

nor did he think it any sure policy to confide in the benevolence of the proprietors, for a redress of the grievances complained of, unless that, as they find it difficult to collect rent; and that agitated between hope and fear—fear that some radical reformers might come into office at home, and sweep away their titles, which were no better than that of Earl Stirling to Nova-Scotia, they may relax some of that unyielding rigor with which they have been in the habit of grinding the tenantry. He would say, adopt which resolutions you please, but support them with evidence. Contradictory evidence was sent home by the Governor, evidently with the intention of neutralizing the effect of the Resolutions sent by the last House. (Here he read the correspondence referred to.) Are we, the Members of this House, he said, to be looked on as mental servants, who are to have our characters drawn up and signed by our masters, the Governors who are sent out to oversee us, and then sent home! What good are resolutions taken in preference to them; he who was not five months in the Colony, and was not then perhaps 30 miles beyond Charlottetown. Yet he is believed before us: he also presumes from some rare instance of a high price being given for a spot of land near Charlottetown, to lay down a standard value for all the land in the Colony; just as if one would say, such is the general price of land in England and Scotland, because he had seen some choice spots near London and Glasgow, that sold for an extraordinary price: such and no better is the inference which the Governor drew from the sale of a solitary lot near Charlottetown, in order to extend it to the whole Island. He could not see because the land in the vicinity of the town, was in a state of progressive improvement, that therefore the state of the tenantry in the country was improving in a direct ratio: this was contrary to the facts, yet from such data as these, the Governor inferred the general prosperity of the Island for this reason. We want evidence to contradict this especially, as by it will be able to contradict the Governor's last despatch. He did not consider it irrelevant therefore, to our purpose, to call in evidence to bear us out in our resolutions. It was not, as some hon. members asserted, for the purpose of a revival of Escheat; Mr. Cooper and Mr. Macintosh bring forward an escheat measure, and because he knew the justice of the case, he would vote for it, though he would have very little hope of its passing the ordeal of the Colonial Office under Lord Stanley. He had no objection to curtail the resolution that he presented, provided the chief feature of the state of the case were not lost sight of. He was not wedded to this or that form of words, provide the true state of the country was represented. It has been asserted that produce is not as low here as in other places. How can that be? If it were the case, would produce be exported to foreign markets? Yet, after all, it is the rent that causes the distress, for the tenant has not the option of making the best bargain he could with his produce. He was prepared with evidence, to prove the very low prices that were obtained for produce that had been sold under seizure for rent. He also wished to show the scarcity of money, by the evidence of those, who from their experience in trade, can best test it. He would require evidence to contradict the representations of our extreme prosperity that had got abroad. He had known three who advertised their farms for sale, after they had been distressed on, and they could not procure purchasers. Some hon. members talked of a fourth estate: why, here is a fifth estate, which the hon. member has exhibited—the Agricultural Report. We do not know by it, how many asses may be gone home! Lord Selkirk may be out here next Spring, and his report may be also embodied in those returns. He insisted the unadvised resolutions of the House were not sufficient to make such an impression, as when they were backed by the evidence.

Mr. Yeo wished the House would be guided by the recommendation of the Hon. Speaker. He would be very sorry indeed, to see the House opposed to one another; for his part, he wished the House to try, with a good will, for the benefit of the tenantry, that did all they could to pay the rent; but he had known some, whose rent was to be paid in produce, but they did not even do that same; agitation was the sole cause of this, and he would now advise the agitators to give it up, as they could get nothing by it themselves, why agitate! agitate!! agitate!!!

Mr. MACINTOSH. The hon. member for Charlottetown, Mr. Palmer, had talked about 220,000 acres of land being taken up, and settled within the last seven years; but he (Mr. Macintosh) would like to ask the hon. member, if he thought that a settlement, where the poor wretches stopped for a short time, like birds of passage! How was it taken up, and by whom? We know that at our approach, the birds will take to flight, and so he expected those who have taken up the land, would fly on the approach of an agent! Every member knows the country is not in a prosperous state. Land indeed may be enhanced in value, round this town; individuals from England, who were fools enough to throw away £1000, which they can never expect to get back again, may be said to enhance it. But though he was an inhabitant of the Island, he never knew one individual to make £1000 out of the produce of the land, so that all these statements go for nothing. Where is the man that gained a thousand pounds by farming. Let us call evidence and send home the truth: it ought to be shewn that rent cannot be paid in cash or in produce either. Why does not the hon. member do so much for the country, where he has three-fourths of the House and the Government to back him; but though the 'Pope' reigns, it does not follow that every one must think like him.

Mr. MACAULAY said, the hon. member for King's County (Mr. Macintosh) says the late House was accused before the Colonial Office of being both ignorant and poor. As to learning and ignorance they were certainly opposed to each other, and is it his (Mr. Macintosh's) desire that the present House should undertake to prove that the late House was learned! As to the charge of poverty, he thought it was sufficiently borne out by the Colony's sending home a delegate to represent them in the steerage of a lumber ship; and anything which we might say to the contrary, would not alter people's opinion on the subject. It was true the country was free to choose whom they might represent them, but it did not follow that those chosen were rich and learned from that circumstance, or that any measures of ours could make them so if they were not so before. His constituents sent him to listen to any measures of redress that might be proposed, and he would do so; he considered the interest of landlord and tenant to be reciprocal. If the tenant sees that by his industry he can gain a competency, he goes to work cheerfully, and by his improvements he is enabled to pay his landlord; but if on the contrary, he sees that all his efforts are unavailing, and that nothing but poverty and misery stare him in the face, he desponds and loses all energy, and hereby the landlord is a loser; so it follows that the better terms the tenant gets, the better it is for the landlord, for their interest is mutual and inseparable. What are the means to be adopted to promote so desirable an object? It is not by writing strings of resolutions, such as those before us, without aim or object: it was all folly. Of what use was it to hold up an air-bubble, to deceive the people? Let us rather follow the advice of the Speaker, and send home a correct statement of the case to the British Government. He was satisfied that the proprietors would, for their own sakes, give such terms to their tenantry as would enable the latter to live and pay their rents. He knew that grievances did exist, and for those we should provide a remedy; but he did not see the reason for sending for those witnesses; if there was any good to be gained by an examination of the persons proposed he would not oppose it; he thought it was only for the purpose of verifying certain resolutions that passed the late House, and to contradict the statement of the Governor; or perhaps to obtain evidence on which to ground a new Escheat Bill; for the hon. member said he would vote for Escheat, though he knew it would not be sanctioned at the Colonial Office; and he (Mr. Macaulay) thought the present resolutions were something similar in their bearing to the Escheat Bill.

Mr. RAE said this was the third time he was obliged to rise in order to explain his motive for wishing to summon those witnesses. It was not for the purpose of disproving what the present or a former Governor may have said: he (Mr. Rae) did not care what either of them said or would say; but he wished to examine witnesses on whose evidence to found resolutions on the state of the Colony, that might otherwise be misrepresented hereafter as former resolutions were. He had not said he would vote for a Court of Escheat, although he knew it would not be sanctioned by Government. His expressions were, that he would vote for a resolution that Escheat was a right of this Colony as well as that of every other Colony. He contended that Government had authority to take the land from the proprietors for non-fulfilment of the conditions of the grants, and by a parity of reason, they can compel the proprietors to give moderate terms to their tenants.

Mr. D. MACDONALD thought the resolutions before the House could not be too well supported by evidence; he could not see what force His Excellency could urge on the Home Government or on the absentee proprietors, the inability of the tenantry to pay a money rent in the face of his despatch to Lord Stanley in May last. Perhaps the hon. the Speaker, from the footing on which he stood with the Governor, may be able to inform us how His Excellency can get over it.

Mr. SPEAKER could assure the House that there was no danger of the Governor's refusing to recommend the resolutions which the House may adopt regarding the state of the Colony. By his example, and even by his pecuniary contributions he has endeavoured to promote the interest of the agriculturist. It was creditable to His Excellency that he had urged on the proprietors to take a favourable view of the case of the tenantry; and yet we

want to call in evidence, in order to contradict his representation of the state of the country, and thereby to lessen the influence he should, as the representative of Her Majesty, possess with the Government at home. For this reason he (Mr. Speaker) thought we were pursuing a blind policy, if we wished to obtain the cooperation of His Excellency's recommendation, which would materially strengthen our resolutions. Now, instead of this, we are busying ourselves in search of evidence to prove that no one can live in the country—that the soil is so miserable that it is incapable of improvement; but if the same system of agriculture were adopted here, and a similar outlay of capital were expended as is done in England, Ireland or Scotland, it would be rendered as fertile as any of them. In fact, there is scarcely any country he is acquainted with which could boast of so much good land, comparatively; there is but a small portion of this Colony that is not susceptible of cultivation. What we want is a different class of persons to those now engaged in farming pursuits; there was a better opportunity for industrious persons to succeed here than in any place he was acquainted with. He knew three brothers, who had left the Colony with several hundred pounds, and after being some years absent, in the United States, one came back—then another—and he had no doubt so would the third, if he had the means. Was this a proof of the miserable state of the Colony? Misrepresentations get abroad: it was even stated that the passengers by the Lady Wood were starving; in fact, that they were eating one another. Look at this, and compare it with a letter from one of them, which has appeared in the London Colonial Gazette; there was no high colouring in the description of the country given by the writer, when he stated that there were but few taxes to pay; no beggars nor poor rates; that a man might enjoy himself as he pleased, and all had enough to eat and to drink. Now, suppose the Governor said that land is advancing in value; who will stand up and deny this? He (Mr. Speaker) knew where land had greatly increased in value within a few years past. He could not but admire the consistency of the hon. member (Mr. Rae), who now so strenuously advocates our taking the evidence of certain public officers, viz.: the Attorney General, Colonial Secretary, Treasurer, and others, as necessary to support and strengthen the representations of this House, while it must be recollected that the hon. member, by his resolutions of 1841, had informed the British Government, that those identical persons were members of a family compact, and had stigmatized them as having no regard for the interest of the Colony, but whose chief study was to provide for themselves; and being so represented, what can we expect from their evidence? If we adopted the resolutions brought forward by the hon. mover, he (Mr. Speaker) was of opinion that we ran the risk of exposing ourselves to the same imputation of ignorance as the late House. Rather let us, by our unanimity, bring forward a measure in which all parties may co-operate, and then we may hope to do something that will permanently benefit the country. Indeed, he might make bold to assure the House that they would have His Excellency's recommendation to any rational scheme for the amelioration of the hardships of the tenantry, so justly complained of, if they were brought forward in a proper manner. He did not think it would be a breach of confidence to state, that His Excellency has already urged on the proprietors to take their rents in produce, and he (Mr. Speaker) considered it was in consequence of this that Lord Selkirk is receiving his rents in produce. If His Excellency seconds our representations, it will have great weight at home. Why then should we endeavour to lessen the force of his representations (even if it were in our power) by our endeavours to call in question his veracity.

Mr. COOPER said it had been distinctly stated, that the persons to be summoned could disprove some misrepresentations that were made by the Lieutenant Governor, in a despatch sent home by him, commenting on the Resolutions of the late House—and not for the purpose of ripping up old grievances. This was not his wish. He wished to do something for the good of the country, and for that reason would support the motion of the hon. mover (Mr. Rae).

Mr. DALZIEL said, that when almost all the members of the House were agreed on the present state of the colony, he did not see the utility of examining such a host of witnesses. For the purpose of obfearing out the Resolutions, he would like to see some of the most influential of the persons named. A good deal had been said on the subject of emigration, and one hon. member (Mr. Douse) said the country was benefited by the great influx of emigrants; but he (Mr. Dalziel) was quite of a different opinion. If, indeed, they were agriculturists that came out, with some capital, it might be a benefit to the Island; but those that came here were generally mechanics and artisans—persons wholly unacquainted with rural labour; and what benefit would an increase of such emigrants be? He would go with the motion, so far as to summon a few of the witnesses on the list.

Mr. RAE said it was not his intention to rake up what was passed; he had not the most distant idea of pursuing such a course; but as it was the aim of the parties who sent home representations to make the state of the Island to be most prosperous; and for this very reason was the Report of the Agricultural Society sent home by the Governor—it was therefore for that identical reason that he (Mr. Rae) wished to summon witnesses in order to rebut those statements, by Resolutions founded on the evidence as to the real state of the Colony. What a pretty set of fellows we must be if the representations of Sir George Seymour are to have greater weight at home than those of the Representatives of the people! He could not help alluding to what Mr. Speaker said of the soil of the Island. Of what use was it to say there was better land in Prince Edward Island than in Scotland? Was it from the slopes of Ben Lomond that the Duke of Buccleugh gets his rental? Was it from the heights of Ben Nevis, or any of the numerous family of Bens in Scotland, that the inhabitants of Edinburgh get their wheat? But there is nevertheless good land in Scotland. If we took the evidence from farmers who were not theoretical but practical ones, we would find that we cannot plough over four or five inches deep, which is a great disadvantage in a dry season, as we generally experience. The Speaker had further observed, that "he did not know any place that contained so small a portion of irremediable land." He (Mr. Rae) could bring forward evidence to rebut this, as well as the other matters spoken of. We know for certain of only one letter that has gone home; but many may have gone since that was forwarded.

Mr. D. MACLEAN observed, that as he had been taunted for his predilection for republican principles, he thought he might impress on the minds of the minority of the House, who are struggling for the rights of the people, the folly of ever giving way to despair, however dark and unpromising the political aspect may be. About seventy years ago, a man, dressed in a suit of plain brown limespun, made his appearance at the Colonial Office as agent for the province of Pennsylvania; he was assailed with the epithets of "murderer," "thief" and "liar," and in other respects very ill treated by Lord Loughborough, a weak and vain aristocrat, whose name has been rescued from oblivion and condemned to eternal infamy, because he had the unutterable folly so recklessly to insult the great philosopher and statesman, Benjamin Franklin. Some eight years afterwards the same man was received at the Court of France in his suit of plain brown limespun, as ambassador from the independent United States of America. To come nearer our own times; five short years ago, Mr. Lafontaine, a man of talent and importance in Lower Canada, from him to the rebel leader was discovered at the storming of that quarter against the British Government. He (Mr. Maclean) had read the letter. Lafontaine, as a matter of course, absconded; but mark the change—this very man now rules the destinies of that province as Her Majesty's Attorney General! He would not detain the House by adding examples to the same effect, but would merely state that he for one was by no means inclined to "give up the ship," for he looked upon an early change of the leasehold tenure as a circumstance that might be considered inevitable. He had yet heard no good and sufficient argument against evidence being adduced, nor can he possibly conceive any objection being urged against it, if it be not to cloak corruption a little longer.

Mr. COLES would consider it an insult to the representatives of the people to say they had not sufficient knowledge of the wants of their constituents to enable them to address the Home Government, without calling in evidence to support it. And as to the names at the head of the list, whether they are of the family compact or not, they are salaried officers, and cannot be supposed to have the interest of the agriculturists or the prosperity of the Island so much at heart as the members of this House, who are deeply interested in its welfare, and who are as competent judges of the wants of the people as any person whose name he saw on the list. As the resolutions which have been passed by one hon. member (Mr. Palmer) are in substance the same as those entered in the order book by Mr. Rae, and both are acknowledged to be correct, he did not think that any further evidence was necessary. As to the inferiority of the soil, which had been spoken of, he could state, that he had received a letter from a friend in Ohio some time ago, who had called on him some years since on his way from England. He (Mr. Coles) wished him to settle in this Island, but it being in the Spring, some time in May, and the ground being then covered with snow, it disheartened him just on his arrival from England, to see the like at that time of the year; and he could not be prevailed on to stop, although he was shewn one of the best farms on the Hillsborough River, then for sale, (Mr. Millar's)—he proceeded to Ohio, where he purchased a large tract of land, five times the size of Millar's farm, for the same price; but now he (Mr. Coles) thought he would like to ex-

change places, for in his letter he states that produce is so low that it will not pay for the tillage; and that as soon as he can sell off he will emigrate to this Island. But if he comes here as a tenant, he may find that he has not bettered his condition, if a cash rent is to be exacted, for it is impossible for the tenantry to pay a cash rent this year. And if the proprietors continue to distract, they will run the tenantry of the Island; for if a bailiff is sent to distrain for five pounds, what with five pounds more of costs, fifty pounds worth of stock, at this season of the year, would not pay it if money is exacted; and as the representatives of the people, it behoves us to use our endeavour by address or otherwise to redress those grievances; and as part of the proprietors had offered, through Mr. Young, to the Home Government, to take their rents in produce, he was convinced, by the adoption of this agreement as had been done by some of the proprietors already, that if an unanimous address was sent home from this House, with the concurrence of the Executive, this Session, that those terms would be adopted.

Hon. J. S. MACDONALD observed, that with regard to the evidence which is expected to be obtained from the examination of those persons whose names appear on the list before us, he could see no necessity for it, as the principles embodied in the resolutions on the table, are generally acknowledged by the committee; but what remedy would be best to apply, it was not so easy to point out. He thought the only efficient remedy must come from the landlords themselves. In a former House he had the honor of moving for an effort being made to procure an abatement of rent and a remission of arrears of rent; but the idea of the thing was scouted at in that House; however, he was happy to see the present House so unanimous on the subject. He thought there was no necessity for putting the country to the expense of summoning so many witnesses, especially as the House was quite as conversant with the state of the Colony as any of those individuals could be expected to be.

On a division, the motion of Mr. Rae to summon witnesses on the state of the Colony, was negatived, by a majority of 13 to 8. On the House resuming, the chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

MONDAY, March 6.

Mr. Macaulay introduced a Bill to prevent trespassing on the Common of Georgetown.—Second reading on Friday.

The Hon. J. S. Macdonald, by command of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, laid before the House the Estimates for the expenditure of the current year.

The Statute Labour Bill was read the third time, as engrossed.

Mr. Rae moved that the per-centage allowed to Commissioners upon moneys expended by them be reduced from five per cent to three.

Mr. Douse said, as several members were absent, he would move, as an amendment, that the further proceeding on the Bill be postponed until Thursday. Upon which the House divided.

For deferring proceedings—Messrs. Douse, Macaulay, Montgomery, J. S. Macdonald, Longworth, Coles, Hudson, A. Maclean, Wightman, 9.

Against it—Messrs. Rae, Cooper, Dalziel, Macintosh, D. Macdonald, Fraser, Macgregor, D. Maclean, Dingwell, 9.

The votes being equally divided, the Speaker gave his casting vote in favor of the motion for deferring the proceedings.

TUESDAY, March 7.

Mr. Speaker laid before the House several Returns relating to the Crown Lands, received in compliance with the Address to His Excellency of the 28th ult.—Ordered to be printed.

The Bill to compel all claimants of land in this Island to put their titles on record here, was read a second time; when it appearing that a bill of a similar nature passed in 1832, was disallowed; it thereupon became necessary according to the Royal instructions, that the consent of the Crown, on a full representation of the case, must be previously obtained, before the administrator of the Government can assent to its re-enactment. A Committee was therefore appointed to prepare an Address to Her Majesty, setting forth the necessity of such a measure, and praying that she will grant permission that an Act may be passed for that purpose.

Mr. Douse moved that a Committee be appointed to consider the expediency of amending the Act relating to Fish Inspectors. Agreed to. Messrs. Douse, Longworth, J. S. Macdonald, Wightman and D. Maclean were accordingly appointed.

Mr. Coles, from Committee, reported a Bill, in addition to former Act relating to the closing of roads, or parts of roads, which have ceased to be used by the public.

The Assault and Battery Bill was read the third time, passed, and sent to the Council.

WEDNESDAY, March 8.

The Sea-weed Bill was read a second time, and referred to Messrs. Cooper, Thornton, Dalziel, Rae and Macintosh—with an instruction to provide that no exclusive right to the sea-weed when thrown up by the sea shall be exercised by the occupier of the land on the front of which such may be cast ashore; but that the same may be taken up by any individual, if found between high and low water mark.

Mr. Palmer moved an amendment, that after the word "occupier of land," the following be inserted—"not being the owner of the sea-shore by certain bounds;" which was seconded by Mr. Douse. The amendment was negatived, only the mover and seconder voting for it.

Mr. Palmer, by command of His Excellency, laid before the House several Returns relating to the Post Office, received in compliance with the Address to His Excellency of the 20th ult. Ordered to be printed and referred to the Post Office Committee.

The House went into Committee on the further consideration of the Bill for the naturalization of Aliens in this Island. After some time spent therein, the Committee rose without reporting—so the bill was lost. A general measure such as that contemplated by the bill was considered to be contrary to Royal instructions.

Several Bills were forwarded a stage, when the House adjourned.

THURSDAY, March 9.

Mr. Hudson presented a Petition of the Tryon Temperance Society, the prayer of which is as follows—"That your Honorable House will be pleased to take the several enactments relating to the retailing of Spirituous Liquors in this Island into its most serious consideration; and by raising the price of licenses in the country, and enhancing the qualifications of persons who may be deemed competent for the sale of so dangerous a commodity, the traffic may be vested in the hands of more respectable and responsible persons than at present."

Referred to Messrs. Hudson, Dalziel, Thornton, D. Maclean and Coles, to report thereon by bill or otherwise.

The Bill to amend the Act relating to Distress for Rent, was passed, and sent to the Council. The bill provides that no horses or cattle distrained for rent shall be sold between the 1st December and the 1st of May, nor the hay or straw which may be necessary for the foddering of the same. It also provides a scale of fees to be taken by the bailiffs employed in making distraint or sale.

The Order of the Day, for the adjourned proceeding on the Statute Labour Bill, being read; Mr. Rae again renewed his motion for reducing the per-centage allowed to Road Commissioners on public moneys expended under their direction, from five per cent to three. Negatived.

Yeas—Messrs. Rae, D. Macdonald, Longworth, Palmer, Macintosh, D. Maclean, Macgregor, Dingwell, Fraser, Cooper, Dalziel—11.

Nays—Messrs. Douse, Yeo, Montgomery, Hudson, A. Maclean, Macaulay, Thornton, Coles, Beairsto, J. S. Macdonald, Cambridge, Wightman—12.

Mr. Dalziel then moved, that the per-centage be fixed at four per cent. This motion was carried, on a division of 12 to 11. This difference was occasioned by Mr. Wightman having voted for the reduction, although he had opposed Mr. Rae's motion.—The bill was amended at the table accordingly, passed, and sent to the Council.

The bill provides that each male inhabitant of the Town and Royalty of Charlottetown between the ages of sixteen and sixty shall be liable to pay five shillings annually as road money, instead of four, as erroneously stated in a former paper—besides paying for their horses, carriages, &c.

The bill relating to the closing of old roads under went some discussion in Committee of the whole; when some amendment of it being deemed necessary, the further consideration of it was postponed until a future day.

Mr. D. Maclean reported favorably from the Committee to whom was referred the Petition of James Proudfoot, of Brackley Point Road, praying to be remunerated for law expenses in defending an action taken against him as a Road overseer, and decided in his favour; and where the plaintiff had absconded.—Report referred to the Committee of Supply.

A Bill was received from the Legislative Council, to amend the Act for the establishment of an Academy in Charlottetown, to which they desired the concurrence in House of Assembly. The Bill provides that instead of the £300 per annum, appropriated for the salaries of the two masters, being divided equally between them, as at present, there shall in future be one master at a salary of £200 and one at £100—Independent of fees.

FRIDAY, March 10.

Mr. Rae, from the Committee appointed to prepare the same, reported the draught of an address to Her Majesty, which was agreed to by the House, and is as follows:—

TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

May it please your Majesty; We the Representatives of your Majesty's faithful and loyal people of Prince Edward Island, in Colonial Parliament assembled, humbly submit to your Majesty's Royal consideration, that the Inhabitants of this Colony have felt serious inconvenience from the want of a Law to oblige persons claiming land under any title, whether of purchase, devise, mortgage, or otherwise, to put their titles on record—that the want of such regulation occasions to several of the Agriculturists a feeling of insecurity, and thus impedes the cultivation of land, and tends to depreciate landed property. That with the intent of remedying this evil, the Legislature of this Island, in 1832, passed a Bill intitled "An Act to require Landlords, or claimants of rents, to put the titles by which they claim upon record in the proper Offices of Record in this Island," which Bill contained a proviso, that no lessor or landlord should have power to exact rent for more than six years in arrears.

That said Bill was disallowed by the Crown, mainly on the ground that lessees had no right to investigate the titles of those from whom they had previously taken leases.

That in respect to the past, especially considering the system under which this Island was laid out and given away, there may be obstacles to such an enactment, and such is not now sought; but in respect to the future, we submit, that as landed property, in the ordinary course of events, frequently changes owners, and as the nature and duration of the title is often altered at every change, it is desirable that the person entering henceforth on wild lands, either as lessee or purchaser, and the person who is in the habit of giving credit to the occupiers of land, should be enabled to ascertain, the one, if he may safely improve the wilderness, and pay rent or purchase money, and the other, how far he may safely credit such occupiers.

The House of Assembly therefore submit, that it would materially conduce to the advantage of all inclined to deal fairly, that all future transfers or changes of titles to land should be valid against occupants of land only from the date of registry.

The manifold inconveniences arising from the want of such Law, in Lower Canada, were repeatedly represented by the British residing in that Colony, and were, as is understood, remedied by the express direction of the Imperial Government.

The House of Assembly might have passed a Bill to the above effect; but as such Bill, though very different in its effect from the Bill formerly disallowed, must have borne a similar title; and as the Eighteenth Article of your Majesty's Royal Instructions of 1838, prohibits the Governor from giving his assent to the re-enacting of any law to which the Royal Assent has once been refused, without express leave for that purpose from the Crown, upon a full representation—the coincidence in title, and in some of the provisions, imposes the necessity, in conformity with the Article in which reference has just been made, of forwarding this representation, which, it is trusted, will bear sufficient evidence of the propriety of the enactment for which permission is now sought.

May it therefore please your Majesty, to cause Instructions to be transmitted to the Lieutenant Governor of this Colony, that it is your Majesty's pleasure that an Act be passed to the above effect.

A committee was appointed to wait upon the Lieutenant Governor with the above, and request that he would transmit the same, with his favourable recommendation, for the purpose of being laid at the foot of the throne.

The bill to prevent swine and poultry going at large in Georgetown at any season, and horses at certain seasons, was passed, and sent to the Council.

Mr. Wightman, from the Committee, presented a Bill to alter and amend the Acts relating to the Prince Edward Island Steam Navigation Company.—Second reading on Tuesday.

The House went into consideration of the Road appropriations, which were agreed to—see first page.

Mr. Rae moved, that the sum appropriated in the division of the road money for Prince County towards the reconstruction of Darnley Bridge, be reduced from Eighty Pounds to Fifty.—The motion was negatived by 18 to 3—Messrs. Rae, Fraser and Macintosh voting for it.

SATURDAY, March 11.

Mr. Beairsto, by leave, introduced a bill to amend the Act prohibiting the exportation of Oysters from this Island, for a limited period.

The bill to regulate the taking of Sea-weed from the shores of this Island, as amended by the Special Committee to whom it was referred, was taken up, and agreed to, with some further amendments. The provisions of the bill do not extend to Town and water lots.

The House resolved itself into a Committee of the whole on the Public Accounts. The account of Expenditure and Receipts for the past year has been already published. On the House resuming, the Chairman of the Committee reported as follows.

"On a reference to the statement of Expenditure and Receipts for the past year, it will appear that the Expenditure has been £17,751 18s. 2d., and the Receipts £13,745 8s. 4d.; thereby showing a Balance against the Colony for the period of £4006 17s. 5½d., but in this statement it must be borne in mind that the sum of £2587 10s. invested in the Prince Edward Island Steam Navigation Company, under the Act, 5 Vic. Cap. 3, has been charged as expenditure; therefore, the actual amount expended, over the Receipts for that time, should be taken at £1429 7s. 5½d.

On comparing the Expenditure and Receipts of the past year with that of the year previous, it will be seen that the Expenditure of the past year (after deducting the sum embarked in the Steam Navigation Company) is £672 19s. 0¼d. less than that of the preceding one; and in the Receipts of the Treasury (which include £843 15s.—the net proceeds of School Lands sold under the Act, 5 Will. 4 Cap. 13) there appears to be an increase of £45 18s. 6¼d. It must also be remarked, that the Interest paid on Warrants during the past year, and charged as Expenditure, amounts to £337 3s. over that of the preceding year—which your Committee conceive to be in consequence of the Treasurer having been enabled to call in a larger amount of Warrants than usual, by the appropriation during the last Session of £4000 of the Land Assessment Money for that purpose.

By the Report on Public Accounts, agreed to by the House of Assembly in its last Session, it will be found, that up to that time, the sum of £1141 5s. had been advanced to complete roads laid out under the Road Compensation Act, and during the past year the sum of £443 1s. has been advanced for the same purpose, amounting in all to the sum of £1584 6s.—no part of which sum, according to the circumstances has been reimbursed to the Government; which circumstance your Committee are at a loss to account for, and beg respectfully to call the immediate attention of the House to the matter.