

Now, upon the House taking up that Despatch, an Address was prepared to Her Majesty, which went on to state pretty well the several clauses which he had read, and concluded by saying:—

"As your Majesty's Secretary of State has been pleased to say that your Majesty's Government would not be indisposed to take into consideration any plan for extinguishing by purchase, the rights of proprietors, we beg humbly to suggest, that if your Majesty's Government will give a guarantee for any sufficient loan required, as alluded to by the Secretary of State, the Legislature of the Colony will, in its next Session, make the necessary provision for the payment of its interest; and in offering this suggestion, we are convinced that no less would be sustained by your Majesty's Government."

There was no need, then, that he should explain the subject, for the question was fully before the House, that Her Majesty's Government by a Despatch had offered to guarantee the loan in question upon the security which the Bill before the House provided, or on similar terms; therefore, he thought the House were now obliged in a great measure to carry out their Address of last session. Since that time, there had been no change in the House by election or otherwise, and if it was the intention of Her Majesty's Government last year to extend the benefits of the Land Purchase Bill to all parts of the Island, he thought there could be no doubt but the present Bill would meet with the views of the House. Many of the inhabitants of the Island had already become freeholders, and it was seen that the tenantry throughout the Island were expressing a wish that the present Bill should be passed. Numbers of petitions had been sent to the House on the subject, and others had been sent requesting that the proprietors would sell their lands to the Government; and he by no means wondered at it, for the proprietors would not sell their land to the people at the same rate as to the Government, and indeed it was not expected that they would sell it so cheaply to the people. They would rather take one-fourth less for their land from the Government than proceed on the present system; though it was a long time before they could be convinced of it, yet he thought they would find out that it would be for their advantage. It was now about ten years since he had introduced a Bill into the Legislature to purchase up the lands of the proprietors; it was also true that the hon. member for King's County Mr. Cooper had found it necessary some time ago to introduce a Bill to enable Her Majesty's Government to purchase up the Township lands in the Island. In the year 1847, the House of Assembly, on a motion of his (Hon. Col. Secretary's) went into a committee of the whole on the state of the Colony, and came to two resolutions on the subject, which were carried unanimously, and were as follows:—

"1. Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, that for the present and future welfare of this Island, a purchase of the Township Lands be effected, from all Proprietors who are desirous of selling their Lands, at any price not exceeding Five Shillings Sterling per acre; and that the same be resold in Lots of not more than three hundred acres, where the Land is in a wilderness state, and to persons in actual occupation, in lots according as they have lease or minute; and to squatters in occupation previous hereto, such quantity of Land as they are paying Land Tax for, not exceeding one hundred acres—the price to be sufficient to cover costs and charges.

"2. Resolved, that a Bill be brought into the House of Assembly, authorizing the Lieutenant Governor and Council to appoint Commissioners to correspond with the proprietors, in order to ascertain if they, or any, will sell, and the terms; and with competent men of business in Great Britain in reference to a loan; and if a quantity of land, to be hereafter specified in committee, can be obtained at or within a price to be also so specified; and a loan, on terms to be likewise so specified, can be effected—then the agents in Britain, or the Commissioners, to apply to the Colonial Minister for his sanction, and on this being obtained, to conclude the bargain both for loan and purchase."

The Bill he had alluded to scarcely carried out the resolution just read. He himself had been the chairman of the committee, and in introducing the Bill they thought it the most advisable course to have the power of purchasing the lands in the Island Government, which much resembled the present Bill. The Bill laid over from 1847 to 1852, when it was taken up and passed by the House; and though they had been enabled to purchase a large quantity of land, yet not to the extent that the people desired. The loan which Her Majesty's Government had guaranteed to give, amounting to the sum of £100,000, sterling, would be, he was satisfied, a sum sufficient to purchase all the land out of the hands of the proprietors, or at least to reduce it to a very small quantity. The Bill did not say that they were required to take all that money at once; but it was to enable the Government to carry out the principles of the Land Purchase Bill to a greater extent than it now provided for. If £20,000 or £30,000 were required for the purchase of land, the Bill provided for that, or if the whole amount should be required, it also provided for it. There was, however, one remarkable allusion made in the despatch in reference to the loan in question, which was, that Her Majesty's Government had agreed to give the loan to be applied to the purchase of land on the principles of the Land Purchase Bill, which they said was a just and equitable measure. Of course the proprietors who were offering their lands for sale to the Government, knew what the Government were authorized to give under the Land Purchase Bill, namely, five shillings sterling per acre; therefore, the offer had been made by the proprietors with their eyes open, and in the knowledge that the Crown Law Officers of England had had the Bill before them and had approved of it. The proprietors would therefore not now have the opportunity of interrupting the measure brought before the House Government; for they had hitherto, by petition or otherwise, opposed every measure that was brought forward to benefit the tenantry. The Free Education Bill and the One-Ninth Bill had been opposed by them, and also several other measures that had been found necessary to be brought forward; and more recently they had resisted the Rent Roll Tax and Tenants Compensation Bill; but he was happy to say that perhaps the resistance shown to those Bills, was the means of obtaining the present loan. The spirited manner in which the House took up the Despatches in reference to those Bills, showed Her Majesty's Government that they were in earnest to settle the disputes between landlords and tenants. He had introduced the Land Purchase Bill some years ago, because he saw it was no use to attempt to do anything for the benefit of this Colony, unless something was done to benefit the tenantry; and though, when he came forward first with the measure, he had been opposed by the hon. member for King's County (Mr. Cooper) on account of his refusal to join in the escheat question, yet he saw it was no use to try it any longer. The present Bill went on to say how the loan was to be effected, subject to the approval of Her Majesty's Government. It was necessary that the Island Government appoint an agent to transact the business, who would also be subject to the approval of the Home Government; but if Her Majesty's Government appointed an agent, they would be responsible for him. That agent of course would negotiate for the loan of money, and if at any time he might have more money than he required, it was to be invested in exchequer bills, so that there might be no loss of interest. The Bill contained several other provisions, among which one providing for a sinking fund of £5 on every £100 borrowed, in order to liquidate the whole in twenty years. The lands would be sold under the Land Purchase Bill at something like cost and charges, so as not to impose too great a burden upon the tenantry, but so as to cover cost and charges. The sinking fund was to be invested in exchequer bills, so that the amount might be paid when required. Those were the principles of the Bill; and in order to obtain the loan the revenue of the Colony was to be guaranteed, should the results not be sufficient to pay for it; but he had no doubts that it would pay for itself. The Worell Estate perhaps did not pay so well as might have been expected; but Lot 11 which was purchased last summer was paying better, as there were over 9,000 acres of land to pay the balance of about £500. In reference to the Worell Estate, there was a balance of about £5,000 against it, to meet which there were about 45,000 acres of land unsold. The hon. member on his left (Hon. Mr. Lord) had said he would give the balance on Lot 11, for the timber that was on the land; and he ventured to say that that hon.

gentleman, would also gladly give the balance on the Worell Estate for the timber on it. The other clauses of the Bill were more matter of detail and required no consideration.

With these remarks, he moved that the House go into committee on the Bill.

(To be continued.)

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

MONDAY, April 6.

When the reporter entered, the House was in Committee on the Telegraph Bill.

His Honor the PRESIDENT was speaking to the subject. Hon. Mr. DINGWELL wished that the benefits of the telegraphic communication should be extended to Georgetown. He could see no good reason for a grant from the general funds, if the people throughout the country had to come to Charlotetown to avail themselves of the telegraph.

His Honor the PRESIDENT could inform the hon. gentleman that, when the telegraph was in operation at Souris, it did not pay the expenses of working. If his honor, Mr. Dingwell, would guarantee that the working expenses would be paid, he could promise, on behalf of the Company, that they would establish an office at Souris or Georgetown. The amount specified in the Bill, as a grant, (£300) was a mere bagatelle. His own opinion would lead him to vote for £400 at least. The cost of the cable connecting Capes Traverse and Tormentine, was no less than £3,000. His honor thought that it was probable the telegraph would touch at East Point during the approaching season. Influences had been brought to bear in England, which had induced a change of the connecting station to Cape North in Cape Breton, in place of the East Point in this Island, as originally contemplated; but he still hoped that the Atlantic line would pass directly through our Island, by a submarine cable from Newfoundland to the East Point.

Hon. Mr. DINGWELL had heard nothing to shew the impolicy of extending the line to East Point. The expense would not be a matter of great moment, as the line only required some repairs.

His Honor the PRESIDENT had no objection to support the Hon. Mr. Dingwell in extending the benefits of telegraphic communication, by voting for a larger sum instead of the amount proposed.

Hon. Mr. DINGWELL was of opinion that the President had over-estimated the expense.

His Honor the PRESIDENT would ask his honor to consider the expense of a cable to Cape North.

Hon. Mr. BARNALL explained, that his honor, Mr. Dingwell, merely contemplated putting in operation the line from Charlotetown and East Point. It was quite natural for his honor to use his best exertions in favor of that part of the country. He himself would be glad to see a telegraphic communication with New Glasgow.

Hon. Mr. DINGWELL explained, that the line to East Point was already constructed.

Hon. Mr. WALKER said, that the revenue of that line would not pay the salary of the operator.

His Honor the PRESIDENT stated, that the Government only intended to defray the expenses of the offices recently established at Capes Traverse and Tormentine during the winter, when passengers and the mails were crossing the Straits. There was no doubt that the telegraph might be the means of saving many lives, by transmitting, from our shore to the other, intelligence of the departure of a company, and thus enabling assistance to be sent to them, if danger was apprehended.

Hon. Mr. DINGWELL hoped he would not be understood as objecting to the amount, but he was anxious to extend the operations of the Company.

The Bill for the incorporation of the Free Church in Charlotetown was committed, and agreed to without amendment.

Hon. Attorney General, by command, laid on the table a copy of a despatch from the Colonial Office, accompanied by a copy of a report of the Commissioners of the Customs, on the Island Revenue Act of 1856.

Mr. T. H. Haviland brought up from the House of Assembly a Bill for better securing the Liberty of the Subject.

Hon. Attorney General presented a petition of the Charlotetown Gas Company, for altering the present proportion between the number of shares and votes.

His Honor the PRESIDENT showed the necessity which existed for change, as he had recently been present at a large meeting of shareholders who were generally anxious to reduce the price of gas; but one individual, representing in his own person and by proxy, a large amount of shares, was enabled to swamp the measure.

His Honor the PRESIDENT, referring to the recent visit of the Council to the Normal School, read a minute to the effect, that the members of the House were all extremely gratified at the efficiency of the said school, and the manner in which it was conducted.

Mr. T. H. Haviland brought up from the House of Assembly an Act in accordance with the petition of the Charlotetown Gas Company, which was read a first time.

Hon. Mr. Beaton obtained leave of absence for the remainder of the week.

TUESDAY, April 7.

The Act for better securing the Liberty of the Subject was read a second time.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL explained the features of the Bill, which was similar to one in New Brunswick. It would be found beneficial in King's and Prince Counties, as it obviated the necessity of bringing prisoners to Charlotetown by *habeas corpus*, instead of which expensive and inconvenient process, the legality of the incarceration could be tested by affidavits to be transmitted to the Judge.

The Bill in amendment of the Gas Company Act of incorporation was read a second time.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL stated, that the Bill was in accordance with the prayer of the petition, and had for its object the increase of the number of votes to be given by the larger shareholders.

The Charlotetown Free Church Incorporation Bill was read a third time and passed.

Hon. Mr. Barnall obtained leave of absence till Friday, on public business.

WEDNESDAY, April 8.

The Bill for better securing the Liberty of the Subject was committed, and progress was reported.

On motion of the Hon. Attorney General, the Bill relating to Ferries was read a second time.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL explained, that one of the objects of the Bill was to define the limits of Ferries. At present there were no definite boundaries to any of the various Ferries in the Island. It was proposed to authorize the Government and Council to prescribe the limits within which the exclusive rights to ferry shall exist. Parties running in opposition to the licensed ferryman would be liable to be fined. Great inconvenience was experienced by the licensee of the ferry between Charlotetown and Minchin's Point. A combination of individuals was formed for the purpose of ferrying gratuitously, and it was openly asserted that they would run the licensee off the ferry. To obviate a recurrence of such conduct, it was his intention, in Committee, to move an amendment preventing parties carrying passengers in opposition to the rights of the ferryman.

The Bill was then committed; and the Hon. Attorney General moved an amendment to the second clause, prohibiting systematic ferrying by unlicensed individuals; and, another, extending the penalties of the Bill relating to landing on, or taking from, Minchin's Point Wharf, of goods, to the landing or taking off passengers.

His Honor the PRESIDENT thought it was absolutely necessary to pass the amendments, without which the Bill would be nugatory. The effect of them would be to prevent parties driving the licensee off the ferry. The original Ferry Bill had the same object; but the system pursued last summer was well known—parties endeavored to run the licensee off the ferry—they were prosecuted, and very heavy costs were incurred by the Government, the Court having decided that the Government had not power to make sufficient regulations. His Honor seconded the amendments, which were agreed to.

Hon. Attorney General presented a petition from members of the Bible Christian Church, praying the repeal of the old Act of Incorporation, and the substitution of a Bill similar to that of the Wesleyan body. The present Act provided but for the incorporation of one body for the whole Island, its members consequently could not be got together. The petition was referred to a Special Committee to report by Bill or otherwise.

Committee—Hons. Attorney General, and Messrs. Wright and Forgan.

The Gas Company Bill was committed.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL had presented the petition asking for the passage of the Bill which had for its object the alteration of the present system of voting. The change sought was desired by the shareholders, and they being the parties most interested, he would support it. He believed that the measure had received the unanimous approbation of the Directors of the Company.

His Honor the PRESIDENT considered, that some limit should be put to the number of votes to be given by one individual. In his opinion the maximum number of votes to be given by any one shareholder should be nine, no matter how many shares he might own. Unless some limitation were imposed, one individual might control the whole Company.

Hon. Mr. WALKER would like to see more reasons alleged for the Bill, before voting for it.

His Honor the PRESIDENT would like to know how the resolution of the Directors passed.

Hon. Mr. FORGAN considered it was but just that the power of control should be in proportion to the money invested.

Hon. Mr. WALKER said, it might be that a small shareholder might be among the largest of the consumers, and thus have a greater interest than the capitalist who had invested his means largely in the Company.

Hon. COL. SWABEY approved of the principle, that property should have its legitimate and natural influence. The number of small shareholders was probably greater than that of the others; but those having little at stake are generally less cautious than parties more deeply interested.

His Honor the PRESIDENT would give one additional vote for every fifty shares, instead of every twenty-five shares.

Hon. Mr. CRASWELL would not give too much power to any man. He would second the amendment.

Progress was then reported.

THURSDAY, April 9.

Hon. Attorney General, from the Special Committee on their petition, reported a Bill repealing the old Act, and enacting a new one incorporating the members of the Bible Christian Church.

Hon. Col. Swabey, by command, laid on the table a return of the Public Lands.

The following Bills were severally brought up from the House of Assembly:—By the Hon. Col. Treasurer—the Revenue and Appropriation Bills. Hon. Mr. Longworth—the License Bill. Hon. Col. Secretary—the Loan Bill and the Bill patenting Bessemer's invention in the manufacture of iron; which were respectively read a first time.

The Examiner.

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I., JUNE 8, 1857.

ELECTION FOR THE THIRD DISTRICT OF PRINCE COUNTY.

This election terminated on Monday last in the return of James C. Pope, Esq., of Summerside. We need scarcely express our surprise or regret at this result, for we believe that even a majority of Mr. Pope's supporters and friends did not expect it. However, they fought a hard fight,—the victory is theirs, and it would be worse than useless for the friends of Mr. Lord to repine over their defeat. Irritating though it may be, that defeat is full of deep instruction to the Liberal Party. The friends of the late member were far too confident of success—too slow in their movements, and placed too much reliance on the promises of old friends and supporters; while the Opposition party were labouring incessantly, day and night, and using every means, fair and foul, to accomplish their purpose.

Mr. Lord has now paid the penalty for his vote last Session on the Bible question, for there is not the shadow of a doubt that Mr. Pope's return is to be ascribed almost exclusively to the fanaticism and bigotry which have been aroused against Mr. Lord, particularly about Tryon River, where he expected an overwhelming majority, because he did not support the prayer of the Bible Petition. A large majority of the Catholics, including the Tenants on the Conroy and Mann Estates, combined with the Liberal Protestants, whose political principles are firmly established—manfully supported Mr. Lord. To these Protestants and Catholics we must now look for the maintenance of our civil and political liberties. It is only by a strong and close alliance on their part that the Tories—in league with the bigots and fanatics—may be prevented from overthrowing the free institutions of the country, and reviving the despotic sway of the old regime. We give below the state of the poll at the close of the election, in the several polling divisions:—

Table with 3 columns: POLLING DIVISION, LORD, POPE. Rows include Lot 19, 25, 26, 27, 28, Majority.

We cannot congratulate Mr. Pope on the position to which he has attained, nor the constituency who placed him there. He will find that it is pleasant employment to be roughing it in the bush, in quest of timber—rattling about a shipyard, or assuming airs of importance behind the counter of a country shop, than bothering his brains about state questions in which he has never taken an interest, and labouring to sustain a third or fourth rate position in debate. We are sure that Mr. Pope is a very important and influential person in his own neighbourhood of Summerside,—and no doubt deservedly so,—but let him beware how he comports himself on the floor of the Assembly, for there is no place where a man, having a superabundance of starch in his composition, is so speedily and so unceremoniously reduced to his natural proportions. The new member is said to be a gentleman of talent,—we have only the word of some of his most intimate friends on this behalf. We hope the news is not without a proper foundation, for we like to see men of talent in the Assembly, scarcely caring under what party banner they enlist themselves. For our own part, the intellectual light of the new M. P. P. has been as dim in our eyes, as if it had been hidden under a bushel. We have heard him make two speeches in the course of the late contest,—we have certainly heard worse in our time,—but unless Mr. Pope will condescend to favor us with something more brilliant on the floor of the Assembly, we shall have to remain in doubt as to his possession of any remarkable talent. And what have the constituency gained by putting him in the seat so long and so consistently held by Mr. Lord? He cannot change the policy of the Government—he can make only one less on the side of the majority, but the majority are still strong enough to afford the loss of one. A truer, more honest and self-sacrificing representative than Mr. Lord he never can be; and as respects his political action, he will only be as a stumbling-block—should he join the minority as we have no doubt he will—in the way of those liberal and progressive principles of Government which

Mr. Lord has always unflinchingly supported. But although the constituency—which he has served so faithfully—would not have the privilege of rejecting Mr. Lord but for the action taken by himself and his colleagues to introduce responsible Government into this Island—we are tolerably certain that in placing Mr. Pope above Mr. Lord on the poll, they were not influenced by any regard for political principles; but by a great deal of fanatical preaching about the Bible—an incalculable amount of calumny and misrepresentation, and by a keen relish of those five puncheons of rum distributed amongst them, and for which the land speculation under the Purchase Bill may have helped to pay.

The result of the recent election is the first instance upon record in this Colony showing the power of the people to annul an appointment made by the Government. The Tory party, who encouraged and supported Mr. Pope throughout the election—want to deprive the people of this power. Should they succeed, not only the Commissioner of Public Lands, but every other high salaried officer might hold his situation in defiance of the popular will. The people of the Third District, whilst using the power to the prejudice of those who conferred it on them, have virtually declared themselves unworthy of this great constitutional privilege. We believe they were the first and only District in the Island to petition for the repeal of the Free Education Act. Could we expect anything better than a disposition to let Slavery go hand in hand with Ignorance? There are, however, some portions of the District to which these observations will not apply, and particularly the South West and Monaghan Settlement. The people in those sections discharged their duty in the spirit of men determined to be free; and although their votes availed not to put Mr. Lord where he had the best right to be, their example will be highly serviceable to others, and forever honourable to themselves.

The Obstructives are so infatuated with their success at the recent election—a thing which is quite new to them—that they now assume to be in the secrets of the Government, and are every where declaring that the Assembly is about to be dissolved. We cannot see that a dissolution is more likely now than it was at the close of the last Session, for during a great part of that Session the Government was sustained by a majority of five, while Mr. McGill—a member of the majority—was absent. The return of Mr. Pope is not such a tremendous event as to terrify the gentlemen at the head of affairs, or to paralyze their supporters in the Assembly. We are not so alarmed at the loss of one vote in the House as to desire that the people of the Third District of Prince County should have an opportunity of reversing their erroneous decision, although many of them would no doubt like to have another jolly time of it over five more puncheons of rum; and much as we may disapprove of Mr. Pope's politics, we don't wish that he and his friends should be made to bleed so extensively after the operations so recently performed upon them.

UNWELCOME VISITORS.—Yesterday (Sunday), at a few minutes to eleven o'clock, a.m., there was a smart shower of hail, which lasted for about the space of ten minutes. The hail-stones were not very large, but fell thick and fast. Little damage was, however, done, except to fruit trees in blossom, which, in a short time, were divested of much of their beautiful appearance.

HARPER'S MAGAZINE.—The May No. of this excellent serial is now before us, and like its predecessors, abounds with entertaining and instructive reading. There are some excellent tales and sketches in this No. worth nearly the whole year's subscription of the Magazine. We have no hesitation in pronouncing it as the best and cheapest of periodicals of its kind in America. Mr. J. Creelman, Bookseller, Dorchester-street, will receive orders for and supply the Magazine.

NEWS BY THE ENGLISH MAIL.

The Packet Oriander brought over the English Mail on Thursday evening last. Our London and Liverpool papers are to the 22d and 23d ult., from which we make the following extracts:—

THE WAR IN PERSIA.

PURSUIT OF THE FLYING PERSIANS.—ARRIVAL OF THE NEWS OF PEACE.—MOHAMMORAH, April 6.—My last gave you an account of the capture of this place on the 26th ult., and the precipitate flight of the large Persian army. Without baggage-cattle to carry the camp equipages we could not, of course, follow them up, so without loss of time Sir James ordered a small expedition to be got ready to track the enemy on the banks of the Karoon River. This expedition consisted of three small river steamers—viz., the Comet, Planet and Assyria, (the first of which only is armed), one gunboat and three cutters, under the command of Acting Commodore Rennie, of the Indian Navy, and 300 men from Her Majesty's 64th and 78th, under the command of Capt. Hunt, of the latter corps. Several of Sir James's staff also accompanied them, and Capt. Kembell, political agent at Bagdad. The expedition left at noon on the 29th, and on the 31st discovered a second trace of the Persian army, from which it appeared that they had five guns with them, and another wheeled conveyance, found out afterwards to be the Shazadah's carriage. Here it seems that one of the gun-carriages had been disabled, and the gun accordingly put into a boat, which was afterwards captured. On nearing Akwaz, on the morning of the 1st, the Persian army was discovered occupying a strong position on the right bank of the river. Here the military party landed, on the left bank, and proceeded to Akwaz, the gunboats opening fire upon the enemy. Almost at the first sight of our preparations the large host, consisting of about 8,000 men, took to flight, and retreated hurriedly in the direction of Dizful, while hordes of Arabs were observed hanging on their rear ready to plunder or harass them. The expedition remained two days at Akwaz, communicating with the Arab tribes, and securing or destroying large heaps of grain which had been stored there by the Persians. A number of mules and sheep were also captured and brought down by the steamers, and 150 new stands of muskets in cases. This done, the little band returned to Mohammorah, which they reached on the 4th inst. The moral effect of this little affair will be great in these parts, for the Persians had boasted that no force we could bring against Mohammorah could take it in less than a year. It was the intention of Sir James to have moved up a sufficient part of our force to occupy Shuster, and to put the troops into summer quarters in that reputedly healthy locality, and to have taken the remainder himself to disperse the Serkseeckshi Bashi's army before Bushire. The men, indeed, have a great longing to meet this gentleman, whose name they have curtailed into "Cheeky Bashi;" but, lo! all our schemes are for the present held in abeyance by the news, which arrived yesterday, that peace was signed in Paris on the 4th ult. What will be done next no one appears to know. If Feruk Khan has given in to all our just demands, so much the better; but if not, and we have patched up an inglorious peace when our position enabled us to do something better, let the blame fall where it is due. The people here are refilling the town, and the Arabs from all quarters are sending in their submission. "Never leave us; never let the Persians return," is their constant cry. The bazaars are open, and provisions coming in abundance. Though no authority has been placed over the town, hardly a complaint has been brought in.