a ridiculous position. He was surprised to find men inclined to accede to the proposal to go into union on account of the paltry sum of \$800,000. Some advocates of confederation asked us, if not satisfied with the offers made by Canada, to propose terms. It was not our place to make proposals. Great Britain had wronged us in regard to our lands, and it was from her that we ought to get redress. We could return this answer to Canada, that we had no quarrel with her, but we had a dispute with the mother country, and we wished to have that settled first before we would entertain the question of confederation. Look at the case of Newfoundland; some of her politicians went up to Ottawa, received an offer for that colony, and came back thinking they would carry the country, but the people rejected the money with disdain. The people of this Island, he thought, would treat the money offers of the Dominion pretty much in the same manner. He observed that the Ottawa government had advertised for six schooners to protect the fisheries. It would, however, be feared be poor protection. Probably the attempt would prove something like one set on foot here some years ago, and of which he had heard his father speak. Two boats' crews were fitted out from Charlottetown, armed with scythes handled so as to suit instead of cutlasses, and provided with liquor and other supplies. Thus equipped, they set sail for Souris or some place else, but he believed that when the rum went done, they

returned home. (Laughter.) He thought it would be pretty much the same way with the Canadian fleet. In concluding his remarks, he would express the hope that the people of this Colony would accept of no sum of money to enter confederation. Like our fathers, who cleared away the forests, we should trust in Providence, remain as we were, and not sell our birthright.

Mr. BRECKEN would ask the hon. member what he meant by selling our birthright? If he could show him (Mr. B.) that we were going to sell our birthright by entering confederation, then he would sign the pledge of his friend, the hon. member for Tryon.

Mr. McNEILL would answer the hon. member for Charlottetown. We had cleared away the forests, made our own roads, and paid for our lands, and if these things did not make this country our birthright, he did not know what would.

Mr. BRECKEN.—The hon. member had made a very neat little speech. But would confederation take away our roads or lands from us? Would it prevent the sun from shining or the rain from falling upon us, or would it shorten our winters?

Mr. McNEILL.—No. (Laughter.)

Mr. BRECKEN.—Lengthen our winters he should have said. Would not everything connected with the Colony, which we had earned or purchased, be guaranteed to us by fair and equitable terms?

Hon. COL. SECRETARY thought the hon. member for Charlottetown would find that the eyes of the city mechanics were upon their representative. That gentleman had referred to the educational systems of other countries to find arguments to condemn our own. He (Col. Sec.) could tell that hon. member that the people of most European nations would be glad to have such a school system as was established in this Island. The member for the City had shown tonight the old Tory principles which were ingrained into him, when he had advocated the sustaining of high schools; as for the others, which were for the good of the people, he did not appear to care whether they went down or not. He (Col. Secretary) contended that too great facilities to obtain a high education were no benefit in a country where there was not scope for the employment of scholars; it made men more able to do mischief. Where there was a number of educated persons idle about the community, they were sure to become parasites. The hon. member had repeatedly addressed this hon. committee

on confederation, but had never once attempted to show what advantage it would be to the Colony. He kept putting questions to other hon. members, but he never advanced any solid arguments himself in favor of union.

Mr. BRECKEN.—The hon. Col. Secretary had called him a Tory. He (Mr. B.) was not a Tory; but he could point out a gentleman who was once returned to this House by the assistance of his conservative friends, and after being elected jumped into the Liberal car. The same hon. member had also left the Executive a year or so ago, for some reason which he had never publicly explained, and last summer we found him again returning to the same Executive, without his stating that it had changed its policy, and accepting an office for himself and getting another for his son.

Hon. COL. SECRETARY had never deceived the people. They knew his sentiments at the time referred to, and he had never betrayed them. He had always been with the people. He jumped into the Liberal car after the election which preceded the introduction of responsible government, and he was proud of it.

The debate was adjourned until to-morrow.

FRIDAY March 11.

Northern Agricultural Society, &c.

Mr. BELL presented a petition from the inhabitants of Alberton praying for the passing of an Act for the incorporation of the Northern Agricultural Society.

Hon. Mr. CALLBECK presented the Medical Report of the Lunatic Asylum.

Debate on the Address resumed.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND said, a stranger entering the House last night would have thought that confederation, rather than education, was before the committee. Indeed, as at one time, the Worrel estate was held up as a target at which the Opposition might, at any time, fire; it seemed as if confederation had now become one at which hon. members could aim the darts of their eloquence on all occasions. He, however, rose to offer a few observations in reply to some of the remarks made by the hon. Col. Secretary

(Mr. Davies) on the previous evening, and also to those advanced by the hon. member for Wilmot Creek (Mr. Laird.) If these hon. members found fault with the late government for reducing the teachers' salaries, the charge, though frequently made, he thought he could show was not correct. When the Free Education Act was passed by the Liberal government, the salaries of the teachers were fixed at £45 and £50. When the Conservatives came into power, in 1854, they raised these amounts up to £50 and £55, and subsequently to £55 and £60. In 1863, the Government came to the conclusion that it was but fair and right that a portion of each teacher's salary should be raised by local assessment in the district in which he was engaged, and thought parents would thus be induced to take more interest in the schools and to more zealously watch that teachers did their duty, than when these were wholly paid from the treasury. By this arrangement, the Conservatives did not lower the salaries of the teachers; they merely laid the burden of the payment of a portion of it upon the school district; but unfortunately there was not that *esprit de corps* among the teachers to refuse a school unless the district supplemented the amount required by law. They contented themselves with the government allowance from the treasury, and in effect thereby reduced their own salaries; but he (Mr. H.) would contend that the principle then adopted by the Conservative government was a sound one, and was glad to hear the hon. member for Murray Harbor (Mr. Prowse) say last night that it was the proper principle to act upon. Certainly, it was carried out in all other countries, where it was admitted that when parents paid a proportion of the salary they looked with more zeal after the duties of the teacher. He would contend that the Conservatives were not justly charged, when it was said they lowered the teachers' salaries. The hon. Col. Secretary had stated last night that a high status of education made men parasites in a country. Certainly, the hon. member in his views differed widely from the opinion of the

great poet who, in the reign of Queen Anne, said—

“A little learning is a dangerous thing.”

The poet Pope's opinion was thus at variance with the views of the hon. member. But what surprised him (Mr. H.) was that the hon. member did not carry out his theory in the education of his own family. He had one son a lawyer, occupying the position of Solicitor General. Surely the hon. member did not mean to say he was a parasite. He had another son who was now a distinguished officer in the Imperial navy, and who, he was to proud to say, bade fair, if he lived long enough, to be an admiral, not merely for his acknowledged ability as an officer, but for the scientific knowledge which he was bringing to bear upon his profession. He (Mr. H.) would maintain that our system of education would not be complete until opportunities were available for every youth in the Colony to receive, at reasonable expence, a complete and thorough education; and the duty of the Legislature was to see that people in every station in life had such opportunities. Unquestionably such was now required. The agriculturist could not hold his position, or advance in his calling, unless he had a scientific acquaintance with chemistry and even geology. It was science which now enabled men to make fortunes. A farmer who was not well read was sure to go behind, and the same might be said of all other callings. He was surprised that such a sentiment should fall from the lips of the first departmental officer of the crown in this Colony, especially when we had heard him dilate so frequently upon the beauties of our noble system of education. We required more intermediate schools between the common school and the college; also a greater number of grammar schools. Such was the arrangement in Prussia. There they ranged from the common school to the college, and into each the son of the peasant had the same right to enter and claim to be taught as the son of a noble. They would not even receive a man into the ranks for a soldier, unless he was well educated; and to this

cause might be attributed the reason why Prussia was now marching to the forefront of the nations of Europe. The education of her people had done it. We had the Prince of Wales College and the county grammar-schools; and the establishing of the latter was the work of the conservative government—of those whom the hon. member thought they could not possibly ever do any good for this Colony. When the Free Education system was being inaugurated, the hon. Mr. Coles regarded the Normal School as the cap-stone of the edifice, or rather the foundation upon which the system was to rest. That school was now, in so far as it was subserving the end it was intended to meet, a dead-letter, being merely a district school for Charlottetown, where the teacher received a high salary. He would ask if this was carrying out the original intention of the Act? He could not but regard it as a retrograde movement on the part of the Government, when they put the present occupant in that school. They should have placed a man there who understood the system. The action in this respect was backward, whereas it should have been an advance movement. The letter of the Bishop, to which allusion had been made, showed clearly that the necessities of the country were not met, otherwise the Catholics would not have built St. Dunstan's College. Although it was a sectarian institution, yet there were as many Protestant as Catholic pupils attending it; and the same might be said of the convent, where children of our leading merchants and men occupying high positions in the Legislature were being educated. All this proved that our system did not meet the requirements of the country and of the age, which demanded that children shall know something of everything, and everything of something. We might boast of the money we spent for the encouragement of education, but not of the results. Our young men who had attained the best education, had availed themselves of the institutions of learning in the other Provinces, and those of them who now wrote with so much ability in

our newspapers went to Nova Scotia to complete their studies. The most of them, too, were farmers' sons. He contended we should have all these resources within ourselves, and that no system was complete without them. If we wished to become great, we must see that our children had opportunities for obtaining an education that would enable them to compete in any department of human knowledge. Although any education was better than none, yet we could not boast of ours as being a perfect system. The hon. Col. Secretary was hard upon the old Tory party. He knew the hon. member was excited at the time, but he (Mr. H.) could not but enquire, if the hon. member had such an aversion to the old Tories, how it was that he associated so much with them. It had been said that poverty made strange bed-fellows, but in these days he thought the application would be more correct if it was said that politics did this. At the present moment there were only three gentlemen who belonged to the old Tory party left—Sir Robert Hodgson, Hon. Joseph Pope, and Hon. Edward Palmer, who for years stood shoulder to shoulder in voting against the escheat party. Responsible Government was obtained, and Mr. Pope became a departmental officer under that government. Sir Robert Hodgson, in the position of Administrator, was as popular with the Liberal party as with the Conservatives. The present government had expressed their confidence in Sir Robert in the answer to the address before us, and now said he should be made governor. Several others of the old Tory party had been placed in good positions by the government of which the hon. member was the Col. Secretary. Again, he (Mr. H.) recollected the time when he sat as a kind of lieutenant in the House under the Hon. Edward Palmer, who was one of the strongest of the old Tory party, yet, strange to say, some four months ago, the present government went to him (Mr. P.) and almost on their bended knees entreated him to become their Attorney General; and now we found the Hon. Mr. Davies and the Hon. Edward

Palmer as closely linked together as the Siamese twins. He (Mr. H.) thought if the committee would calmly review the history of the old Tory party during the time it ruled this country, it would be found that, all things considered, it did as much for the welfare of the colony as their successors had done. They opened up roads throughout the length and breadth of the Island; built a large number of bridges and several public wharfs; court houses in each of the other counties; the building now used as a post office in Charlottetown; Government House, and the building in which they now sat, and which some hon. members were so afraid the Canadians might deprive us of; yet their highest annual revenue was but £18,000; and, notwithstanding what the Tories did, and the costly works which they erected, when they transferred their authority to others, the colony was but £29,000 in debt. As regarded the land question, the Liberal government had been unable to do anything more than their predecessors in office. They had brought about no arrangements but such as were effected by mutual agreement with the proprietors. They (the Liberals) urged the necessity of a coercive measure, but in every instance met with a repulse. When the Land Purchase Bill was passing through the legislature, it was supported by every liberal-minded Conservative, and there were even strong Conservative local proprietors who, in a few months after the bill became law, offered to sell their estates to the government. He (Mr. H.) felt it to be his duty thus briefly to reply to the Hon. Col. Secretary. For the sins of the old Tory party he was not in any way responsible; but he knew there were men among them who had the confidence of the country people, and to these old Tories would they come as unto friends upon whom they could rely for aid and counsel when they were in any difficulty; and this, he thought, even the hon. member for Souris would admit. So that, all things considered and fairly reviewed, he (Mr. H.) believed the men comprising the old Tory party were the

true friends and protectors of the interests of this colony.

Mr. KICKHAM was once in favor of the old Tory party, but became convinced it was his duty to oppose it; but for the kindness and friendship which he received from some individuals of that party he would ever entertain the warmest recollection.

Hon. COL. SECRETARY regretted that confederation had been so frequently referred to in this debate; and were it not that he had been so unnecessarily assailed on the previous evening, he would not probably have made the statements which called forth the speech of the hon. and learned Leader of the Opposition. As to the gentlemen who belonged to the old Tory party, their politics he disliked, but he entertained a personal regard for several of them. He had opposed that party, and individuals belonging to it, not from ill-will to the men, but on account of their politics. With respect to the lowering of the teachers' salaries, he thought the defence of the hon. member was very lame indeed. The principle laid down by the Conservatives of having a part of the salary raised by local taxation was obnoxious to the people, who would rather have their teachers paid from one source. He contended that the representatives of the people were now doing their duty, and that, too, to the satisfaction of the country. As to education, he believed that in a small colony like this, we could not afford to establish colleges in all parts of the country. Suppose we had such colleges, and that they were annually turning out 200 or 300 highly educated young men, where, he would ask, were they to find situations suitable to the habits with which such a training had made them familiar. Such a training unfitted men for earning their daily bread by manual labor. The system of education laid down by Hon. Mr. Coles was merely intended to qualify men for the efficient discharge of all the ordinary duties of life, for unless a man had such an education, he could not become a good citizen. The Conservatives established a college; but if other colleges, as they became established, were to be endowed from the public treasury, it would have the effect of breaking up our school system altogether; and therefore it was that he would prefer grounding our young men well in all the branches appertaining to a good English education, convinced that if they were thus equipped they would be

qualified for discharging all the ordinary duties of life. If any of them aimed higher in their education, and had perseverance and ability, they would not find any insuperable difficulties to prevent their attaining the summit of their ambition. The duty of the representatives of the people, he held to be, to see that the ground-work of the education of our youth was well laid in our common schools. As to the Normal School, the government placed over it the most suitable person they could find, and he believed he was doing his best and giving satisfaction to the parents of the pupils attending there.

Mr. HOWAT voted for the amendment of the late government, which made it necessary for the people to provide by assessment for a portion of the teachers' salaries, but found it so distasteful to the people, that he supported the present government when they made the alteration, and knew the present arrangement was more satisfactory to the people. There appeared to be some little difficulty about colleges. The Roman Catholics received no money from the government for their college, and he confessed had grounds for complaining. He (Mr. H.) saw no remedy but to throw up the grant to the Prince of Wales College, and then each would depend upon the support of its friends.

Dr. JENKINS said that our educational system should be improved, nor did he think the results were such as they should be from an expenditure of £20,000 a year. One great error existed in the lowness of the salaries of the teachers. It was insufficient to enable a man to support a family; hence, our public schools were presided over by boys. He thought the government should take up the question, and grapple with it at once. His decided opinion was that school districts should be made to contribute a portion of the teachers' salaries. The Normal School was such in name only. The teacher in it had no acquaintance with the system, but as the system was unquestionably a good one, he thought the original object should be carried out. Allusion had been made to separate schools, but he felt convinced they could not be upheld generally in this country. Something had also been said about the Bishop's schools. These, he was aware, had been a great benefit to Charlottetown. Many ragged children had been taken off the street, clothed and educated in them, and thereby made good and useful members of society, who

otherwise might have been a burden on the community. For these schools he thought the Bishop deserved a grant, and the thanks of the Legislature.

Hon. P. SINCLAIR.—Judging from the remarks of the learned and hon member for Georgetown (Mr. Haviland) he (Mr. S.) thought that gentleman had not made himself as well acquainted with the operations of our Free Education Act as he might have done. He could assure the hon member that the facilities thereby afforded for obtaining a good education were more generally adopted than he appeared to suppose. Between the first class and grammar school teachers we had in operation fifty schools, in which, in addition to the common branches, were taught algebra, geometry, trigonometry, mensuration and surveying, navigation and geography, with the use of the globes, and to these were to be added eighteen grammar school teachers, who were qualified, in addition to these branches, to teach French, Latin, and Greek, and he thought this was as far as there was at present any necessity to go in affording facilities for obtaining a good education. He (Mr. S.) knew something about what the parochial schools of Scotland were twenty-five years ago, and of the advantages they had conferred upon the people. He had stated in the House before (and it was thought by some that what he said was not correct) that there was as much value received in this Island for the money spent on education as there was in any part of the world; and he was now prepared to substantiate that statement. He was not in favor of passing a law to make the raising of a part of the teachers' salaries compulsory upon the school district, nor of taxing the inhabitants of the colony with collegiate education. He thought when the number of grammar schools now in operation were taken into account, it would be found that the requirements of the country were pretty well provided for, and that the education of the colony rested upon as good basis as could be adopted. The hon member for Charlottetown (Dr. J.) complained about inefficient teachers; but this brought up a question that was easier to raise than grapple with. As an instance, one teacher had been removed by the Visitor, and ordered before the Board of Education; but his re-examination proved that he was an excellent scholar, but a poor teacher. The Board should have power granted to it to withhold a license from

any teacher who could not excite and sustain the attention of a class, and thought several matters like that might very properly be left entirely to the discretion of the Board of Education. When hon members spoke of grants to colleges, they brought up a question which it would be found difficult to deal with; nor did he think the country was prepared for it; or indeed that they were as much required as some supposed. If hon members would make themselves acquainted with the work which was now being done in the grammar schools, he thought they would not see so much necessity for an increase of colleges. Few men were better qualified to examine a school than Mr. Roche. That gentleman took the trouble to go and examine the grammar school taught in Malpeque, and told him (Mr. S.) that he was surprised and delighted with its efficiency—that it was in advance of anything he expected to meet with in the country. That school was taught by a young man who passed the Board last year. It was easy to find fault with teachers, and he did not know but that this might be done when it was not required. He, however, knew that in Prince County they were sharply looked after by the School Visitor, and felt satisfied that any gentleman who would take the trouble to visit the grammar schools and make himself acquainted with the branches there taught, would be satisfied that they were fast improving the education of the country, and that our educational system was carried out on as sound and just basis for the general benefit of a mixed community as we could have it established.

Mr. ARSENAULT said that the hon member for Tryon (Mr. Howat) rather than grant a small allowance to the Catholics for their college, would withhold that given to the Prince of Wales College. This, he thought, would be going backward in the cause of education. If it would be wrong to grant an allowance to St. Dunstan's College, he (Mr. H.) would nevertheless allow it to the Prince of Wales. St. Dunstan's was sure to be kept up; but if the grant was withdrawn from the other college it would go down, and if there were but one, our young men would have no opportunity of competing with each other. He hoped, however, that farther time would convince the government that St. Dunstan's was entitled to support from the public revenues of the country. If

the Prince of Wales College was meeting all the requirements of the Protestants, why was it that the Wesleyans were putting one up? He considered it but just and fair that other colleges should receive a grant as well as the Prince of Wales.

Mr. KICKHAM said the Board of Education should be careful how they granted teachers' licenses to young men. He thought with respect to the removing of incompetent teachers, that a power was vested in the trustees of a school district which fully met that difficulty. The hon member for Georgetown (Mr. H.) was correct when he said that many Protestant children were attending St. Dunstan's College and the schools of his Lordship the Bishop of Charlottetown, and if St. Dunstan's could not obtain a grant, neither should the Prince of Wales.

Mr. PROWSE said the Prince of Wales College had not been established by any denomination of Christians; it was in every respect a public institution, but this could not be said of the other colleges referred to. The Prince of Wales College was open to all denominations; and he would have no objection to see on the staff of the teachers and professors a fair share of Roman Catholics; and the government, when there was a vacancy, could have filled it up with a gentleman belonging to that denomination. They paid their proportion of the taxes, and he would not object to see St. Dunstan's and the Prince of Wales Colleges amalgamated into one. To enter upon any other system of education than the one now in operation would be most injurious to the welfare of the country.

Mr. BELL was pretty well acquainted with the working of our common school system of education, and felt satisfied that if it was in any way interfered with it would be doing a serious wrong to the colony. He was certain there was no part of the world where all the children of the country had a better opportunity for obtaining a good education than on this Island. He considered it to be the duty of the government to see that all the people had such opportunities, but in these advantages all should share alike: but the moment sectarian grants would be given, that moment a rivalry would be created that would lead to ill-feeling and a division which would destroy our present system altogether. He thought

it was unfortunate that the old Academy had been raised to the status of a college. There was no necessity for it at the time, nor had any good come out of it. He could confirm the statement of the hon member for New London with regard to the efficiency of the grammar schools. In Alberton one was in operation, and he did not think it was possible for such a school to be conducted with more success. The pupils (several of them) were receiving instruction in most of the higher branches of study required to be taught in such schools, and he was happy to add with admirable success. He thought the government went as far as it was necessary for them to go now in this matter, and hoped the separate school system would never be introduced into this colony, as it would but lead to endless contentions.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD thought our education system was far from being complete, yet it was not the intention of the Government to amend the Act this session, only in so far as improving the system now adopted for paying the teachers their salaries was concerned, and when that measure was brought forward it would be time enough to enter into a full discussion of the question. He would merely observe that at present a careless minority in a school district, by keeping their children at home, had power to close the school, and thus punish the well disposed. He, therefore, thought that it would yet be found necessary to have a law enacted to compel parents to send their children for a certain period of the year regularly to school. He had noticed that in one of the States a law had been passed for compelling the attendance of all children between the ages of five and sixteen years, for twelve weeks in the year, and hoped in a few years to see some such an amendment passed here. Politics were sometimes discussed in debating clubs, and he had on one occasion attended one when this question was discussed, and noticed that those whose education had been neglected in their youth, deeply regretted that such a law had not existed when they were young. While those whose education had been attended to were indifferent about the matter, and opposed to the introduction of a compulsory measure. As to grants to colleges, he held to the principle that the Government was responsible for the expenditure of the public money, and that to grant money otherwise than to institutions under their control would be a violation of the duty and func-

tions of a government. The Prince of Wales College was a government institution, that of St. Dunstan's was, he believed, denominational. With respect to the Catholic schools in this City, he would only say that if parents preferred to send their children to private schools, they ought to be prepared, also, to enjoy the luxury of paying those who taught them. It would be utterly impossible for the state to support two distinct systems. One must give place to the other; and if the denominational was introduced it would soon destroy the other, and the result would be that the legislature would have to withhold the grant for education altogether. This he hoped would never happen, as he held it to be the duty of the Government to see that every child in the Colony had an opportunity to obtain a good education.

Mr. G. SINCLAIR.—Said that secular and sectarian education were separate and distinct. It appeared that, in Charlottetown, there were some who favoured the theory of sectarian education, but who did not appear to have much faith in obeying the practice their theory inculcated. For his part, he did not believe in the theory. If the sectarian theory was adopted, it would lead to as many systems as there were varieties of opinions in matters of religion. The state had no right to take money out of any man's pocket to teach what he did not believe. Every denomination should support the teaching of its own opinions. The protection and good government of a country made it imperative that the people were educated, and he thought a law would yet have to be passed to compel people to send their children to school. What was taxation, in any sense, for education but compulsion? And, therefore, to complete the object aimed at, it was necessary that a law compelling the attendance of children should be passed. He did not believe that the state should interfere further in the matter of education than what was required for the ordinary duties of life. The higher branches of instruction, and how they should be taught, had become a matter of opinion in which all did not agree. The Catholics thought that a classical education should not be taught on the same system as the secular, and preferred having all students of such boarded in the establishment and under the supervision of their teachers. Protestants thought and acted differently. No one system could be successfully carried out by any government unless it had the sanction of the people; and as a large body were opposed to endowing a sectarian col-

lege, while another large portion of them would not avail itself of the benefits to be derived from the other, he saw no course open but to throw both upon the voluntary support of their friends. That it would come to this he felt convinced. The secular system was popular in the country, and none other would do. With respect to Prince of Wales, it was not sectarian, yet many would not avail themselves of its advantages, and he was constrained to say he always thought it was a hardship for the Catholics to have to pay for the support of a college from which they derived no benefits. He felt it to be an injustice, and saw no remedy but to place them both on the same level. If the Protestants wanted a college let them establish one of their own. He would not hesitate to say that it was unjust to the Catholics to compel them to pay for the support of Prince of Wales College.

House adjourned for one hour.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

House in committee on the Draft Address.

The paragraph relating to the payment of teachers' salaries, which had been under consideration in the morning session, was agreed to without any further discussion.

The next paragraph relating to the Board of Works was read.

Hon. THE SPEAKER remarked that the Board of Works had not had sufficient time to accomplish all they had undertaken, but after they had had a fair trial, he believed the country would be well satisfied with their labors. Sufficient accommodation was not given to the public at Montague Bridge, but it was the intention of the Board of Works to have a wharf built there soon. Many times he (Mr. Speaker) had expected to see Montague Bridge carried down the stream, when five or six vessels were fastened to it, and the force of the wind and the current caused them to drag heavily upon it.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND said that the government must be pleased with the eulogium pronounced upon the Board of Works by his honor the Speaker; but he (Mr. H.) was rather disappointed with that pet institution. The government had not carried out the Act to appoint a Board of Works in a satisfactory manner. Every member of that Board, with

the exception of the Commissioner of Public Lands, was a member of the Executive Council, so that it was only a special committee of the Executive Council. He (Mr. H.) was under the impression that men were to be chosen outside of the Legislature, so that in case any person felt himself aggrieved with the decision of the Board, he could appeal to the Executive Council, but under the present circumstances it would be only appealing from Cæsar to Cæsar. There were now in his (Mr. H.'s) desk some protests against the acts of the Board of Works. One was from certain persons in New London complaining that it was decided to remove a wharf which had been built some years ago near Morris's to some other place. That wharf had been built partly by subscription, and if the government permitted it to be removed to another place contrary to the wishes of the people, the amount subscribed towards building the wharf should be refunded by the government. There was another complaint by Mr. Ronald McCormack, who had taken a contract of a public work at or near Keir's shore, Malpeque. This contract had been entered into on the faith of a specification furnished him by D. O'M. Reddin, Esq., who was at that time Solicitor General; but when he (Mr. McCormack) signed a bond for the fulfilment of the contract, a specification was attached to it differing from the one he had received. The contractor would naturally suppose that the specification annexed to the bond was the same as the copy given him by the Solicitor General. Now, this immaculate Board of Works insisted on the fulfilment of the contract according to the specification affixed to the bond. There was also a complaint from a Mr. Peter Stewart, who had a contract on Souris Breakwater, and although the work was faithfully performed, and finished nearly twelve months ago, he had not yet received a sixpence for his labor, while another man, who had a contract at the same time, because he had more favor with the government, had received his full pay. If the Executive would grant this man (Peter Stewart) permission to bring his case into the Supreme Court, he (Mr. H.) had no fears of the result.

Hon. THE SPEAKER said he had been informed that Mr. Stewart had taken his contract at a very low rate, and that when he should be paid the amount agreed upon, he would lose about £200

by the job; but the difficulty about getting his pay had arisen from a misunderstanding with the committee appointed to superintend the work, so that they would not give him the necessary certificates.

Hon. Mr. McAULAY brought to the notice of the government the fact that last season one of the Road Commissioners in his district had discovered that the new wharf built on the Cardigan River was afloat on account of not being properly ballasted, and that on recommendation of a member of the Board of Works, thirty or forty tons of stone had been put upon it to keep it from floating away altogether. He (Mr. McAulay) also said that if there was any evil in the present constitution of the Board of Works, the government had perpetrated that evil with their eyes open, for he and other members had last session warned them against making that Board a political engine. He would also inform the House that last summer a person had called upon him and wished him to take proceedings against the Superintendent of Public Works for trespass. He (Mr. McAulay) had recommended the person to another magistrate, and he believed the Superintendent had been fined.

Hon. Col. SECRETARY said, in reference to the case of Peter Stewart, that the agreement had been made with the committee appointed to superintend the work, and the Board of Works had nothing to do with it. As regarded the constitution of the Board of Works, if members of the Government were willing to perform the labor connected with that Board, no fault could be found with them for doing so. The Board of Works had been established in June, and soon after the crusher had been imported, but as the boiler had been found defective, it had to be sent back and another procured. This delay had made it late in the season before the crusher could be got to work, but, when fairly under way, seventy or eighty cart loads of stone per day had been broken. Half a mile of the St. Peter's Road had been covered sixteen feet wide and seven inches deep with broken stone. The cost of macadamizing the road in this manner would be about £1000 per mile, but roads made in this way would stand for a century with slight repairs. Another road from Mr. Wright's gate to town had been covered eight feet wide with Island stone, and troyed with two and a-half inches of

gravel. The roads leading to North River Bridge had also been covered with gravel. The amount of work done by the Board of Works was immense. They had received complaints concerning forty-five bridges—most of which they had caused to be repaired, and in some had built stone culverts—thirty-eight wharves, and ten lighthouses. A wreck of a schooner had also been taken out of the channel of the Hillsborough, where it had lain for some time obstructing navigation.

Mr. KICKHAM remarked, in reference to the contract of Mr. Stewart on the Souris Breakwater, that the Board of Works had nothing to do with it. The agreement had been made with the committee who had the superintendence of the work. The committee wished the work to be built twenty-five feet wide, but as Mr. Stewart suggested that that was too narrow, they told him to make it as wide as the size of his timber would permit, and they would remunerate him for his extra labor. It had been made twenty-seven feet wide, and finished in a workman-like manner, and it was a hard case if a man, after doing public work at an inclement season of the year, at the risk of losing his health, could not get paid for his labor.

Mr. CAMERON said that in reference to the wharf at Morris's, a unanimous vote had been given at a public meeting in favor of removing the wharf from its present position, and that it never was expected by those who subscribed towards its erection, that it was going to be built in the place in which it now was.

Hon. P. SINCLAIR stated in reference to the wharf at New London that Messrs Morris wanted it at their shore, but the general public wished to have it at the end of the road, the place which was now fixed upon by the Board of Works. The late government had this subject under consideration, and when Mr. Alley, who was then Superintendent of Public Works, went out to let the building of the wharf, the people wished to have it at the end of the road, but he would not agree to that unless they would guarantee to pay the difference of £30, which he, the late S. of P. W., estimated it would cost to build said wharf at the end of the public road over what it would cost at Morris' shipyard. The inhabitants present very justly refused guaranteeing to pay the difference, believing that public works ought to be placed where they would be of the most public benefit, and petitioned the late

government against the injustice of building the wharf at Morris' shipyard, and, consequently, imposing upon the public the danger and difficulty of travelling a road on the edge of a steep and dangerous bank, and the heavy outlay of keeping said bank in repair. The result of their petition was that the government of that day appointed a commission, consisting of W. Bagnall, W. Brown, and B. Bearisto, Esqrs. The following extract from a minute of Council would show the opinion of the Commissioners:—

“Commissioners report that in their opinion the site at the end of the road is the most eligible, and that it will cost about thirty pounds more to place it there. Whereupon the Executive Council ordered that the S. of P. W. be directed to endeavor to arrange with the contractor to erect the wharf at the end of the road, and that the S. of P. W. be authorized to allow the contractor the sum of thirty pounds over and above the amount of the former contract.”

The matter had, however, been neglected, and the wharf built in its present position. A petition to repair the present wharf had been sent to the House last year, and another petition to remove it to the end of the road. The result of these petitions was that the Board of Works last year sent another commission to report thereon, viz., Hon. A. Laird and the Superintendent of Public Works, and they reported in a similar manner as the former did. A letter had been sent to Messrs. Morris, asking them if they would open a proper road to the present wharf, but they had refused to give any satisfaction, and it was decided to remove the wharf. The hon. Leader of the Opposition was now going against what he had recommended when in the late government.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD said that in reference to the case of Mr. McCormack, which had been brought up by the hon. Leader of the Opposition, he believed the Board of Works was entitled to a vote of censure, but their error had been on the side of leniency in not enforcing the payment of the penalty for not having the work done at the time agreed upon. He (Mr. McCormack) had engaged to build a wharf at Port Hill, which he failed to finish at the time agreed upon, and the Board of Works dealt leniently with him. He had also entered into a contract to build a wharf at Keir's shore, to be completed by the first of September, but the work was not yet performed, and had it been known that a longer time would be given than that agreed upon, probably some other person would have contracted to do the work for less

money. When a man affixed his name to a bond to which a specification was attached, he was bound to fulfil his contract according to that specification. The S. of P. W. for Prince County, and the S. of P. W. for Queen's County had inspected this job of Mr. McCormack's, and both had stated that it was not done according to contract.

Mr. BRECKEN remarked that he had thought when this Board of Works was appointed it was for the purpose of getting rid of the old slipshod method of doing the public work, and that the Road Commissioners and overseers were to be done away with, but it appeared such was not the case. The government had acted wisely in importing the crusher, for although it would be pretty expensive to macadamize roads at £1000 per mile, yet it was necessary to do something of the kind to the principal roads leading to the towns. The best thing that could be done by the government, would be to help the City to macadamize the streets of Charlottetown, for hitherto public money had been dealt out to Charlottetown with a very niggardly hand. With respect to the case of Mr. Stewart, he (Mr. B.) did not believe there was a disposition on the part of the government to do him any injustice, but the committee who superintended the work had acted very unfairly. Mr. Stewart, acting under his (Mr. B's) advice, had had the work inspected by competent persons, among whom was no less a personage than the new member from East Point, (Mr. McLean) and since that gentleman had a seat in the House, it was to be hoped that he would see that justice was done in this case. There was a grievance in Mr. Stewart's case. It had been an understanding, at the time the work was let, that the contractor should have the use of a government scow which was at that place, but after Mr. Stewart had repaired the scow and used it a few days, it was taken from him, and he was obliged to build one for himself. The best thing the government could do was to pay this man, as they had the word of several hon. members that the work was completed.

Mr. MCCORMACK considered that the laborer was worthy of his hire, and as Mr. Stewart had performed his work according to specification, he was entitled to the amount agreed upon. He (Mr. McC.) believed that Mr. Stewart had applied to the proper persons when he sent a petition to this House; and as no protest

against his petition had been received, it was pretty good evidence that the work was properly done.

Mr. HOWAR thought, in regard to Mr. McCormack's case, that if the specification attached to his bond was different from the one furnished him by the Solicitor General, there should be some allowance made.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD said the Board of Works had nothing to do with any specifications except those attached to bonds, for they had very good reason to believe that, in some instances, specifications in the hands of contractors and workmen had been tampered with. He (Mr. L.) was particularly struck with the remarks made by the hon. member for Charlottetown (Mr. Brecken) that the old system of having the public work done, was a slip-shod system, and he hoped the Board of Works would be more strict in future, and insist upon the work being finished at the time agreed upon, so that the term slip-shod might not hereafter be applicable. This Mr. McCormack had set the S. P. W. at defiance and refused to do the work according to his directions. If the Board had done wrong, they were amenable to the law. Mr. McCormack might take his case to court.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND said that one of the duties of the people's representatives was to redress grievances for which there was no remedy in courts of law. A man could not sue the Crown, unless he first got permission from the Executive government.

The paragraph was agreed to.

The last paragraph of the Address was also read and agreed to, after which his honor the Speaker took the chair, and the chairman of the committee reported the address agreed to, without any amendment.

Ordered to be engrossed.

Ordered that the committee who prepared the Address wait on his Honor the Administrator to know when he will be pleased to receive the Address.

Clerk of Legislative Council Bill.

Hon. Mr. DAVIES presented a Bill providing for the appointment of the Clerk of the Legislative Council by that body, which was received and read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

House adjourned.

SATURDAY, March 12.

Mr. REILLY, from the Committee appointed to wait upon His Honor the Administrator to know when it would be his pleasure to receive the reply to the opening speech, reported that His Honor would attend at the Legislative Library for that purpose at 3½ p. m.

Clerk of the Legislative Council.

Hon. COL. SECRETARY moved that the House do go into committee of the whole on the second reading of the bill for the appointment of the Clerk of the Legislative Council. He said the bill would merely give to the Legislative Council power to appoint its own Clerk. He considered such an arrangement much better than that this officer should be chosen by the Executive.

House went into committee accordingly—Mr. McLean in the chair.

Hon. Mr. CALLBECK considered such a bill necessary, and thought it was rather derogatory to the Legislative Council to say they should not have power to choose their own officers.

Hon. Mr. MCAULAY did not rise to object to the bill, but to say to the hon member who had last spoken that the practice hitherto followed was not derogatory to the Upper Chamber. The same practice was followed by the Imperial Government, which appointed all the officers to the House of Lords; but then there were arguments which might be used to show why an alteration should be made. We had party government, and while some might suppose that the government might make the most competent appointment, yet it might so happen that such an appointment would be for party purposes; and therefore he considered it far better to leave the appointment with the Legislative Council itself.

Hon. P. SINCLAIR said great inconvenience might arise from the power to appoint this officer being in the Executive. In New Brunswick the Upper House had refused to accept the clerk appointed by the government. A similar bill was passed last year by the Council,

but as it made provision for the payment of the salary which the clerk was to receive, it had to be thrown out when it was brought before the House.

The bill was then read, reported agreed to, and ordered to be engrossed.

House adjourned until 3 o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At half-past three o'clock the House waited on His Honor the Administrator of the government with the Address, and on their return the Hon. the Speaker reported and read the following Reply :

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

Accept my thanks for this Address, and for the assurance it contains that the new proposals for the confederation of this Colony with the Dominion of Canada, together with the Despatches of Her Majesty's principal Secretary of State for the Colonies relating to this important subject, will, when placed before you, receive your calm and deliberate attention.

I am much gratified by the kind terms in which you allude to my continued administration of the Government; and thank you for your promised attention to the several public measures to be submitted to you for your consideration.

House adjourned.

MONDAY, March 14.

Leadership.

Hon. COL. SECRETARY remarked that he had so far conducted the business since the opening of the session, but he was happy to inform the House that the Hon. Mr. Howlan, who had been chosen the Leader of the Government in the House, was now present and would act in that position.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN said it was not often that a man so young arrived at the position of the leader of a party. He would be glad if the position had fallen to an older person; especially when he thought of those able men who had led the Liberal party before him, he could not but feel the difficulty of the position to which he was called. Hon. Mr. Coles led the Liberal party ably and successfully,

and he thought all would agree in admitting that Hon. Mr. Hensley conducted the business of the House second to none who had ever been before him; and he (Mr. H.) felt sorry that that gentleman was not now in the House; but a third Judge had been frequently asked for by the people, and when the Government had to appoint one, it was not reasonable to suppose they would go outside of their own party for a person to fill that office. As the representatives of the people they considered it their duty to appoint Hon. Mr. Hensley to the Judgeship, and from that fact and circumstance he (Mr. Howlan) happened to be placed in his present position, and hoped the Opposition would extend to him that forbearance which any of them similarly placed would desire. He was sorry he had not been present at an earlier date, but hoped it would be found that he had not been wholly neglecting the interests of the country in his absence.

House adjourned till 3 o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Supply.

Hon. COL. SECRETARY moved that a supply be granted to Her Majesty.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND said that before such a motion was made, it was the duty of the Government to submit the Estimates for the ensuing year, and he hoped the usual method would not be departed from this session.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN stated that it was not the rule of the House to have the estimates submitted before a supply was granted. The proper method was to grant the supply, but not to go into committee on supply before the estimates were submitted.

After some further discussion on the subject, the motion made by the Colonial Secretary was carried.

Despatches.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN presented a message from His Honor the Administrator

transmitting certain Despatches which were ordered to be laid on the table.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Howlan, it was ordered that the despatches relating to the subject of confederation be printed and a copy furnished to each member of the House.

Trade Relations with the United States.

As there was nothing before the House, Hon. Mr. Howlan embraced the opportunity of giving some account of his visit to Washington. He stated that, as he had business in Boston, the Government had requested him to go on to New York to arrange some matters with the Telegraph Company. These had been satisfactorily arranged, and it was the intention of the telegraph company next summer to extend the telegraph line to Georgetown. The Government had also requested him (Mr. H.) to proceed to Washington to see if Congress would do anything to improve our trade relations with the United States. Two years ago, a committee of Congress had visited this Island to discuss the subject of our trade relations with that country, and they had entered into a sort of informal treaty with the Government of this Colony. That committee had reported to Congress, and there the matter ended. Last year, there had been so many conflicting interests that the statesmen of the Republic could not see their way clear to make any change in the tariff, but this year they thought the period had arrived to make some alterations, and the Government of this Island deemed it the most suitable time to make an effort to get the American market opened to our productions. The people of this Island had been blessed with a bountiful harvest last year, but a market for the products of the soil was very necessary. On his arrival at Washington, he (Mr. H.) presented his card to the British minister, and afterwards called on General Butler, by whom he was treated in the most kind and hospitable manner. He (Mr. H.) wished publicly to express his gratitude for the frankness, courtesy and kindness which had been extended to him during his stay in Washington. General Butler agreed

to use his influence in his (Mr. H.'s) favor, if he would agree to adhere to the arrangements entered into by the Congressional committee when on the Island, to which he (Mr. H.) assented, but informed General Butler that we could not interfere with Imperial rights respecting the fisheries. He (Mr. H.) then drew up the following propositions:

"First. That Prince Edward Island shall not charge any fees as light money or anchorage fees to any vessel engaged in the fisheries of the United States."

"Second. No vessel belonging to the United States, or engaged in the regular packet service between both countries, shall be liable to pay any fees or dues for pilotage, except when pilots are actually taken."

"Third. That the manufactures and products of the United States shall be placed on the same footing as those of all other countries, including Great Britain."

"For which we claim the following modification of your Tariff."

"Oats, free; Barley, free; Potatoes, free; Mackerel reduced from \$2 to \$1 per barrel; Herring reduced from \$1 to 50 cents per barrel; Horses and Mules £7 per head; Neat Cattle \$5 per head; Calves, Sheep, Goats and Swine 50 cents per head."

This proposition was submitted to the committee of ways and means, and General Butler spoke in favor of P. E. Island with as much zeal as an advocate would plead the cause of his client. As the committee did not seem to be in favor of giving us a free list, he (Mr. H.) drew up another proposition asking that the duties be reduced as follows:—

"Oats reduced from 10 to 5 cents per bush.; barley from 15 cents to 5 cents; and potatoes from twenty-five cents to five cents; other articles as in the former proposition."

The subject was very fully discussed, the committee seemed very much in favor of the proposition, and General Butler promised to use his utmost endeavors to carry a Bill in accordance therewith through Congress. This delegation was not very expensive as the Government had only to pay his (Mr. H.'s) expenses from Boston to Washington, and if it had done no good it had done no harm.

House adjourned.

TUESDAY, March 15.

Classified Accounts.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN presented the classified accounts for 1869, and was glad to state that the revenue exceeded the expenditure by nearly three thousand pounds, exclusive of the Land Office.

Petitions, &c.

Mr. REILLY presented a petition for the opening of a Post-office at Burns' Road, Lot 39, and one also for opening a new road at Morell East Road, and in doing so strongly advocated the prayer of the petitioners upon the attention of the Government.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN said, as the President of the Council had been absent for a day or two, and as the Government wished to hold a meeting he would move that the House do adjourn until to-morrow at 10 o'clock, a. m.

House then adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, March 16.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD presented some reports, when House went into committee on the Bill to incorporate the

Northern Agricultural Society.

Mr. G. Sinclair in the chair.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN, in moving that the Bill be read, said that the society had formerly been a branch of the Royal Agricultural Society which had been established in Charlottetown; and it had, in one form or other, yet held together. When Mr. Cunard held estates in that part of the Island, he frequently patronized it, by sending some good pigs and other animals to improve the stock, the benefits of which were still to be seen. We were an agricultural people, and every encouragement possible to be given should be extended to those engaged in this important calling. When farmers thus associated, it led to emulation and intercourse, and an exchange of thought that proved mutually beneficial. He hoped the committee would receive the Bill favorably.

Mr. BELL was aware of the facts stated by his hon. colleague, and thought a great deal of the success attending the prosecution of agriculture in that part of the country might be fairly traced to the operations of said society. He considered they acted wisely in asking for such an Act, and hoped the committee would grant them the privilege they sought. He was also of opinion and would strongly urge, that an allowance should be made to this society to enable it to offer prizes for the best seeds, stock, &c., which might be produced, as such competitions provoked an emulation which resulted in great good to the country, and materially led to a better and an increasing development of our agricultural resources.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD was proud to see that his agricultural friends in the north had asked for such an act. It convinced him (Mr. L.) that they knew how to appreciate the benefits of such associations. He would be glad, at all times, to countenance those mutual combinations which aimed at advancing the interests of any industry, and would give the bill his cordial support.

Mr. REILLY said it afforded him pleasure to support the incorporation of the proposed agricultural society for Prince County. The establishment of such societies indicated the importance which the inhabitants of that county attached to agriculture, and he regretted to have to admit that King's County was not equally alive to its best interests. We might encourage the fisheries and endeavour to establish manufactures, but, for many years to come, it must be admitted that we should have to depend mainly upon agriculture as a means of subsistence, and at all times that branch of industry would form the basis of our prosperity. Every encouragement, therefore, which could be extended to it should receive the cordial support of every intelligent legislator. Agricultural exhibitions tended to bring farmers together to interchange ideas upon agricultural subjects, as well as to compete in friendly rivalry for the palm of victory. In this way not only is improvement directly aimed at, but the diffusion of knowledge resulting from Industrial Exhibitions was productive of much advantage. A change of seeds and the importation of improved stock were also well worthy the consideration of the Legislature; and he thought the Government might very judiciously appropriate a share of the public funds in these directions. Last year he was very much pleased to see at the Exhibition at Georgetown, a splendid sample of Norway Oats, which probably were then publicly seen for the first time in King's County. If this grain were as productive as represented, the Government might authorize the importation of a limited quantity of it, as also of new kinds of wheat and potatoes. Whilst speaking of this, however, he was quite willing to admit that more had been accomplished in the improvement of the country from the discovery of the value of mussel-mud—a discovery which like nearly every great one known to mankind, was partly the result of accident—than by all the aid which Government could extend to our agriculturalists by means of exhibitions or otherwise.

Mr. BRECKEN heartily endorsed the sentiments of hon. members who had spoken on

this subject. It had been well said that agriculture was the most valuable and reliable source of industry, and in this country it was especially so. The annually increasing wealth of this Colony was wholly owing to the success of our farmers; many of whom were becoming wealthy, and, as upon their prosperity that of the Government of this country mainly depended, he thought every encouragement which could be extended by the Legislature to this branch of industry, should be cheerfully given. The importance of agriculture to this Island was so great, he thought we should aim at having one of the best agricultural societies in the world. With regard to stock, he would say, he saw a few days ago, a horse that was raised on the Stock farm, and felt satisfied he was not such an animal as would prove profitable to this country; and when he considered that so many horses were bought on this Island from parties abroad, he thought the Government would be justified in importing a superior animal. He would like to see a good roadster and a large draft horse procured, and felt that money thus appropriated would be well spent. Seed grain should also be procured, and money required for advancing the interests of agriculture in any way should be spent with a liberal hand.

Hon. Mr. DUNCAN said that he had known several attempts being made to raise oats from imported white oats, but in each case, after a year or two, it proved a failure. Good black oats, kept clean, and frequently changed, suited this Island better than any other. A good horse could not be procured in England for less than £400 *stg.*, and if one was again imported the Government should not limit the price to be paid for him. Some 50 years ago, a horse was brought here of such a description, and the superior qualities of the stock raised from him could yet be seen in the country.

Mr. McLEAN thought our agricultural friends in the western section of the Island were attending more to their interests than those in the eastern parts of the country. It appeared to him (Mr. McL.) that whatever advantage the Model farm might have been to other parts of the Island, the eastern portion of King's County never received any, as no distribution of the stock from that farm had ever been made in that part of the country. He desired to see our agricultural resources developed to their fullest extent, and being well aware that improved stock was required in many parts of King's County,

he hoped the Government in the next distribution of stock from the Model farm would not overlook the requirements of the eastern portion of the Island. The people there had no good facilities for the shipment of their surplus produce, and had, therefore, to feed it to their stock, a circumstance which rendered the obtaining of good stock a matter of great importance to the farmers towards the East Point. He did not consider it fair that our annual grant of £1000 should be set apart for the model or stock farm, when King's and Prince Counties did not receive an equivalent, and insisted that a portion of the stock raised upon the aforesaid farm should be sent to the eastern section of King's County, so that the inhabitants in that quarter might have something in return for the money they paid to sustain the project in question.

Hon. the SPEAKER said the benefits which were derived from the importation of stock for the model farm had not been such as were expected, or in proportion to the expense incurred; and the same might be said of the Royal Agricultural Society when it was in operation. He would like to see a general bill passed which would enable our farmers to establish such societies in all parts of the country. He would be glad to support the measure, as he was satisfied such organizations were mutually beneficial to our farmers. Some few years ago, he imported a sample of seed oats from Scotland, but its cultivation proved that it was not suited to this country; and from his own experience he was satisfied that none did as well as our black oats.

Hon. COL. SECRETARY stated that the Royal Agricultural Society proved a failure as much from the discontent and pressure of hon. members from Prince and King's Counties as from any other cause. And with respect to the Government importing seeds or stock, he considered it by far more desirable to leave that to private enterprise, of which he felt there was enough in the country, if the Government would guarantee no interference. Some good stock had been sent to Prince County, which had not been prized as it should, and among the rest some pigs which, judging from the price they brought, must have been bought up for the use of some of the hotels in Summerside. Such animals were better prized by the people of Queen's County, and, as an instance, he would state that one of his constituents

had, a few days ago, realized the handsome sum of £93 for eight of those, which were but eleven months old, and all from one litter. This showed where the people lived who appreciated such privileges.

Mr. BELL contended that the failure of the Royal Agricultural Society was owing more to the mismanagement of those who conducted its operations, than to any influence brought to bear upon it from either of the outlying counties. With regard to the stock, the society never sent any to Cascumpec that was better than what had been there before. In so far as seed grain was concerned, he felt convinced if farmers would more generally follow the course adopted by some near Alberton, and pick out the best ears from some sheaves, and from these every year select the choicest grains for sowing, he was satisfied they would obtain seed much superior to any which could be imported. He did not wish the Government to grant an allowance to the society to enable it to get seed or other articles; what he meant was that if £20 or £30 a year was given, it would enable it to give higher prizes for the encouragement of this industry, than the funds of the society admitted of doing at present.

Mr. KICKHAM was convinced that nothing was more beneficial to the farmers than to meet with each other for consultation and an exchange of sentiments upon the results of the various systems and experiments they might have pursued. He was aware that many farmers were very careless about changing their seed again, and equally so about the quality of their stock. If sheep were not changed every three years, their owners would find that for either mutton or wool they would soon be very unprofitable; and the same was true of all kind of seeds, either of roots or cereals. He felt sure that by proper care and attention, this Island would produce as fine a quality of roots, cereals and stock as could be raised in England.

Hon. Mr. McAULAY was glad to see such a bill, and would assure the hon. member who introduced it that it should have his cordial support. He thought it was not easy to over estimate the advantage of farmers meeting with each other under such regulations as the bill provided. They reasoned and consulted with each other, and if one had excelled another in any particular the others re-

ceived the benefit of his knowledge. As to the model farm, if the name implied anything, then it should be a model farm, which every farmer in the whole Island might copy. He would be glad to see such societies formed in all parts of the country, convinced as he was of their tendency to promote agriculture. Our exports this year were chiefly those produced by the farmer, and this being so it clearly pointed out the duty of cherishing this industry to the fullest extent which the Government legitimately could. He was not sure that the imported stock was any better than some raised on this Island. He knew his hon. friend the Speaker paid £40 for an animal he imported, and he (Mr. McA.) felt quite certain that his skin was the best part of him; yet he thought a much more judicious course might be adopted for permitting King's County to participate in the advantages to be derived from the stock raised on the model farm.

Hon. Mr. DUNCAN thought the Government farm should not be called the "model farm," it was merely a stock farm. Some few years ago, when stock was imported, it was fairly divided between the counties, and he saw no disposition to monopolize in favor of Queen's County. Some of it was sent to Georgetown and Summerside and disposed of. He would favor a movement to import some good horses, and would willingly support the bill.

Mr. McLEAN said it was almost as easy for parties at the East Point to go to Charlottetown as to Georgetown. Therefore, to send stock to Georgetown was no benefit to his part of King's County.

Mr. PROWSE felt that there was much force in what was said by the hon. member for East Point, for the outlying portions of King's County were unable to participate in advantages which were to be had at Georgetown. With respect to the annual exhibitions, he thought it would be better to have a shorter list of articles to be competed for, and to make the prizes higher; some of the articles competed for one year might be left out of the list the next. This would encourage farmers to come from a greater distance to compete for the prizes, as the obtaining of one would defray the expense incurred in attending the exhibition. The position of Lot 64 was such that it was almost as easy for its people to go to Charlottetown as Georgetown.

Mr. CAMERON was sorry the bill introduced by the hon. member was not a general one; had it been one of that nature those in other sections of the country could, when they desired, avail themselves of its advantages without application to the Legislature for a special act. With respect to Queen's County receiving more benefit from the Royal Agricultural Society than the other two counties, he thought Prince County received more general advantages than Queen's County did. He would prefer seeing the Act changed and made to extend to all who desired to form such associations, and thought the benefits arising from the stock farm were not in proportion to its cost. It would be better to spend the money on importing stock. The best horses in the country were being fast bought up and taken away, and as this was a matter affecting the prosperity of the country he thought the Government should import some heavy and swift travelling horses. The public exhibitions had given general satisfaction.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD regarded the debate on the stock farm out of place. That question would be brought before the House at the proper time, when hon. members would have an opportunity to discuss that question.

Hon. COL. SECRETARY would merely say the stock farm was one of the legacies of the late Government, and not a profitable one. As to Queen's County being more benefited by that farm and the Royal Agricultural Society than the other counties, he could only say, if so, it was because the people knew how to value such privileges, and did not despise pigs with short legs, as was the case in Prince County when a fine breed was sent up there.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD could assure the hon. Col. Secretary that the people of Prince County did know how to value a good stock of pigs; one of his neighbors had, a few days ago, brought one to Charlottetown which was eighteen months old when killed and weighed 600 lbs. He (Mr. L.) did not know if Queen's County could do better than that.

Mr. BELL said, in Tignish, a few days ago, £15 was paid for a live pig, and asked if the hon. member could show better than that in Queen's County. He could assure the hon. member that the people up there did not despise a good breed of any kind of stock, but that some

of what was sent up was inferior to what they had there before it came.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND was sorry he was not in earlier, in order that he might have given his opinion upon the bill, but from what the hon. member for Bedeque (Mr. L.) said, he was disposed to wait until the report of the stock farm came up for discussion. As regarded stock, he might say that, when attending the court last spring, in St. Eleanor's, some of the judges and others drove out to see some of the farms, and a few cows were purchased, which turned out the best milkers now in the Royalty—that was for their size. He was inclined to believe they had been crossed with the Alderney at one time.

House adjourned for one hour.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN moved the following resolution:—

Resolved, That to-morrow the House go into Committee on Supply granted to Her Majesty."

The resolution was agreed to, after which the House adjourned.

THURSDAY, March 17.

Hillsborough Ferry.

Hon. Mr. DUNCAN enquired if the Government intended laying any information before the House respecting the Hillsborough Ferry.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN said the Government would do so in a few days, but was not yet prepared.

Northern Agricultural Society Bill.

The Bill to incorporate the Northern Agricultural Society was then read a third time and passed.

New Matter.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN submitted a Resolution, which was agreed to, that no new matter upon which a Bill could be founded should be introduced after Tuesday, the 29th March, inst.

Tavern Licence Bill.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN asked leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Tavern Licence Act. The object of the Bill was to give to the Grand Jury of Queen's

County the same power to deal with Tavern Licences granted by the City Council which Juries had over Licences issued by the Col. Secretary. It appeared that last year the Grand Jury of Queen's County endeavored to deprive some parties of their Tavern Licences, when it was found that it had no control over those which were granted by the City Council, and to prevent a similar occurrence this Bill was brought in. As the Tavern Licence Act dealt with money, it might be thought that the Bill should have originated in a Committee of the whole House, but as it only provided for the alteration he referred to, he supposed there would be no objection. He did not see the hon members for the City in their seats, but had spoken to them about it.

The Bill was read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

Teachers' Salaries Bill.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN presented a Bill to regulate the payment of Teachers' Salaries. In explaining the principles of the Bill, the hon member said that its object was to lessen the labor in the public offices. The system now was that a separate warrant had to be drawn for each separate amount which had to be paid to the respective teachers, which caused an immense labor in the public offices. It was proposed, therefore, that each time a certain number of teachers had to receive their pay, that for the amount thus to be drawn, one warrant not exceeding £500 should be drawn by the Secretary of the Board. In this way there would be but one entry where there might have been twenty. Proper guards were thrown around all the parties who had to do with the handling of the amounts thus drawn. He thought the Bill would receive the sanction of the House, and was aware that it was much required.

The Bill was then read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

Expiring Laws.

House in Committee on Expiring Laws reported a resolution agreeing to continue the act of the 22d Victoria, authorizing the appointment of Coal Meters, except as far as related to Charlottetown. A Bill founded on said resolution was read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

Bill for the Incorporation of the Pisquid Lime Company

was read a second time, committed to Committee, and reported agreed to with an amendment.

House adjourned for one hour.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Financial Statement.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Howlan the third order of the day was read, namely, That the House do now resolve itself into a committee of the whole House, to consider of the Supply granted to Her Majesty. He then said that before going into committee on supply, he wished to submit the Estimates for the current year, and to make some remarks concerning them. The Revenue for the past year, from all sources, was £88,989 10s. Some of the sources of revenue were as follows:—Impost, £66,133 8s. 2d; Light and Anchorage dues, £1056 16s. 10d.; Land Assessment, £3848 5s. 5d.; General Post Office, £2312 5s.; Fees from Colonial Secretary's Office, £438 13s. The expenditure of last year was £3 00 less than the revenue. Last year the cost of education was £20,021 13s. 10d., while the previous year it was about £300 less, and the estimate for the current year was placed at £21,000. Wharves cost last year, £3204, and returned £2 5s. 9d.; Post Office cost £821 7s. 6d., and returned £2312 5s., and Road Service cost £15,823 11s. 9d., and it was estimated that these would cost the same this year. The estimates for this year were £75,000. It was expected that the Imposts for the current year would fall short of that collected last year; in the estimated revenue it was placed at £60,000, but it was not the intention to make any change in the Tariff. The gross revenue for the current year was estimated at £76,201. Last year the government asked for the

sum of £10,000, £5000 to be appropriated towards the erection of public buildings, and £5000 to be at the disposal of the Board of Works. The sum of £5000 was found to be quite insufficient to erect such buildings as were required, and as the debentures for that amount were issued and sold, the money was lying in the Treasury. The payment of the £5000 for public improvements was to be extended over five years, but as the revenue last year was so good, the whole had been paid off.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND objected to the course taken by the Hon. Mr. Howlan in moving that the House go into committee on Supply, and at the same time bringing down the estimates. The estimates should be on the table twenty-four hours before the House went into committee on Supply, in order to give members of the Opposition an opportunity to examine them.

After some discussion on the subject, it was decided that the House should not go into committee on supply to-day.

The estimates were then read by the Clerk.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND remarked that in the estimates there was no provision for the payment of the assistant Treasurer, but it appeared there was such an officer, for there were government securities bearing the signature of a man signing his name as "Assistant Treasurer."

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN explained that the Colonial Treasurer received £350 per annum, and if he chose to pay an assistant £150, it was all right. The present government were only following out the system adopted by their predecessors.

House adjourned.

FRIDAY, March 18.

Bill to amend Tavern License Law.

House in committee on the bill to explain the Act relating to the sale of spirituous liquors.

Mr. G. Sinclair in the chair.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND had not been in his place when the bill was introduced, but assumed it was brought in to meet a difficulty which had arisen out of some presentments which were made by the Grand Jury against certain licensed tavern keepers, who had obtained their licenses under the authority of the City Council, out of which a conflict of jurisdiction had arisen. The City Fathers

contended that the Grand Jury had no control over licenses so granted. He understood the question was to have been argued before the Judges, but believed nothing had been done. He thought the Grand Jury should have jurisdiction in such matters, and would support the bill, as he considered it to be the duty of that hon. committee to see that proper laws were enacted for the protection of the morals of the people, and if the City Fathers did not look after these matters as they should do, it was the duty of hon. members to assent to a measure which would place the power in the hands of the Judges and Grand Jury, who would attend to their duty in this particular.

Hon. P. SINCLAIR said, if the City Fathers did not do their duty in a matter so vitally affecting the welfare of the youth of the city, as to close taverns in which gambling and other violations of the law were permitted, he considered it to be the duty of the committee to pass such a law as that under consideration.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD said it was the duty of the representatives of the people to guard the public interests and not allow them to be set aside by any party; and if the city authorities, though they had power to grant licenses, refused to protect the interests of the community in this matter, the power should be placed in the Court and Grand Jury. As affairs now stood, the citizens of Charlottetown were in a worse position than the people in the country, where the school districts could withhold the granting of a licence if they saw fit. The idea of permitting gambling houses to carry on their demoralizing practices without their proprietors being prosecuted and their licences taken from them, was calculated to cast a stain upon the Colony. It was time the matter was attended to. He would support the bill.

Mr. BEECKEN said the course the city fathers had pursued with respect to the presentments of the Grand Jury in January was, he presumed, the cause which led to the introduction of this bill. He had, in the Supreme Court, listened to the report of the demoralizing practices which had been going on in this city, and felt that they were sapping the manhood of our youth. The Judge, when the court was opened in Georgetown, gave the same charge to the jury as was given in Charlottetown, and the law in these matters should, in giving

jurisdiction to the court, not make any distinction between the city and the country. In supporting this bill, he might offend some of his friends, yet he felt that the protection of our youth from such influences was a matter which outweighed with him all such considerations. The court and jury should have jurisdiction in all such cases.

Mr. BELL said it was a question in which he felt a deep interest. He was convinced that many temptations were presented before young men in this city, and felt that it was the duty of the Legislature to pass such laws as might tend to prevent their being continued. The early associations of youth would form their character, and if they were drawn into gambling saloons, where cards and other accompaniments of vice were indulged in, they would eventually become confirmed in habits which might prove their ruin; it was, therefore, he contended, the duty of the committee to protect the youth from such temptations, in so far as legislation could do so. He thought the granting of licenses at all was wrong, and the fact that the traffic had to be surrounded with so many restrictions was sufficient to convince him that the whole thing was wrong. No such guards had to be thrown around any other business. Why then not do away with it altogether? But as that could not as yet be obtained, he wished to go a little further in protecting the youth than the law now made provision for, and would move that the following clause be added to the bill:—

"If any tavern keeper or other person licensed to retail spirituous liquors within this Island, shall furnish or supply to any minor under twenty-one years, any spirituous liquors, to be drunk or consumed on his premises by any minor, such tavern keeper or other person licensed as aforesaid shall be subject to a fine of £5, and to have the license suspended for six months, and, upon a second conviction thereof, shall be liable to a fine of £10 and to have his license cancelled and declared void."

He thought it was necessary that some safe-guard should be thrown around our youth, and hoped the proposed clause would be agreed to.

Mr. BRECKEN fully agreed with the sentiments of the hon member for Alberton, and would support him in having that clause added to the Bill. If young men had to be taught drinking customs, they should learn them in their parents' houses, and not in taverns. He had seen boys of fourteen and fifteen years of age calling for liquor, and

men eagerly taking money from them for it. It was time to put a stop to this.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN said the Bill was prepared merely to meet a difficulty which had arisen in Charlottetown, and he thought it would be better for his hon. colleague to withdraw his motion, and place a notice on the Order Book that he would move to have the whole of the Licence Acts revised. He found that the City Council had a bye-law which embraced all that was contained in the clause submitted.

Mr. McNEILL said the city authorities might find it difficult to know always to whom to give licenses, and often thought that if he lived in Charlottetown he would be sorry to see so many licensed taverns in the city. He felt convinced that the half that were licensed would be more than sufficient to meet the requirements of the public. No doubt the authorities of the city found it difficult to raise a revenue to meet their requirements; but the improvements of the city was one thing, and the protection of the morality of their youth another. (Hear.) It was well known that vicious habits might be very early acquired, and therefore he felt it to be his duty to support any measure which might tend to remove temptations out of the way of our youth.

Mr. BELL thought there would not be time to revise the whole of the License Law this Session, and if the clause which he proposed could be added to the bill, he felt that it ought to be done.

Mr. McLEAN would, with much pleasure, support the Bill, and also the clause of the hon member for Alberton. He considered it but right that the Court and Grand Jury should have the same power to deal with licences to tavern-keepers in the city as to those in the country, especially when it appeared that the city authorities were neglecting their duty. He only regretted that the Bill did not go further for the suppression of the use of spirituous liquors. He had observed that in those parts of the country where Temperance Lodges were established, the difference in the prosperity of the people was quite noticeable. Anything which he could do to encourage and advance the interests of Temperance would always afford him much pleasure.

Mr. CAMERON regarded the clause proposed by the hon member for Alberton as one which was worthy of his support. He believed that a large proportion of the paupers and criminals of the country were trained for those respective positions in taverns, and felt that when a government

legalized the sale of spirituous liquors by license in taverns, it was simply legalizing crime, and therefore it was that he would like to see the cause wholly removed. But as there was not time to consider the Act this Session, he would support the clause being added to the Bill.

Mr. PROWSE believed the clause proposed to be added would, if adopted, benefit the young men; but he saw a difficulty in having it carried out. A young man might enter a tavern and ask for liquor, and do so with a view to using it, and in order to make his end good utter false statements. He was afraid that in so far as morals were concerned, the cure would not be equal to the remedy required; for he thought it might induce many of them to tell lies, and as the love of money was the source of all evil, it would induce the tavern-keeper to encourage them in that mode of deception.

Mr. BELL said according to the requirements of the law, the person who applied for a tavern licence must produce a certificate from a magistrate, certifying that he was a person of good moral character; but it was frequently a question with him whether a man of a really good moral character would engage in such a business. But the houses that he wished to come at were those where young men were encouraged in a clandestine manner to drink; where they wasted their time and means, and formed habits which would lead them to ruin.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND said if it was true the City Council did not carry out their own laws, and if the liquor traffic had become so demoralizing that it was paralyzing their efforts to preserve the youth of the city from being drawn into those temptations which exist in many of the licensed taverns, then the time had arrived when the matter should be placed in the hands of the Judges of the Supreme Court and Grand Jury, which he thought, under any circumstance, was a better arrangement than that which had to be pursued before the Mayor's Court. For that reason he would support the clause proposed to be added as an amendment to the bill.

Mr. McMILLAN thought the amendment dealt too severely with the tavern keepers. If a minor drank or consumed any liquor upon his premises, he was liable to a fine, while that same liquor might have been bought by some person who was not a minor.

Mr. REILLY thought the committee should give attention to the point to which their attention had been drawn by the hon. mem-

ber for Summerside. He fully agreed with the hon. member for Alberton that every guard should be thrown around our youth; but he thought the amendment proposed went a little too far. Suppose, for instance, a man in the country sent his son to town and desired him to call at a tavern and bring him some liquor, if the son, though nineteen years of age, did so, and the tavern keeper sold it to him he would be liable to be fined. Anything which he (Mr. R.) could do to aid in perfecting our license laws would be cheerfully given. The whole system required revision, and if the session had to be extended one week, or even a month, to enable the House to revise the license laws for the sale of spirituous liquors, he would readily comply. But as there were no petitions from any parties before the Legislature asking for an interference in these matters, he did not see that there was any special necessity for taking up the subject then.

Mr. BRECKEN.—The difficulty raised by the hon. member could be obviated by striking out the word "consumed," but of all human law it might be truly said, as the great O'Connell once said about the acts of the Imperial parliament, you might drive a coach-and-four through them. It was true that no petitions had been received from the citizens of Charlottetown on this subject, as had been remarked by the hon. member for St. Peter's (Mr. Reilly), but it was also as true that a representative occupied a far higher position than that of a delegate, and, therefore, he (Mr. Brecken) was not going to suspend his own judgment in any matter which might come before the House, and wait until petitions were received. Nor did his constituents expect him to do so.

Mr. McCORMACK thought that licensed taverns in the country should not be allowed nearer to each other than ten miles. At wharves and public centres of business they were quite numerous; but in the country they were separated by long distances, and thereby in many instances much inconvenience was experienced by the travelling public. With respect to not allowing a tavern keeper to sell any liquor to a young man, or to drink any on his premises, he saw much inconvenience in the arrangement. Dr. Jenkins had, on the floor of the House, stated that, in some cases, spirituous liquors were a good and necessary medicine; this clause, however, would prevent a man from getting any, if sent for by a minor. How, he would like to know, was a tavern

keeper to ascertain the age of every person who would call upon him for a glass of liquor. Why, it would be necessary for all young men to carry in their pocket a card certifying to their age, if such an amendment was carried. (Laughter.)

Hon. Mr. LAIRD said the hon. member for St. Peter's (Mr. Rielly) thought if the citizens of Charlottetown required such a law they should have petitioned for it; but he (Mr. Laird) looked upon this as a progressive measure, and one that would apply to the country as well as to the city. As to the objection raised by the hon. member (Mr. McCormack,) he would only say, if the parties to whom liquor might be refused, under the provisions of this bill, were thirty years of age, he did not know that any serious injury would be done to them. He believed the amendment proposed by the hon. member (Mr. Bell) would have the effect of preventing young people from getting into the habit of drinking, and whatever those opposed to it might say, he felt satisfied posterity would approve of the measure.

Mr. REILLY found by referring to the bye-laws of the city corporation that there was an act there similar to the provisions of the amendment. He still considered it would be better to let the matter lie over until the whole of the license laws could be revised, which would, in his opinion, be preferable to such hasty legislation.

Mr. BRECKEN.—It was true there was such a bye-law as the hon. member referred to, but it had not been put in force. There was this difference, if this law passed, it then became the statute law of the land, and the courts would have the power to deal with its violaters.

Mr. McCORMACK.—Yes, but when a tavern keeper was fined under this law for selling to a man, how were you to prove his age? That was the point he would wish to have explained. Again, a man might go to a tavern keeper and represent himself to be older than he really was, buy and pay for some liquor, and then turn round and fine him for selling it to him. He hoped the committee would consider well what it was doing in the matter. Rather than have such a law, he would prefer doing away with the sale of spirituous liquors by license altogether. If it was right to have it kept from minors, it was wrong to allow it to be sold to those who were older.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND said the hon. member was astray in supposing that under such circumstances a tavern keeper would be

fined, for if it could be proved that he *bona fide* considered the man of age when he sold him the liquor, an action could not be sustained against him.

Dr. JENKINS thought that an amendment embracing such an important change should not have been introduced until notice thereof had been given in the order book. It appeared strange to him, to give power to the City Council to grant licenses and then to place the power of annulling them in the hands of another body. A grand jury might be composed of men in favor of temperance principles, and might, therefore, be induced to take unnecessary pains to find out the errors of those who kept licensed taverns, as by the adoption of such an amendment full power would be given to that body to do so. He thought no tavern keeper could guard against being fined, at times, if parties were disposed to watch him closely, for the restrictions already thereon were such as rendered their observance at all times next to impossible. He had been in several parts of the world, and was pretty well acquainted with the working of hotels, and was convinced the taverns in Charlottetown, as a whole, would compare favorably with those in any other country. When a man went to the expense of opening such a house, the reasons should be strong which would justify any body of men in taking away his license. He, however, knew the evil effects arising from the abuses complained of, and would be happy to aid in having the cause removed, but did not think the amendment proposed would meet the difficulty.

Mr. BRECKEN had not much time to devote to the consideration of the question embraced in the discussion, but did not hesitate to say that when he heard those parties against whom the grand jury made presentments had their licenses renewed by the Mayor's Court, he felt ashamed of the action of the representatives of the corporation of his native town. He was aware that a tavern keeper could not adhere, on all occasions, to the literal requirements of the law; but when he knew there were four times as many licensed taverns in the city as were required, he could not but conclude that other motives than those which the accommodation of the public required, led to the granting of so many licenses. If the Mayor and his Council did so for the purpose of raising a revenue, they did so at a terrible cost—even the ruin of the morality of the youth of the city (hear); and when he reflected that they had quadrupled the requirements of the city, he considered the

time had arrived when the power of annulling licenses for violations of the law should be placed in the hands of the Judges of the Supreme Court and Grand Jury.

Dr. JENKINS said what he objected to was the principle involved in giving the corporation power to grant licenses to tavern keepers, and then to give jurisdiction over those to another body. He would prefer taking from the City Council the power of granting them altogether, as he believed the reason why taverns were in this city so much in excess of the requirements was owing in some degree to the circumstance, that several members of the City Council were engaged in the liquor business, and when they granted a tavern license to a man, they secured a customer and furthered their own interests. By placing the power of granting licenses in the Executive Government, a remedy would be applied which might remove the evils complained of.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND said, as the amendment of the hon. member for Alberton made no provision for how the penalties imposed were to be recovered, he would submit the following amendment:—

“And which said fines shall be recoverable in the same mode and manner as fines directed to be recovered under and by virtue of the provisions of the Act regulating the sale by license of spirituous liquors, or any other acts in amendment thereof.”

The amendment was carried.

House resumed, when the bill was reported agreed to with amendments.

Small Debt Court in King's County.

On motion of Mr. Owen, the petition for the establishment of a Small Debt Court at Cardigan Cross-roads was referred to a committee to report thereon.

Teachers' Salaries Bill.

House in committee of the whole on the bill to alter the system of paying teachers' salaries.

Mr. McNeill in the chair.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND was in favor of the principle of the bill, and with respect to the details, as he (Mr. H.) did not profess to be a book-keeper, he hoped that hon. members who did understand keeping accounts would see that the proper remedy was applied in arranging the details.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN said the object of the bill was to lessen the amount of labor in the Treasurer's office, while every precaution would be exercised to guard against any undue advantage being taken of its provisions.

Hon. P. SINCLAIR said the bill would lessen the labor and also the cost now incurred in having the payments made to the teachers.

Hon. the SPEAKER was well aware that such a bill was required, and knew the proposed arrangements were such as would save much labor while they would entail no loss, extra cost, or inconvenience upon any party.

The bill was reported agreed to and ordered to be engrossed.

House adjourned for one hour.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Supply.

House in committee of supply.

Mr. Bell in the chair.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN moved a resolution granting the salaries provided for by statute.

In reference to the sum of £250 for the Registrar of Deeds, Hon. Mr. Haviland remarked that he was under the impression that £200 was the salary provided by statute for that officer.

Hon. P. SINCLAIR said he believed that £250 was the allowance provided by statute, but that part of the salary had been made payable to an assistant, but the present incumbent paid his own assistant.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN said that the salaries of some officers had been so cut and carved that it was almost impossible to find out how much the salaries really were. It would appear as if the late Government had not paid their officers as much as the present Government, but the difference was made up in paying assistants.

The words, “and assistant Registrar of Deeds” were inserted and the resolution agreed to.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN moved another resolution granting a sum sufficient for Education and some other items.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND asked how the grant of £100 for the Indians was to be expended. Was it through the Clerk of the Executive Council or the Indian Commissioner? and was it to be given in money or blankets?

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN remarked that we had a man in this Colony who devoted a great part of his time to the relief of the Indians, and that he did sometimes provide them with blankets and also shoes and other necessary articles. The annual grant for the Indians was disbursed by this Indian Com-

missioner, Mr. T. Stewart, and if the hon. Leader of the Opposition wished to obtain precise information on the subject, the best way would be to bring Mr. Stewart to the Bar of the House to give an account of his stewardship.

The Resolution was agreed to.

Another resolution was also read and agreed to.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN remarked that the next resolution he wished to move referred to the pauper grants. It was thought that as a Poor-house was established, so much money would not be required for pauper grants, but as this poor-house had only been lately established, and there were many districts in the Island which had sent no poor persons to it, the Government found it would be very difficult to apportion the grants properly, and they were, therefore, left the same as last year. The best method to adopt for the future would be to leave the matter in the hands of the commissioners of the poor-house, and let poor persons either be taken to that house or a grant given to their friends to keep them, as was found most convenient.

Resolution agreed to.

Poor House.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN moved a resolution granting £500 to the poor-house, and remarked that last year the grant was only £200, as it was merely an experiment, and it was thought prudent not to risk too much money, but as the institution had been established and was working very satisfactorily, it was now thought advisable to increase the grant. As there were some of the commissioners here, they could probably give a full account of its workings.

Hon. Mr. CALLBECK remarked that it was incumbent on him, as one of the Commissioners of the Poor-house, to make some remarks on the subject. Through some remissness, the report of that institution had not yet been received by the Government. He could state, however, that there were thirty-four adults and five or six children in the poor-house. The keeper furnished the food for the inmates at four shillings and six-pence per week, which was much cheaper than they could get board for anywhere else. Although a large proportion of those in the poor-house belonged to Charlottetown and its suburbs, yet there were several from the extreme ends of the Island, and he (Mr. C.) believed there were few districts that had not sent one or more.

Dr. JENKINS would like to hear from the hon. member who just sat down, whether they had made a comparison between the cost of keeping persons in the poor-house and the amount those poor persons cost the Government before the poor-house was instituted. He (Dr. J.) had opposed the establishment of a poor-house, as he considered it tended to make paupers by encouraging idleness. If the cost of keeping persons in a poor-house was greater than keeping them with their friends, hon. members should hesitate before granting this large sum.

Hon. Mr. CALLBECK stated that before the establishment of the poor-house, the Board of Health had in some instances to pay as much as fifteen shillings per week for the board of poor persons, while under medical attendance, but now such persons could be kept for four shillings and six-pence per week in the poor-house, thus showing the benefit of such an institution.

Dr. JENKINS said such cases as the hon. member (Mr. Callbeck) referred to were very rare; he wished to know the difference in the cost of keeping all the different classes of poor, in the poor-house, and among their friends. He (Dr. J.) also wished to know if the inmates of the poor-house had any occupation, and if so what the value of their labor was.

Hon. Mr. CALLBECK replied that there were many in the poor-house who were unable to engage in any occupation, but some were employed in knitting and spinning, and it was the intention to keep all employed who were able to work, so that they might help to pay the expenses of the institution.

Hon. P. SINCLAIR thought the resolution should be supported, although it was very true, as the hon. member for Charlottetown had remarked, that pauperism should not be encouraged. He (Mr. S.) had visited the poor-house and was highly pleased with the manner in which it was conducted. The poor we would always have with us, and the poor-house was the cheapest place in which they could be kept. It was a pleasing sight to behold the barracks changed into a poor-house.

The resolution was agreed to.

Light-houses, &c.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN moved another resolution granting certain sums, among which were an amount for Light-houses; £200 for Government House; £15 for a light on Souris Bridge. He remarked that a large sum had been expended on Government

House last year, and that it was now better fitted up than it had been for some time, and it was expected that it would not require much outlay for some years. It was a fortunate circumstance that government house was in such order last summer when we had such distinguished visitors.

Mr. OWEN could not see what use a light on Souris Bridge would be to masters of vessels, as it could not be seen any distance out the harbor, but it might be placed in some other position where it would be a benefit.

Mr. KICKHAM said it was agreed last session that a sum should be given for a light on Souris Bridge. A light there would be very useful to ship-owners, and would also serve another purpose—give light to the postman and other travellers crossing that Bridge at night. A light could not be kept on the breakwater on account of the impossibility of getting out to light the lamp when the tide was high.

Mr. PROWSE understood that in other places two lights were kept up for £20 and wished to know why £15 was required for one on Souris Bridge. If there was only one post-office in Souris, instead of two, a light would not be required to show the postman his way across the bridge.

Mr. McLEAN said there were two post-offices in Souris, but they were pretty far apart and were both required. The grant ought to be given for this light, which should be put in the most suitable place.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN said that light-houses were now kept up much cheaper than they were some years ago. There were first-class lights at North Cape and East Point and Sea Cow Head. The apparatus for these light-houses had been imported by the late Government, and at that time it was thought necessary to use Colza oil, which was very expensive. The Colza oil would freeze at a temperature such as we had on our coast in autumn, when light-houses were required. Of late years it was found that Kerosene oil answered the purpose better, and was a great deal cheaper. There was one thing to which he would like to call attention, and of which a complaint had been made by ship-masters to the Admiralty Court, the light at North Cape was the same as the one at Escuminac, and one was sometimes mistaken for the other. Ship-masters wished to have this

remedied, by having a flashing light at North Cape. We were quite willing to have that light changed if the Dominion would bear the expense, and as they had the most vessels passing that way, it was of most consequence to them.

Mr. McNEILL said he had often thought there was some mismanagement in having the lights at North Cape and Escuminac similar, for the coasts were so much alike that, in thick weather, it would be very difficult to distinguish one from the other.

Mr. McCORMACK thought the people of Souris were entitled to a light, as it was a place where a great deal of trade was carried on. A light on the bridge could be seen for a long distance out the harbor.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND said if the light on Souris Bridge was chiefly for the benefit of the travelling public, it was establishing a dangerous precedent to grant money for it.

Mr. KICKHAM said the light was required for the benefit of vessels; but the fact of its being useful to travellers also should be no objection against placing it on the bridge.

Mr. RAMSAY said that as the subject of light houses was being discussed, he would remark that a light house was much required at West Point.

Hon. Mr. DUNCAN said he had some acquaintance with Souris harbor, having been there with the *Heather Belle*, but the channel was so narrow it was impossible to turn the steamer, and she had to be backed out a considerable distance.

Mr. McLEAN said the reason the hon. member from Belfast (Mr. Duncan) had to back his steamer out was because he (Mr. Duncan) did not know how to turn a steamer, and having taken the command from the captain he was obliged to get out the best way he could.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD was sorry that the hon. member for Belfast (Mr. Davies) was not in his place, as last year he had stated that loaf-sugar could be procured much cheaper by way of Souris than if it was entered at any other harbor, intimating that goods were brought into Souris in a somewhat different manner than at any other port. He would be in favor of giving Souris two lights, which would probably prevent such insinuations being thrown out against that place.

Mr. KICKHAM said it had been stated that smuggling had been carried on in Souris, and one reason why they wanted a light was to prevent any person from carrying on illicit trade. The present collector of customs at that port was a man who did his duty, and the consequence was that a much larger amount was collected than formerly. £700 or £800 was collected there last year, although a great deal of the goods taken to that place were entered in Charlottetown.

Mr. McMILLAN said a light house was very much required for the benefit of the packet to Cascumpeo, and also for other vessels. With respect to a light on Souris bridge, the government should be willing to grant £15 when they received £700 or £800 a year from that place.

The resolution was agreed to.

Road Service.

Hon. Mr. Howlan then moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That the sum of Five Thousand Pounds be granted for the general service of Roads, Bridges and Wharfs for the present year, and that the sum be apportioned for each County in the following order:—

Queen's County,	£1742.
King's County,	1423.
Prince County,	1423.
Road Compensation,	100.
Contingent Expenses of Roads, Bridges and Wharfs, to be equally divided between the three Counties,	300.

He remarked that the appropriation was the same as it was last year. The grants for bridges and wharfs could be better attended to after the report of the Board of Works was laid on the table. The resolution was introduced now, in order that hon. members might be enabled to proceed with preparing their road scales.

Exhibitions.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD rose to move a resolution which he was sure would meet with the approval of the whole House. He only wished that it had been for a larger amount. The resolution was as follows:—

Resolved, That the sum of Four Hundred Pounds be placed at the disposal of the government for the encouragement of agriculture and local industry, to be expended in the following manner:—

Queen's County,	£200.
Prince County,	100.
King's County,	100.

The object of exhibitions was to bring the industrial classes together, in order that if one individual saw something produced by his neighbor of a creditable

nature, he might go and do likewise. It had been proved that steam, when properly directed, produced better work than could be done by hand. Home-made cloth would not bear comparison with that manufactured in the woollen mill, consequently it was our duty to encourage everything calculated to lessen labor, while it at the same time improved the quality of the article. He held the opinion that man was destined rather to direct the elements than labor with his hands. Electricity now carried our news from island to island, and continent to continent, and steam was propelling the mighty ship, the swift rail car and the ponderous factory wheel. Let us, then, in this colony, not be slow to avail ourselves of the aid of machinery. True, we might import manufactures from other countries; still, when we had the raw materials, we should not neglect manufacturing industry. He was sorry to find that our capitalists were backward in taking hold of the Woollen Factory in course of erection near Charlottetown; but he believed they would yet find it to be a good investment. Then again, with respect to agriculture, every possible step should be taken to procure good implements and machines, to encourage the use of manures, and the careful selection of seeds. If it were not for the application of mussel-mud and other manures to our soil, it would not yield nearly so much as it now did, and he admitted there was yet room for improvement. He believed that where there was a soil fit for cultivation, there was a provision of nature for enriching it not far distant; it was therefore the duty of the farmer to make a judicious use of whatever was within his reach to increase his crops. The raising of stock also required attention; but he would not dwell on that subject, especially as he saw the hon. member for Charlottetown (Dr. Jenkins) in his place, who was well known to keep good swift horses. Perhaps that gentleman would inform the committee as to the food best adapted for animals of the kind. He (Mr. L.) would conclude by saying that it was a false impression which had gone abroad that these exhibitions were purely for the agricultural interests of the colony. The productions of our mechanics had been included in the prize list, and even the fishing interests had not been overlooked. He hoped, however, that the Commissioners this year would give increased attention to these branches of industry.

Mr. Howat approved of these exhibitions because he thought they stimulated industry; but he could not say he was altogether satisfied with the way in which the money was appropriated. He did not think it was right that Queen's County should have double the amount voted to each of the other two counties. True, the people of Prince and King's Counties were to be allowed to compete at the Queen's County exhibition; but that would be very little advantage to them.

Hon. Mr. Howlan said it would be remembered that, some years ago, it was proposed to have the exhibitions in each county in rotation. Instead of doing this, it was thought better to hold exhibitions in each county, and to allow the people of the out-lying counties the privilege, after their own exhibition was over, of competing in Queen's County. He was pleased to hear his hon. colleague on the left (Mr. Laird) refer to the importance of having good agricultural implements. When he (Mr. H.) was at Washington, lately, he spent part of a day in visiting the patent office, where there was a very large room filled with agricultural implements alone; and among the things which attracted his attention most was the great variety of cheese-presses. There was also a number of hay-presses, an article which he thought would yet be extensively required in this Colony. There were some 60 or 70 different patterns of reaping machines in that office. He, likewise, saw Mr. Duchemin's block, which would compare favorably with any other in the collection. With respect to the importance of good stock, he would remark that, when in Boston, he saw a very fine horse on the street, which, on enquiry, he found came from Prince Edward Island, being one that had been sent on there by his friend the hon. member for Charlottetown (Dr. Jenkins). We had in years past received a large amount of money for horses, and keeping up a good stock was a matter well worthy of attention.

Dr. Jenkins said the subject before the committee was one in which he took a great interest. The vote proposed was only £300; he wished it could be made £500. Last year, from some cause or other, the notice given of the prizes offered was entirely too short. Instead of six weeks, some five or six months should be allowed, for it was impossible for a person to get up a good article of

cloth or to construct a machine in six weeks. Very often, too, in the hurry of completing the arrangements, judges were appointed who were incompetent. The hon. member for Bedeque had complimented him on keeping good horses, and hoped he would afford the House some information as to their treatment. He (Dr. J.) believed that hay and oats were the basis of all good feeding; care, however, was the main thing. He felt gratified by the remarks of the hon. Leader of the Government respecting the mare which he saw in Boston, and which he believed was the finest animal of the kind in that city. He hoped that the hon. member for Tryon would give up his opposition to the vote for Queen's County, as long as the other counties were also to have exhibitions.

Mr. McNeill thought the object of the resolution was a good one, and he could have wished that the sum had been larger. He doubted whether the hon. member for Bedeque was right in saying that man was not destined to labor. Great improvements, no doubt, had been made, but it would evidently be a long time before labor could be dispensed with.

Hon. Mr. Haviland agreed with hon. members who had spoken that this was a very important subject; and though not a practical agriculturist himself he would heartily endorse the sentiment that it should be encouraged. Though a member for King's County, he could not admit that the objection raised by the hon. member for Tryon was a valid one. Queen's County had nearly as large a population as the other two put together; and then again the outlying counties were permitted to send competitors to the exhibition at the capital. He (Mr. H.) was much pleased with the speech of the hon. member for Wilmot Creek, in introducing the resolution before the committee; he had gone into the subject philosophically, and deserved credit for his remarks.

Hon. P. Sinclair thought that a sum voted for exhibitions was money well expended. Men from the other Provinces came here, saw the stock, and knew where to go to make purchases. With respect to the objection that Queen's County was receiving more than her share, he thought the people of this county would be those who had most reason to complain, as they could not compete in the other counties, while the exhibition at Charlottetown

would be open to the whole Island. He knew that it would be more convenient for some at the north end of Queen's County to go to Summerside than come to the city. Allusion had been made to factory cloth; he knew by experience that the article produced at Stanfield's mills was superior to any that could be made by hand.

The resolution was agreed to.

Progress having been reported, the House adjourned.

SATURDAY, March 19.

Government House.

Mr. BELL, from the committee of supply, having reported several resolutions, on the resolution granting £200 to Government House being read—

Mr. HOWAT said that last year £400 had been granted for the same service, but he found on looking over the public accounts, that £800 had been expended. At the last general election, he heard the hon. member for Princetown (Mr. G. S.) say that if a Government could expend money without having it voted by the House, the representatives of the people might as well remain at home. He hoped the Government would explain how that extra appropriation had been expended.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN admitted that the Government had expended more money in this service than had been voted by the House, but under circumstances which he thought would be justified by the committee. During the past year, two distinguished visitors came to the Island—Prince Arthur and Sir John Young—and it was the duty of the Government to see that they should be received and entertained as their rank required. Government House was not in such a state of repair as would have justified the Government in entertaining therein either of those distinguished guests, and therefore an extra expenditure was required.

Hon. Mr. CALLBECK said that two years ago £400 had also been voted by the House, but £200 only was expended, so that although £800 was expended last year, it only exceeded the amount actually granted for that service to the amount of £200. When Mr. Dundas left the Island, he sold off the furniture, the greater portion of which belonged to himself, and in addition to the ordinary expense, the Government had to place two men upon the premises

to take care of the property at a cost of £5 per month for each. The Government were under the necessity of re-furnishing Government House at the expense of the Colony, as the Administrator did not consider that he should do so as he was, then, but receiving half the pay as Administrator which Mr. Dundas received when here, and, therefore, did not feel that he should be called upon to furnish Government House; and of course when these distinguished guests visited us the Government had to do so before their arrival.

Mr. HOWAT wished to know if it was an admitted principle that any government could thus vote money which had not been granted by the representatives of the people.

Hon. Mr. CALLBECK said circumstances might arise which would call for an expenditure unforeseen by any one. Such were the visits of the Prince and Governor General, but, under ordinary circumstances, he did not know that the right was claimed.

Hon. Mr. McAULAY said Government House had always been a bill of expense. The year before last, it appeared the allowance was more than was required, and this year it had cost twice the amount that had been voted for it. When the predecessors of the present Government exceeded their license, the voice of the present party was raised loud and long against their action in spending money which had not been voted by the House. If Government House was not in such repair as it should have been, the fault lay with the Government; yet in this matter he trusted the House would accept of the excuse given by members of the Government, and he hoped they would do better in the future.

Clerk of the Council Bill.

A message from the Legislative Council was received, to the effect that the Council had agreed to the bill for the appointment of the Clerk of the Legislative Council, with an amendment, to which the concurrence of the House was requested.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN said the amendment provided that nothing in this bill should have any force or effect until Her Majesty's pleasure should be known, which he presumed had been added by the Council to guard against any difficulty which might arise similar to that which had originated in New Brunswick. He would move that the amendment be agreed to.

Carried.

Several Bills passed.

The bill to alter the mode of paying teachers' salaries, the bill for the continuance of the act regulating the appointment of coal meters, the bill to explain and amend the Act for the retail by license of spirituous liquors, and the bill to incorporate the Pisquid Lime Company were severally read a third time and passed.

House again in committee of the whole on the further consideration of supply.

Savings' Bank.

The resolution granting £200 for the management of the Savings' Bank being read—

Mr. BRECKEN thought it would be much better if the amounts paid the Treasurer and his assistant were distinctly stated. It was well known that the Savings' Bank and the Treasury department had become one—or that their management was entrusted to the same parties, and the amounts to be paid for those respective services should be distinctly stated and defined by statute.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN said the Savings' Bank yielded a revenue of over £200, and therefore if that amount was granted for its management, he saw no reason why any one should complain.

Mr. BRECKEN knew it was an excellent institution, nor did he object to the amount paid for working it. What he desired was that the amount which the officers received who discharged this duty should be defined.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN remarked that some such arrangement had been entered into by the late Government with Mr. Wright as now existed with the present Treasurer.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND said it was better that a spade should be called a spade. If an officer was to receive a salary, it should be distinctly defined what the duties were which he was to discharge for that salary. When the late Government came into power, public economy was the order of the day. An agreement was made with Mr. Wright that he was to discharge the duties of the office for £350, and that if he employed an assistant he was to pay him himself. Mr. Wright adhered to the arrangement; but it was said that Mr. Warburton intended suing the Government for the statutory allowance. Now, if an officer could thus accept office on certain terms, perform his duties for four or five years, and then fall back on a statute and sue the Government for more than he was to

have received when he accepted the position, we should soon get into a state in the management of our public affairs that might involve us in a number of difficulties.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN said the Government had so far followed the example of their predecessors; but he might state the Government had the matter under consideration.

Hon. P. SINCLAIR said it was necessary occasionally to employ assistants in that office, for which the law made no express provision, yet circumstances justified that such should be done.

Militia and Volunteer Service.

The resolution granting a sum not exceeding £1500 for the Militia and Volunteer service, being moved by Mr. Bell,—

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN said, last year this service had been wholly under the control of Col. Gray, who had very efficiently and satisfactorily discharged the duties appertaining to that position, and although he did not anticipate that our brave Volunteers would ever be required to turn out to repel a foreign foe, there might be occasions when, for the enforcement of order, their presence would be absolutely necessary.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND said last year the grant was £1700, and he thought before this one was asked for, an account of the disbursements of the past year should have been laid on the table.

Hon. the SPEAKER would like to know if the vouchers were to be brought down.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN said they would have been brought down ere this, were it not that the Adjutant General had not been able to get them ready, but he hoped to lay them upon the table in a day or two. As to the amount being £200 less than the vote of last year, he would merely say Col. Gray had assured the Government that the cost should not exceed that amount.

Sailing Packets.

Mr. MCCORMACK was sorry to see that in the grant for sailing packets no provision was made for extending that privilege to St. Peter's, from which large quantities of produce might be sent to market, by such a conveyance, if it could be had.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND said last year a sailing packet to Souris received £100, and now they had such a quantity of produce at St. Peter's to dispose of, that they wanted a packet there; he was afraid every want would not be attended to which the friends of the Government required. With respect

to voting £10 to the Northern Agricultural Society, he had no objection to it, as he felt it to be his duty to foster and encourage all such laudable institutions.

Museum.

The resolution having been moved in which was the item of £40 to complete the collection of stuffed birds.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND said he hoped that a room would be provided which might be used for a museum, either in the Colonial Building or in the one to be erected for a Court House, for which £5,000 had been voted last year.

Salmon Culture.

A sum of £100 having been proposed for the protection of the salmon fisheries in our rivers—

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND thought a report of the results of the past year should have been presented, before the resolution was moved. He would like to know what had been done, and also the probable amount of ova which had been deposited in the rivers which were protected.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD admitted that an apology was due the committee because there had not been a report submitted; but the matter was mainly in the hands of an hon. gentleman in the other end of the building, who, he hoped, would soon have the report prepared. He could, however, inform the committee that he (Mr. L.) had been appointed one of the commissioners to look after that business, and assured hon. members the appointment was unsought for by him. The commissioners, however, met, appointed water bailiffs, had them duly sworn in, and he was happy to say, they discharged their duties faithfully. A few parties did attempt to infringe upon the requirements of the Act, but the fact that the water bailiffs were sworn to do their duty not only caused them to be more diligent in the discharge of that duty, but it had the effect of restraining people from resisting their orders. In Prince County, five bailiffs had been appointed, who received £6 each. As it took four or five years for those fish to come to maturity, much could not as yet be said about the results. With respect to the ova deposited, he could say nothing; the object so far was to protect those fish in their natural state. He had full confidence that the efforts of the past year, if continued, would prove highly successful in accomplishing the end designed; and knew that if this source of wealth was to become remunerative it would be necessary to carry

out the arrangements of last season for several years to come.

Wharf at Murray Harbor.

Mr. PROWSE said although he had not spoken when the resolution was read which referred to sailing packets, yet he was unwilling that the committee should rise without expressing his regret that the Government had made no arrangements for the accommodation of the people of Murray Harbor. He was well assured that if a wharf was built, to which the steamers could come, that a brisk trade would soon spring up in that part of King's County. There was a petition having reference to this matter before the Government, and he hoped its prayer would be granted.

Indian Teacher, Lennox Island.

When £75 was proposed to be granted for the Indian teacher on Lennox Island—

Hon. P. SINCLAIR said he was glad that the Indians had a teacher, and also very much pleased to learn from the School Visitor that the pupils under him, all things considered, were doing as well as those in any other school in the country. He understood that the teacher had to keep his school in his own house. This, he thought, was imposing too much upon him, and would be willing that the Government should build a school-house for those people. We had their lands and should do this much for them. There were always items which could not be specified, as they arose unexpectedly, and therefore could not be submitted in the estimates, and this was one which he thought the committee might allow the Government to proceed with and include in those of the present year.

Mr. BRECKEN said that although the Indians were not enfranchised, yet he would not wish to overlook the fact that the members of this House were equally the representatives of those people, and he considered it was their bounden duty to extend all the protection and care they could to the few who were now left of that race of people. He had a conversation with the teacher who was employed in the instruction of their children on Lennox Island, and thought if a grant was given to build them a school-house it would be money well spent.

Mr. REIDY saw the teacher employed on Lennox Island several times, and was well convinced that the appropriation to that school was money well applied. With respect to the vote for a sailing packet to St. Peter's, as the supply was not yet

closed, he hoped he the Government would take care that that port would not be overlooked.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND said it had been shown by the Hon. Col. Gray, in a speech once delivered by him in this House, that the Micmac Indians were not the original owners of this Island, but that they were simply the conquerors of a race who preceded them, and were therefore but interlopers themselves, so that it could not be said we had their land. On the contrary, we stood in as good a position as they did. He thought, however, that they were entitled to the grant, but he was sorry the necessary statistics had not been submitted by the Government respecting this school. The School Visitors' report should have been first laid upon the table.

Mr. MCNEILL thought the least the Government could do was to build a school-house for those people. They were fast dwindling away, and he would be glad to see all proper efforts put forth to render their position as comfortable as possible. The House should assist them as far as the circumstances of the country would justify. He saw the young man who was employed there as a teacher, and was told the children taught by him were as apt to learn as any in the country.

Stock Farm.

One of the items in the resolution being £400 for the Stock-farm—

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND regretted that a sum sufficient to enable the Government to import another horse had not been included. Our breed of horses was getting run out, and he regarded it of great importance to the people of this Colony that the Government should attend to this matter. Private persons might not feel justified in engaging in such enterprises, and such being the case, he would not like to see the subject overlooked.

City Fire Department.

Mr. BRECKEN enquired if £50 was all the Government intended granting to the Fire Department of Charlottetown.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN said there was another sum to be brought down before supply would be closed.

Mr. PROWSE would not oppose such a grant, yet he could not but wish to hear of better results from such appropriations than were to be seen from that given to the Fire Department of Charlottetown. At the fire which took place a few evenings

ago in the city, he was surprised to observe the want of discipline among the companies on that occasion, and considered the whole affair one of the most miserably managed he had ever seen. The efficiency of the companies was much superior fifteen years ago.

Mr. BRECKEN said the young men who formed those companies deserved every credit, and he thought they should receive more encouragement than they did from the Government. The Fire Department cost the city a large sum of money, and considering the protection they gave to the Government property in the city, he thought the allowance was inadequate for the service performed.

Mr. McMILLAN noticed Charlottetown was always making demands, and hon members representing the city, and those residing in it, appeared to him to think that all the money should be appropriated around the Hillsborough. He felt satisfied that justice had not been done to Summerside. A custom house and post-office were absolutely required for that town. As he supported the Government, he did not wish to find fault, but hoped the wants of Summerside would be attended to. The public wharf was insufficient. When the steam-boat took up her berth at it, there was only room left for one or two vessels drawing over 13 feet of water. The trade at that port would justify the Government in expending £1200 on that wharf. He knew that if the steam-boats now coming to that port were withdrawn, there was trade, enterprise and capital enough there to soon place a daily boat on the route between that town and Shediac. The returns from the wharf to the Government, after paying for all repairs, was greater than from any other wharf in the Island.

Mr. BRECKEN asked if the Government had not purchased a public square for that place.

Mr. McMILLAN.—“It was only coming.”

Hon. Mr. MCAULAY thought the hon. member for Summerside had overlooked the fact that the amount of taxes which were paid into the treasury at Summerside was trifling compared to what the other towns paid. They paid 20s. where Summerside paid but 6s. 8.

Mr. McMILLAN.—The tax was but a trifle altogether, yet Summerside paid more than the hon. member for Georgetown stated, as 5s. was exacted for each building.

Hon. Mr. CALLBECK said there was a difficulty in managing any body of men who were not paid for their services, and such might account for the apparent want of discipline in the City Fire Department. He said apparent, for there were operations going on under the control of the companies which would not be noticed by those who might collect around the fire. The Government property in the city was valued at £40,000, which, if assessed as property of the citizens was, would yield to the city a revenue of £200, yet the Government had not given more than half that sum, and there were reasons which justified such a course. £50 was now brought down and he believed as much more would be given.

Progress was reported, and the House adjourned for one hour.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Supply.

House in committee on the further consideration of supply.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND remarked that when the House adjourned in the morning, they were discussing a resolution in which, among other items, was a grant of £75 for a teacher of Indian children on Lennox Island. There could be no objection to this grant, as it was a debt we owed to the Indian race, now fast disappearing from the Island, to do all in our power to give them the boon of education, which we, as part of a civilized race, enjoyed in a much larger measure than these descendants of the aboriginal inhabitants of our Island. To the grant of £10 for the Agricultural Society of Cascumpec no one could object, as agriculture was the foundation of the wealth of this Colony. The next item was £20 for daily telegrams. In this enlightened age, telegraphic communication was a luxury which few would willingly dispense with. In old times, the people of this Island were often three weeks before they heard of important events which occurred in the other Colonies, but now by the aid of the electric wire, news was transmitted from distant parts of the world with a rapidity which would have filled our ancestors with amazement. Before the grant for the protection of the salmon fishery was given, he (Mr. H.) would like to have seen a report showing how the money granted last year was expended; but from the statements made by the hon. member from Bedeque (Mr. Laird,) it would appear that it had been judiciously expended, and as the salmon fishery was likely to become a source of

wealth to the Colony, if properly protected, he (Mr. H.) would not oppose the grant for that purpose. As regarded the grant of £100 for packet service to Souris, he presumed it was for a sailing packet, in case the Government could not agree with the Steam Navigation Company. He (Mr. H.) could not help noticing the rivalry there was between the hon. member from Souris (Mr. Kickham) and the hon. member from St. Peter's (Mr. McCormack) to take all the money to their respective districts. Last year, he thought those two hon. members were tongue-tied, they had been so reticent, but for the last few days, especially since their visit to St. Patrick, they had occupied the floor nearly the whole time. He had been unable to account for the change that had come over those two hon. members until last night, when he discovered that there was a vacant seat in the Executive Council, and this, he believed, was the cause of all the eloquence with which the House had been electrified for the last few days—they had been striving to prove their eligibility to a seat at the Executive board.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN was willing to give £100 to the Fire Department of Charlottetown, but he could not agree with the hon. member for the city that it should be £200, for although that department helped to protect government property, a bill had been sent to the government for its services in extinguishing the fire at Victoria Barracks.

Mr. BRECKEN had hoped to see the hon. Leader of the Government party approach this subject in a more liberal spirit, and not object to enlarging this grant because a paltry sum was given to the young men who had dragged the Fire Engine all the way out to the Victoria Barracks over bad roads. The people of Charlottetown contributed a large amount towards the general revenue, and were this grant £500 it would be only a small share of what they paid into the treasury. The government should take some pride in Charlottetown, as it was the capital of the Island, and not deal with it in such a niggardly manner. There was a large amount of public property in this town, and the documents in the public offices of this building were of incalculable value to the country.

Mr. REILLY thought if the Government were to be called upon to pay £200 per annum for the protection of public documents, it would be a much better plan to provide fire-proof safes at once.

Dr. JENKINS said the people of Charlottetown were taxed very heavily to pay the expenses of a fire department, and, considering the large amount of public property in the city, this grant of £100 was very small.

Hon. Mr. McAULAY said it was well known that long since, there was a very devastating fire in Charlottetown, and if it could be shown that an efficient fire department would have prevented that calamity, he did not think any hon. member would object to increasing this grant.

Mr. McLEAN said that all the money in the treasury would not prevent accidents by fire, and it was a poor policy to make the country pay for the protection of private buildings in Charlottetown. The City Fathers should look after this matter, and see that the money they had at their disposal was judiciously expended.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND perfectly agreed with the last speaker that the country should not pay for the protection of private property in Charlottetown, but it was on account of the large amount of public property which would be protected by the fire department that this grant was asked for, and when the value of this property was considered, the grant of £100 was very small.

Hon. the SPEAKER said there was no doubt that the property in Charlottetown belonging to the people of the Island was very large, and it was the duty of the party in power to give sufficient aid to those who provided means for its protection; but the amount granted was the same as last year, and he could not see why such a complaint had been made. Georgetown was entitled to a grant to aid the people in purchasing a fire engine. A grant of £80 was given for that purpose eight or ten years ago, but as a fire engine would cost about £200, the government should supplement the former grant by giving £40 or £50 more.

Hon. Mr. McAULAY said a deficient fire engine would only be a delusion, and as a serviceable one could not be procured for less than £200, he hoped the government would grant £150 in addition to the £80 already granted, and the people of Georgetown could make up the remainder.

Hon. Mr. CALLECK wished to correct the mistake into which some hon. members had fallen when they stated that a bill had been sent to the government for the services of the fire company in going out to Victoria Barracks. When that

fire was extinguished, there was no person to take charge of the premises, and the fire company were obliged to hire men to look after it. A great number of arms had also to be removed, which required considerable labor, and about forty men remained there all night. It was for this extra service that the money was paid by the government. The value of the public property in Charlottetown had been estimated at £10,000, and the tax for that amount would be £200.

Hon. P. SINGLAIK believed that the people of Charlottetown received their share of the public money, and the government were disposed to deal fairly with them. He thought that when the government paid £100 to the fire department, it was as much in proportion to their property as private citizens contributed. He did not believe in giving Charlottetown an extra share of the public money merely because it was the capital of the country. The market house in Charlottetown was built partly by the government—£1000 was granted towards its erection—yet country people who went into it to sell anything were taxed, and it yielded a revenue to the city. The people of Charlottetown made their money out of the country people, and if they consumed a large amount of dutiable goods, they had sufficient profit on the goods they sold to make it up.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND did not believe in the principle enunciated by the hon. member who had just sat down, that the town people made their living out of the country people. He (Mr. H.) believed that town and country were mutually dependent upon each other. He hoped the government would give a liberal grant towards a fire engine for Georgetown, as there was a considerable amount of public property there.

Mr. McMILLAN stated that the people of Summerside had scarcely received any public money. They had only received £20 or £30 when they purchased their fire engine, and if Charlottetown received £100 a year for their fire department, he thought Summerside should receive £20. If they had no public buildings in Summerside, it was the fault of the Government in not erecting them, as they were much required. Charlottetown received the lion's share of the public money, which was the natural result of country districts choosing citizens of Charlottetown to represent them in the Legislature. He hoped the Government would have compassion on Summerside and give it a little money.

Hon. Mr. HENDERSON thought that the money received by the members of the Fire Company from the Government for their extra labor at Victoria Barracks was no more than they were justly entitled to. Although representatives of country districts should take care that Charlottetown was not made a pet of in regard to grants, yet all should take a pride in the improvement of the capital. In the resolution under consideration, there was a grant for packet service between Charlottetown, Georgetown, and Souris, but it appeared that Murray Harbor had been overlooked, and he (Mr. H.) would like to ask the Government if it was not right that Murray Harbor should share the benefits of that packet service?

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN stated that the Steam Navigation Company objected to sending a steamer to Murray Harbor because there was no wharf there; but as it was the intention to build one next season, the people of that locality would soon have the benefit of steam navigation.

Resolution containing the foregoing items was then agreed to.

Steam Navigation.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN moved the following resolution:—

RESOLVED, That the following sum be granted and placed at the disposal of the Government, for the following service:—

Encouragement of Coast, Inland and Intercolonial Steam Navigation, in addition to the present contract, not exceeding £1000 0 0

He remarked that as we had steam communication with Boston, and it was expected that next summer we should also have a steamer plying between this port and Montreal, the Government wished to have steam communication between Charlottetown and all the outports.

Mr. PROWSE thought that when the Government gave a grant for a sailing packet to Souris, in case they could not arrange with the Steam Navigation Company, that the same provision might have been made for Murray Harbor. It was a very good admission which a member of the Government had made, when he stated that the reason the steamer did not go to Murray Harbor was on account of the want of wharf accommodation, and he (Mr. P) hoped that a petition from the people of that locality for a wharf would not be neglected by the Government. Murray Harbor was capable of accommodating vessels of three or four hundred tons burthen.

Georgetown Ferry and Telegraph.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN moved the following resolution:—

RESOLVED, That the sum of £500 be placed at the disposal of the Government for the following services: £200 for steam ferry-boat at Georgetown, and £300 for the extension of telegraph communication to Georgetown.

He (Mr. H.) hoped soon to see all parts of the Island enjoy the benefits of telegraphic communication. It would be peculiarly beneficial to the people of Georgetown, as a large number of vessels was owned by persons in that town.

Hon. the SPEAKER was pleased to hear that £300 had been granted for telegraphic communication to Georgetown, and also £200 for a ferry-boat. The parties who intended building a ferry-boat wished protection for a number of years from the Government to prevent any other persons from running a boat.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND had much pleasure in supporting the resolution, but stated that it was necessary for the Government to pass a bill to guarantee the £200 a year for five years for this ferry-boat, and also protection for the same time to those who should undertake to build it. Steam navigation was very necessary as we had no railroads. He (Mr. H.) could not, however, agree with some hon. members that it would be a long time until we should have a railroad; he expected before many years to hear the iron horse snorting from Alberton to Souris. The hon. member from Belfast would not take a railroad all complete, provided the Government had to pay its working expenses. But he (Mr. H.) believed that although a railroad would not pay its working expenses for some years, yet the indirect benefits of it would be incalculable. The idea of building a railroad in any country had always been ridiculed at first, but it had generally been found after a railroad was built that it vastly increased the wealth of the country.

Hon. Mr. DUNCAN was not opposed to having a railroad, provided it did not cost too much. He would be willing to give any company that would build a railroad and run it a subsidy of £20,000 a year, and he would even agree to build it out of our own resources, though it would cost an immense sum, rather than have it built by other parties on condition that we gave up to them rights and privileges which we could never get back again. Railways in other countries where there was a great deal more traffic than on the Island would net pay—

the one from Shediac to St. John, although it had a great deal of the carrying trade of this Island and of the towns on the north coast of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, only paid two and a half per cent. on the money invested. In countries which had a large interior and no water communication, railroads were a necessity, but no such necessity existed on this Island.

Hon. Mr. McAULAY hoped the Government were prepared to submit a bill to give protection to those persons who might engage to build a steamer for the Georgetown ferry. They should be guaranteed the ferriage for ten years—five years was too short a time.

Mr. BRECKEN said as the capital of King's County was surrounded by geographical difficulties—being almost cut off by rivers—it stood in need of steam ferry communication. A boat properly and substantially built would cost a considerable sum of money, and it would be necessary for the contractor to receive a grant for more than two or three years. With respect to the question of railways, he, to a certain extent, agreed with the hon member for Belfast (Mr. Duncan.) If we had a surplus revenue of some £20,000 or £30,000, it would be all very well to build a railroad in the way that hon member had described. Railways, as a general rule, he (Mr. B.) believed were not very profitable; but there was one thing which should be kept in view respecting them, namely, the development of the country. In our case we would have to look to this aspect of the question rather than to any mere present gain. As regarded the vote under the consideration of the committee, he had no particular interest in it, but thought no person would undertake to provide a steam ferryboat for Georgetown unless an annual grant of £200 was given for five years.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD said the grant asked for was only for one year; but he thought the course taken was a judicious one on the part of the Government, as the approval with which it had been met would strengthen their hands in maturing the measure they had in view. Before the session was over something more definite might be done. With respect to the telegraph, it was important that a harbor at which so many war ships called, and where so many trading vessels were owned, should have telegraphic communication with the outside world. Reference had been made to Murray Harbor,

and a charge brought against the Government for not forwarding the erection of a wharf at that place. To build it on the site which had been prayed for, would cost a good deal, and if the people there made unreasonable demands they must expect to be disappointed.

Mr. PROWSE would like to know what demands the people had made that were unreasonable. He knew the place, he imagined, a little better than the hon member who had just spoken, and could confidently state that there was nothing unreasonable in what had been prayed for.

MR. McLEAN.—The hon Leader of the Opposition had, for the last few days, seemed to avail himself of every opportunity to come down upon Souris. It must be his wish to retard every movement calculated to improve that place, or he would not speak so slightly of the locality. As a member for the same county in which Souris was situated, that hon member ought to help forward rather than ridicule the steps taken to benefit the eastern section of the Island. He (Mr. McLean) would support the present Government as long as they gave his district a fair share of the public money, therefore the hon Leader of the Opposition need not, as appeared to be his desire, attempt to damage him in the eyes of his constituents. It was too bad, also, for the hon member to refer to his colleague (Mr. Kichham) in the terms which he did. Every person could not be so smart as the hon member for Georgetown, and it was unfair in him to take advantage of his superior knowledge to amuse himself at the expense of others. Souris was a place not to be despised. The class of vessels owned there were not of the kind referred to by the hon Leader of the Opposition, but were a good substantial class of schooners. The harbor had been greatly improved by the extension of a breakwater, and when it was completed he considered there would be fourteen feet of water on the bar. The hon member for Belfast (Mr. Duncan) had, it was true, said he saw nothing good about the harbor when on his trip in the steamer to Souris; but the fact of the matter was, that Mr. Duncan was too heavy a man to be allowed on board of a small steamboat, and only for friendly aid he might be quietly sitting there in the stern sheets of his boat yet, with her keel stuck in the mud, and her bows out of water. He (Mr. McL.) would advise

the Steam Navigation Company not to allow the steamer to touch at Murray Harbor if the water was any way shoal, and particularly if the hon Mr. Duncan should be on board.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND said the hon member who had just sat down appeared to be trying to make his constituents believe that he was a worthy successor to their representative now elevated to the bench. He (Mr. H.) had not said a word against the hon member's colleague (Mr. Kickham); on the contrary he had suggested that he should keep the first position, for being the senior member for the district, he had the better right to the vacant seat at the Executive board. He (Mr. H.) was glad to see Mr. McLean in this House; but there was one black spot in his political character—he was a great Liberal, though he had been supported by Conservatives.

Mr. KICKHAM did not aspire to being any higher than he was now; but he was not of opinion that the hon member for Georgetown meant any harm by his remarks. He had said this morning that some hon members must have been to see St. Patrick, but he (Mr. Kickham) thought as the Leader of the Opposition was so facetious himself to-day, he must have been to see Shela. (Laughter.)

The House then resumed, when the chairman reported five resolutions, which were ordered to be received on Monday next.

Warrant Book.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN then presented to the House a copy of the Warrant Book for the financial year ending 31st January, 1870, which was referred to the special committee on Public Accounts.

Petitions.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN also presented to the House several petitions praying for the opening of new roads, whereupon a committee was appointed, consisting of Hon. Mr. Kelly, Messrs. McLean, Owen, Arsenault and Prowse, to which said petitions were referred.

Hon. Mr. LAIRD presented to the House several petitions praying aid to Paupers.

Hon. Mr. KELLY, pursuant to notice which he had given in the Order Book some days previously, rose to move for leave to present a petition from Messrs.

Alexander Hayden, James Callaghan, and about fifty others, leaseholders on Lots 35 and 36, setting forth that the terms of the leaseholds of many of the petitioners residing on the Tracadie estate, were now nearly expired, being originally granted for forty years, which lands so held the petitioners had reclaimed from a howling wilderness to fertile fields; that petitioners had spent the best of their lifetime and energies in improving, clearing and stumping their said farms; that several of their terms expired in a year or two, and some of them sooner; that the said petitioners were given to understand that they would be deprived of all the fruits of their toil and industry unless they paid the proprietor the value of their improvements for a renewal of their leases for another short term; that the petitioners were encouraged by certain provisions in the bill now in progress in the British parliament, which provided compensation for out-going tenants at the expiring of their leases, or other determination of their titles, to pray that the House would pass a law with similar provisions.

After some debate the Speaker decided that the petition could not be received, on the ground that as the Bill introduced by the Right Hon. Mr. Gladstone in the Imperial parliament provided for grants of money to enable tenants to become purchasers—and that the petition now sought to be presented contemplated the same—it therefore should be initiated by the government, according to the standing rule of the House on petitions praying for money and money bills.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN said the government were alive to the necessity of some measure to meet the case of the petitioners, and those similarly situated, and he would assure the hon. member from Fort Augustus that they would give the subject their best consideration.

House adjourned.

MONDAY, March 21.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN laid a petition before the House praying for the placing of a steam ferry-boat on the route between Montague Bridge and Georgetown.

Currency Bill.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND introduced a bill to amend the act to regulate the specie currency of Prince Edward Island by de-

elaring that foreign silver coins shall not be a legal tender. He said that unless such a measure was passed it might be found that this Colony would suffer for the want of such a bill. In Nova Scotia, the American half dollar was worth but 40 cents, while we, by law, had to take it for 50 cents. The same was also the case with the quarter dollars. We had to take it at 25 cents, while in the Dominion it was worth but 20 cents. He thought it not improbable that a money crisis might take place in this Colony before very long, and therefore there was the more necessity for taking precautionary steps in time. At present a man of means might go to the other Provinces, buy up a quantity of American silver, come to this Island, buy up the notes of the banks, and demand the gold (for the law required that but six pounds could be tendered in silver,) and make 20 per cent. on the speculation. But all that was necessary to do, was to repeal two clauses in the present Act. He would move that the bill be read a first time.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN was not going to oppose the bill, but when it came up at the second reading he would offer some remarks on the currency question. Laws were generally made to suit circumstances, and the law as it now stood answered country merchants fully as well as any one which could be introduced. He, for instance, as a merchant might wish to go to one of the other Provinces to purchase a cargo of fish, and by going there and buying up their money, found it suited his purpose, and he could make a profit on it. As to the banks, men who did business in them found it to be to their interest to uphold their honor and credit. He saw that gold was coming down, and as a result, specie payment would again be resumed in the cities of the United States.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND.—The difficulty lay in the fact that no matter what the value might be to which these foreign coins became reduced abroad, they had by law to be received at their present current value on this Island. He thought it was a mistake when the Act of 1849 was made to apply it to other than British coins. To continue forcing people to take foreign coins at more than their current value abroad he regarded as wrong.

The bill was then read a first time and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

House adjourned for one hour.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Municipalities.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Howlan, the House resolved itself into a committee of the whole to take into consideration the expediency of passing an Act allowing the inhabitants of towns, villages and localities to establish municipal governments.

Mr. Cameron in the chair.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN then moved a resolution, which is as follows:—

1. RESOLVED, That it is expedient to pass an Act allowing the inhabitants of towns, villages, and localities to establish municipal governments.

He said the bill which this resolution sought to introduce would give those towns which chose to come under its operation the power to manage their own affairs. Summerside, Georgetown, Montague, and several other places, had grown to such a size that they required some sort of local government. Laws similar to the one about to be introduced here, had been in operation in the neighboring Provinces and also in Australia, and had been found to work well. Dilke, in his able work, entitled "Greater Britain," referred to the successful management of these corporations, especially in Australia, and from the Act in operation in that Colony, the proposed bill had been principally copied. If towns like Georgetown and Summerside required better streets, wharfs, market accommodation, and regulations to preserve the peace, they should be granted powers for that purpose; but the contemplated measure would not come into operation in any town or village unless two-thirds of the house-holders resident therein so desired. In short, it would be a sort of permissive bill.

Mr. HOWAT wished to offer a remark or two before the resolution was put. Summerside was a very small town, and he did not know whether it required such a measure as that proposed. He thought that the general government, as the whole Island was not large, might do all the business for the few towns that were in the Colony. Even Charlottetown had difficulty in carrying on its civil