But, the witticisms of the Leader of the Government, with his will-o'-the-wisp, and loose-fish, although they are not the most elegant phrases, are very significant; and if rightly understood, may throw some light on the subject.

What I have understood by a will-o'-the-wisp, it is a light floating or dancing over bogs and pits, and bewildered travellers who follow it, in expectation of its being the light of a house where they might find a comfortable lodging to rest in, generally find themselves in a bog, and the indulgence of 1816, and Minister's Despatches on the Land Question, were all will-o'-the-wisps to bewilder the people and lead them astray, and not only the labouring people, but their Representatives also.

But when the Honourable Colonial Secretary, speaks with so much contempt of the two or three loose-fish, I can only infer, that he means that the rest are in his net or have *swallowed* the *bait*, and taken the hook. But if it is so, it is a poor prospect for the defrauded Tenantry, to find their Representatives upon the hook, or in the net of the Colonial Secretary. But, if it should prove true, that their Representatives have other ends to serve than the interests of their constituents, the people will have to take their case into their own hands, and make a better return next time. It is my desire, as much as my duty, to support Responsible Government, but it is not parties but principles that direct me, for instance, when it is intended to pay the expenses of one Branch of the Legislature without making them elective, they are no longer responsible to the people in any way, and when the Government dispense with one part of an Act, and execute another part, that is, to purchase the Land without an investigation of the titles, as not liberal, the Government as they professed, but the reverse, they are supporting defaulters and deceivers and punishing the deceived and defrauded, and therefore, I cannot support such measures neither shall bait, hook, or net drag me into supporting the like. The highest Law authorities say, that it is a principle of justice, allowed by mankind in general, that whoever reclaims Land from its natural wild state, and brings it under cultivation at his own cost and labor, has the best right to the Land. But our Colonial Government, having left the forfeited Land in the hands of the defaulters, and the ungranted and reserved Lands, for any impostor to assume an ownership over it, without cost or labour, and if they can, by any means of deceit, make the labouring man attorn to them as their Landlord, our Government maintains, that any such attornment, however fraudulently imposed, gives defaulters and impostors, the best title to the Land, together with the Tenant's improvements. In the Earl of Durham's the Governor-General's Report, it is declared, that for the Crown to resume the fortified grants, is not only lawful and justifiable, but the only way to free the people from the evils such grants have inflicted. But our *liberal* Government maintains, that the only way to settle the people, is for the Government to purchase the Land, not from defaulters and impostors, at first hand for three shillings an acre, but at second hand, and at double prices from forestallers at 6s an acre, so that they may sell it again to the defrauded people, at twelve shillings and sixpence an acre. In the purchase Bill it is enacted, (and that Act has the Royal Assent) that before the Government can purchase any Land, the Commissioner shall cause the title of such Land to be investigated, and report the results, of such investigation to the Government, but the Government have thought proper to dispense with that part of the act, and being a secret tribunal, they investigated the titles to suit purposes, they examined the transfers but all the Government knew that the *titles* was forfeited, but they prefered making the tenants pay 12s 6d an acre for their land to an investigation of the titles according to Law. If the Government were to purchase the rest of the Land at the same price it would incur a debt of £300,000, to be paid by labouring people who were defrauded to defaulters importers and forestallers for purposes of corruption. But if the titles of the Lands were publically investigated it would in all probability yield from £100,000 to £150,000 for the Colonial Treasury to be employed in puble improvements, and the Resolution which I am to move is to carry out the investigation of the titles more generally according to the intentions of the act.

Mr. Cooper, moved the following Resolution which was seconded by Mr. Laird.

"Whereas Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to give her assent to an Act for the purchase of Lands on behalf of the Government, and it is provided in the Fifth Section, that it shall be the duty of the Commissioners to investigate, or cause to be investigated, the Titles of such Lands, and make a report of the results of such examination and investigation to Government; and whereas the Titles of such Lands were to have been made perfect by the performance of certain conditions, *Resolved*, *Therefore*, that a Court of competent Jurisdiction be appointed to investigate and decide upon the Titles of all Lands liable to forfeiture, and also, to try the fraud in practice, to make British subjects Tenants upon forfeited Lands, instead of aliens as intended by the grant.

After much discussion (the Chairman having listened to 50 speeches, and been in the Chair 7 hours) Mr. Whelan who was nearly the last speaker, moved the following Resolution in amendment.

"Whereas by various despatches from successive Secretaries of state for the Colonies, it has been shown to be the fixed and unalterable determination of Her Majesty's Government to abstain from any investigation into the additions of the original Grants of Township Lands in this Island, Her Majesty's Government, having stated that such conditions were fulfilled as far as practicable—and whereas to agitate the question of Escheat which is almost universally deemed to be a necessary forerunner to the commencement of the investigation referred to, would lead to unsettle the minds of the tenantry of this Colony, without producing the least beneficial result, owing to the positive refusal of Her Majesty's Government to sanction the extra establishment of any such Court of Escheat—and whereas this Committee have every reason to believe that the great majority of the population of this Island are satisfied with the Law passed in 1853 for the purpose of purchasing the interest of Proprietors in the Township lands in this Island, as the easiest and most effectual mode of settling the long vexed question between landlord and tenant, and that no such extreme measure as an Escheat is now expected by the majority of the population. *Resolved*, *Therefore*, that it is inexpedient and unnecessary to appeal again to the Imperial authorities for its sanction on behalf of a measure so long agitated and so firmly rejected by Her Majesty's Government.

The Resolution was carried, on the following division:

Ayes—Messrs. Whelan, Mooney, Coles, Warburton, Lord, Muirhead, Perry, Clark, Wightman, Dingwell, Munroe, Speaker.

Nays—Cooper, Laird, McIntosh, Longworth, Montgomery.

Mr. Coles moved a Resolution, signifying his intention to bring in a Bill to compel proprietors to put their titles on record, carried.

FRIDAY, March 30.

The Bill taxing Rent Rolls was again reconsidered and the tax on absentee proprietors was reduced to 5 per cent.

Mr. COLES moved a resolution to collect the fractional parts on Rent Rolls.

Committee reported the Bill agreed to with amendments.

Bill from Council relating to Surrogate was read a second time.

Mr. COLES said, it had been found that unnecessary expences had been incurred, in summoning Witnesses, by some disappointed persons who wished to cause trouble to Executors, &c., and after decision had been given, the Judge of Probate could not order the loosing party to pay costs, he wished to have the power, to prevent litigation and unnecessary expences.

Mr. HAVILAND thought such a Bill was very necessary; a disappointed legatee might have a greater number of Witnesses summoned than was required, and for no other purpose than to cause the Executors &c., trouble, and after the case had been clearly proved, the executors, &c., were obliged to pay costs, he thought it very hard and wished to see the Judge have the power as in all other courts, to award costs.

Mr. PALMER thought that the wording of the Bill was not clearly expressed. Without at all altering the intentions of the Bill he moved, certain words be added to make it more explicit.

Bill as amended was ordered to be engrossed.

Mr. PALMER as Chairman of the Committee to whom was referred the Petition of the Royal Agricultural Society, reported a Bill intituled An Act for protecting sheep from vicious dogs, by imposing an additional Tax. Received and read a first time.

Mr. PALMER presented the Temperance Petitions, referred to a Committee of the whole House on Monday next.

Mr. WIGHTMAN Chairman of the committee on public accounts presented their Report which was received and read.

The House went into Committee on the opening of new lines of road and agree to several resolutions.

House in committee on the Bill for regulating the office of Controller of Customs.

The first clause vests the appointment of an assistant in the Governor and Council.

The Controller for Charlottetown to get £100 in addition to present salary of £200. Assistant to get £100 per year. The Collector in Charlottetown to be the head of the department and other collectors to report to him every quarter, &c.

Fees to be taken to go to the Treasury. For Certificate of Registry 5s; for Declaration on oath 1s; for Search, 1s; for recording Bill of Sale, &c., 2s 3d; for Certificate not being registry, 2s 3d.

Surveyor of shipping to be appointed by Government. For surveying up to 100 tons, 10s 6d; up to 200 15s; up to 300, 17s 6d; 300 and upwards 20s; Mileage 1s, per mile.

Some discussion took place, on the Salaries, &c., and amendments were moved, which will be noticed in our next.

HASZARD'S GAZETTE.

Saturday, March 31st, 1855.

☞ We are oblged to defer the Editorial leader to-day, in order to put our subscribers in the country in possession of the Road Votes. As they are of no use to our town subscrers we will not issue them in town, but any subscriber who wishes can procure them.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.—We have given a Summary of the business done in the House, up to their rising last night, and also Mr. Cooper's Speech on the Land Question. We intend to give the views of other Members on this Question in our next issue.

The Rev. JAMES ALLAN, Cove Head, takes this method of conveying his thanks to Mrs. James Robertson, and other ladies resident on St. Peter's Road, for the present of a pulpit gown, tendered by the former, as representative, for his acceptance. Valuable it is in itself and becoming, or appropriate to the pulpit, but it is prized by him especially, as a manifestation of the interest they take in his labours, of the desire they entertain for spiritual improvement through their instrumentality, and still more as an evidence of their attachment to the Saviour, whose servant he is. He hopes, it will stimulate him to increased efforts in the discharge of duty, as it is his prayer, that the "gift may abound to their account." He takes this opporunity publicly to express his gratitude, to the inhabitants of St. Peter's Road generally, for the many acts of kindness shown to him, since he came among them, and for the assistance afforded to him in the performance of the work of the ministry.

MECHANICS' INSTITUE.—On Tuesday evening last, the Hon. Daniel Brenan, Vice Patron, read a very interesting Lecture on Ancient Commerce. He took a very comprehensive and expansive view of his subject, and displayed much research in biblical lore in its details. He exhibited a section of an ancient vessel propelled by tiers of oars, made for the purpose by Mr. Watson Duchemin, and then presented the model to the Institute.

A vote of thanks was unanimously passed to Mr. Brenan for his lecture.

Mr. James R. Watt will Lecture next Tuesday evening on "Pneumatics."

HIGHLAND SOCIETY.—At the Annual General Meeting of the Highland Society, held on the 26th inst., at the Globe Hotel, the following gentlemen were elected Office-bearers and Directors for the ensuing year:—

Dr. Stratton, R. N., President,
Mr. Neil Rankin, 1st Vice President.
" John W. Morrison, 2d Vice President.
Donald McIsaac, Esq., Treasurer.
Mr. James Romans, Cor. Secretary.
" John A. McDonald, Rec. Secretary.

Directors.—Mr. James Purdie, W. R. Watson, Esq. John McGill, Esq., Mr. J. C. McDonald, Mr. H. W. Lobban, Mr. James Carmicheal.
Donald McFadyen, Messenger and Piper.

His Excellency the Lientenant Governor in Councl, has been pleased to make the following appointmentsi viz:—

Mr. Daniel Joseph Gillis, of Miscouche, a Justice of the Peace for Prince County.

William Jamieson and Nicholas J. Brown Esquires, to be Visiting Magistrates to the Jail of Prince County, in the places of Archibald Campbell and Evan Thomas, Esquires.

Mr. William Wilson to be Postmaster at Bedeque, in place of Colin McLennan, Esquire, resigned.

Mr. John Walsh to be a Branch Pilot for the Port of Charlottetown.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor has been pleased to appoint the Honorables George Coles, James Warburton and Edward Whelan, and William Ewen Clark, Esquire, Governors and Trustees of the Charlottetown Central Academy, in terms of the several Acts relating thereto.

PATRIOTIC FUND.

John Clark, 6s; James Orr, 7s 6d; Elias Roberts, 7s 6d; William Craswell, 7s 6d; William Craswell, Junr. 3s; Christopher Bulman, 7s 6d; Robert Bunting, 7s 6d; Samuel Duncan, 6s; James Houston, 5; Robert Stephenson, 5s; Donald M'Cormack, 5s; Thomas Winnacott, 5s; James Duncan, 3s; Philip Gaudet, 5s; John Fairclough 5s; Edward Tombs, 5; Thomas Bulman, 3s; David Clark, 3s; Joseph Tombs, 3s; Henry Craswell, 3s; Charles Craswell, 2s; Miss Duncan, 9d; Elizabeth Pack, 1s 6d; Robert Bunting, 2s; George Gallant, 1s 6d. Total, £5 10s 3d.

Received from Mr. Elias Roberis, Teacher of Anglo Rustico, Township Twenty-four, District School, Treasurer of Local Committee, the sum of Five Pounds ten shillings and three pence, being the above subscriptions, in aid of Patriotic Fund.

THEOPHILUS DESBRISAY,
Treasurer Patriotic Fund.
Charlottetown March 28th, 1855.

(For Haszard's Gazette.)

Dear Mr. Haszard;

As you inserted on Wednesday last, an article on Teetotalism purporting to be from the pen of some English Archdeacon (name unknown).—Will you be kind enough to insert the accompanying extracts from Dr. Cumming's Lectures on the Miracles as a reply, and you will oblige your faithful servant,

L.

DR. CUMMING ON TEETOTALISM.

A Christian man will not become intoxicated if he drinks from a cask, a drunkard will become intoxicated if he drink from a bottle, it is not in the quantity before you that the element of Temperance is, but in the grace of God that has been implanted in your hearts. I would not say one word against the Teetotal Society because they have done good, and I pray that they may do more. But while they claim the liberty of holding their sentiments, I must not shrink from the duty of expounding what is plainly God's word. If I could, I would make every man sober, but my prescription if you will allow it, is not a mechanical change but a moral revolution in the unregenerate and unsanctified heart. But there is danger, you say, in wine. So there is, and there is danger in other things, there is danger in tampering with the word of God, there is danger in reading the Bible in the light of Teetotalism, instead of reading Teetotalism in the light of the Bible. For, we may depend upon it, whenever a man begins to adopt another mode of life than that which the Saviour gave, he soon begins to adopt another rule of Faith than that which the Bible affords. Our Lord came not to destroy society, but to descend into its depths, and sweeten, and cement, and sanctify it: he did not come to build, in the wilderness, a huge convent for all Christians to withdraw from the world and dwell in, but he did better, he came to uphold it, to sanctify, and sweeten human life. Christianity does not call upon you to detach yourselves from society in order to avoid its evils, but to go into the midst of society, and meet its hostility, master its evils and make it reflect the glory, the beneficence, and the goodness of God—hence the first act of the Ministry of Jesus was not isolation from society but going right into the heart of society, beginning at its root and centre, in order to bless, to beautify, and make it good.

Charlottetown Gas Light Company's Office.
March 19, 1855,

MY DEAR SIR;

I HAVE to apologize for not having replied yours of the 13th instant sooner, but the delay was unavoidable, in consequence of two of the Directors being absent at Georgetown. I have this day laid before the Directors the Resolution contained in your letter, as follows, viz:—

"*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this meeting that the Gas Company, in engaging to supply Gas at 20s. per 1000 feet, thereby inducing Consumers to provide themselves with expensive fittings, and during the first year advancing the price to 25s. without any reason for so doing, have, in the opinion of this meeting, been guilty of a breach of faith; and that a Committee of Consumers be appointed to wait on the Directors, to remonstrate against the said advance, and report the result to an adjourned meeting, to take place in this Hall, on Wednesday, the 21st instant, at 8 p.m.

"Which passed unanimously."

And have received instructions from them to inform you, that it is their opinion, that you, and the Committee on whose behalf you act, arrived at the conclusion contained in the above Resolution from false premises. In the first place, the Directors are not aware of any engagement whereby they bound themselves to supply Gas at 20s. per 1000 feet, for any particular period. In the printed Regulations to be observed by Gas Consumers, it is stated that "the Company will supply Gas by the Meter only at 20s. currency per 1000 cubic feet, payable quarterly," which regulations were not issued, until after the Gas commenced to be used about the 1st June, 1854, previous to which many, if not most of the largest Consumers of Gas, had their fittings purchased and put up ready for use, while many others had sent in their orders for the same, which could not have been executed up to that period.

At the time the Gas was first supplied to Consumers, the Directors did hope to be able to supply it at the rate already stated, which hope was founded on the calculations made on the cost of the stock of Coal from Pictou then on hand, as well as on the correspondence, and, indeed, agreements made with the New Brunswick Albert Coal Company the previous year. But the stock on hand at the commencement did not last in the supply of Gas more than 3 months, when the Directors found they could not replace it with Pictou Coal, including advance in first cost, freight, truckage and labour at less than about 30 per cent. advance on the price which their first stock cost, while the Albert Coal from New Brunswick, owing to some disarrangement in the works and high rate of freight, cost more than double the price, at which it had been promised the previous year and upon which the Directors had founded their estimate of the price of Gas to begin with. Although all these advances took place within the first quarter after the consumption of Gas commenced, yet the price of Gas was not raised until after six months had expired, while in Pictou the price was raised from 16s. to 20s. per. 1000 feet, Nova Scotia currency—equal to 24s. of our currency—after the first quarter, although in Pictou, they have laid only about 1,800 feet of main pipe, while here it exceeds 7,000 feet of