THE EXAMINER:

A Weekly Journal of Politics, Literature, and News.

"This is true Liberty, when Freeborn Men, having to advise the Public, may speak free."---Euripides.

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POETRY.

MAY-FLOWERS.

Beautiful flowerets, emblems of purity,
Saint-like and spotless, ye gladden our eyes,
Turning our thoughts to a blessed futurity,
When these mortal bodies transfigured shall rise.

Never again to endure dissolution,
Never to know the least touch of decay;
Ordain'd to experience a just retribution,
In darkness cimmerian, or shine like noonday.

Beautiful flowerets, unshrinkingly bearing
The keen blast of winter, the frost and the snow;
I liken ye unto yon brave souls, nought despairing
When round them the storms of adversity blow.

Who struggle on nobly in spite of misfortune,
Who wrestle with poverty all their lives long;
Yet heaven for a kinder lot rarely importune,
By suffering made patient, by fortitude strong.

Beautiful flowerets, your meek heads upturning,
While all things around you are barren and drear,
To me ye resemble earth's gifted ones yearning,
The place of their birth to embellish and cheer.

Like ye to the cold world they put forth their blossoms,
Their leaves fresh and tender — sure tokens of spring,
That glorious spring which the future embosoms,
When our earth with millenial anthems shall ring.

BEYOND THE RIVER.

Time is a river deep and wide;
And while along its banks we stray,
We see our loved ones o'er the tide
Sail from our sight, away, away.
Where are they—they who now return
No more to glad our longing eyes?
They've passed from life's contracted bourne,
To land unseen, unknown, that lies
Beyond the river.

'Tis hid from view; but we may guess
How beautiful that realm must be,
For gleamings of its loveliness
In visions granted, oft we see.
The very clouds that never throw
Their veils upraised for mortal sight,
With gold and purple tintings glow,
Reflected from the glorious light
Beyond the river.

And gentle airs so sweet, so calm,
Steal sometimes from that viewless sphere;
The mourner feels their breath of balm,
And soothed sorrow dries a tear.
And sometimes list'ning ears may gain
Entrancing sounds that hither floats,
The echo of a distant strain
Of harps and voices, blending notes,
Beyond the river.

WAR WITH GREAT BRITAIN.

(From the New York News.)

The critical condition of affairs in America is at last developing the policy of European Governments, and revealing the purposes and expectations of the transatlantic enemies of republicanism. In the British Parliament, the probabilities of a collision between Great Britain and this country are discussed with an earnestness that demonstrates the existence of much anxiety upon the subject, and suggests that, in the estimation of at least a portion of that legislative body, the hour is not far distant when a rupture between the two Governments shall become inevitable. It is apparent that in France the direction of the current of events is equally well understood. * * *

But the agitation, simultaneously, in the French and British legislative bodies, and so soon after Mr. Lincoln's reinauguration, of questions which had hitherto been studiously avoided gives an undisguisedly warlike aspect to the relations between this country and those two selfish and intriguing powers that, from the commencement of our civil strife, have awaited but the appearance of weakness on the part of the South to precipitate their long projected intervention. In the British House of Commons the members of all parties seemed to snuff the battle from afar. Even Mr. Bright, the devoted champion of the Federal cause, could not deny that "the question was at once important and delicate." "It was perfectly well known," he said, "that there was no power whatever in the United Kingdom to defend, successfully, Canada against America. What would the people of England have suffered from the Alabama." But Mr. Bright, confiding in his own instincts of sympathy with the fanatics who hold power in this country, was unable or unwilling to realize the danger of a collision. "He believed there was a War party in America—the Irish party—but this was the only party."

Mr. Bright has good reason to acknowledge that the Irish people, whether in their own land or self-exiled, bear, as a race, a deep-seated antipathy toward the Government that has overshadowed their nationality. But he errs in attributing to them a monopoly of hostility toward Great Britain in this country. Even that faction to whose interests he has so often signified his devotion, number among its adherents the most bitter, though, just now, for the sake of expediency, the least demonstrative, of the enemies of England. Owen Lovejoy, more impulsive than his co-fanatics, exhibited plainly the anti-British sentiment of the Abolitionists, when, in the House of Representatives, in the spirit of another Adherbal, he devoted his children and his children's children to an undying hostility to Great Britain. We can assure the English legislator that there are no parties in this country, and but few individuals, that would not, with a fitting opportunity, be eager to measure the strength of the Republic a third time with that of the mother land. Nor is this feeling confined to the North.

It is, if anything, more earnest and intense among the masses of the South. Let the South be subjugated, and immediately the popular eye would begin to cast expectant glances toward Canada, and the restless and over-excited temper of the American people would welcome the first indications of a quarrel with the antagonist of yore. The soldiers of either section, however anxious now to revisit their homes and enjoy a respite from the toil and privation of the camp, would soon weary of the monotony of peace. In the brief whirl of enjoyment that almost invariably attends a soldier's return from the field, the hard earnings of his career of strife would soon be wasted, and a foreign war would be hailed as an exemption from the dull routine of peaceful avocation.

Out of the million of restless spirits, trained to breathe the atmosphere of strife as a natural element, a half million would chafe under an industrial existence, and would rally with alacrity at the first bugle-call.

This active warlike element would greatly assist in tormenting the popular disposition to quarrel with a Foreign Power, and the natural tendency would be toward a collision with Great Britain. Our people cannot forget the insidious acts by which the British Government encouraged the discords between the sections; and, in fact, by its agitation of the slavery question was mainly instrumental in bringing about a rupture. Nor is the South unmindful of the perfidious policy that Great Britain has exercised toward that section; prompting secession in the commencement; urging it on during the first years of the war with expressions of sympathy; giving out vague promises of intervention, and making them worse than valueless by procrastination.

But the day of subterfuge is past. Great Britain, at last, is conscious of the war-cloud darkening over her own soil. Selfish beyond all consideration of the merits of a cause, she delayed the recognition of the Confederacy to avoid the expense of entering the arena. But now that her Parliament has begun to measure the risk and count the cost of war, and knows it to be inevitable, a more decided and open policy may be expected.

ENGLISH TREPIDATION.

When the tale of our misfortunes was wafted across the Atlantic, we well remember the unconcealed joy with which our supposed fatal catastrophe was hailed in England. We shall none of us soon forget the pirate ships, and the "Confederate loan," and the other expedients by which the rebels were furnished with armed vessels and sailors and seaports, when not a sea-worthy ship could be built, armed and sent out from their own waters. "The high-minded English merchants," and the "fine old English gentlemen," and "the titled orders" of the realm greatly enjoyed our trouble, and hoped that we should learn to die with decent resignation. But they are themselves learning something. It is now their turn to be troubled. The millions they have invested in our ruin threaten to return no interest; the ruin is more likely to be theirs than ours. They see that Davis is done for, and there rises the vision of the reunited Republic, after having put down domestic treason, turning her arms against foreign foes — and against whom sooner than England?

The London *Times* sounds the warning that our Government has "claims" on which a war may be predicated. We may attempt to satisfy our demands by seizing upon the British American Colonies. The Ministers of the Crown declare that they see no ground for alarm. Never have they had more pacific assurances from the American Government than they are now receiving. But alarmists are not to be quieted by official hushing. The truth is, that those for whom the *Times* speaks know that they have wronged us, and that we have just reason to resent their treatment of us. A guilty conscience justifies its own fears.

But, after all, there will be no rupture between us, unless it is made by "our British brethren" themselves. It is true that we have "claims" for indemnity, which we shall, doubtless, assert and press. We shall at least insist on a fair consideration of them. Earl Russell haughtily declared that our demands were inadmissible, and intimated that he wished never again to hear of such pretensions. But we shall expect to be heard. We shall expect that the ravages on our commerce by British vessels will be examined into, and that, if we have no indemnity for the outrage, we shall at least have some better reason assigned than merely that Mr. Bull don't choose to pay.

One thing our "brethren" may profitably consider. Wars are oftener caused by the collisions of passion than by those of interest. It is but too manifest that this country is an object of special hate to many Englishmen. Influential British periodicals are habitually employed in teaching their readers to hate us. To this end we are traduced, misrepresented, caricatured, held up to alternate ridicule and reproach. No accusation against our Government or people is too gross to find credit and currency through those publications. Now we are not likely to declare war against the *Times*, or the *Saturday Review*, against *Blackwood* or the *Quarterly*. It is no part of our policy to oppose sabres to pens, or to send iron-clad Monitors for the admonition of saucy talkers. But when one nation knows itself to be hated by another, it is not difficult for them to fall into collision. Occasions of difference, that in other moral conditions would be harmless, may then do deadly harm. We shall not be in haste to rush into war. It will be well, if at the end of thirty years we shall have recovered from the exhaustion of this terrible civil conflict. But the rawness of our wounds, especially those inflicted under the guise of a mock neutrality, may make us even more sensitive to injustice than we should be if sound and whole. It may require only a moderate application of abuse and insult to make us forgetful of everything but our wrongs and the impulses of resentment. We would suggest to our friends across the water, if they really deprecate the dread necessity of war, that at present they seem to hate us not wisely but too well, and would affectionately advise them to try at least to be more amiable.—*N. Y. Examiner, March 30th.*

EMIGRATION. — The Steamship *Britannia*, from Glasgow, 26th March, arrived at this port at about 6 o'clock last evening (11th.) She had 554 passengers, 43 of whom are destined for St. John, viz: male adults, 9; female adults, 7; male children, 13; female children 3, besides 1 infant. The nationalty of these is as follows:—Irish, 25; Scotch, 15; English, 3. Several persons who intended to proceed to New York, have accepted of employment here, and will remain in the Province; and agents or representatives from some of the mining establishments are at present endeavoring to employ others of them who are skilled in that kind of labor. The *Britannia* lies at Reed's Point Wharf, and is discharging her freight as rapidly as possible.—*St. John, N. B., Globe.*

LUXURIANT AND SILKY HAIR. MRS. S. A. ALLEN'S World's Hair Restorer and Zylobalsamum, or Hair Dressing, act upon the hair as does the dew upon the flowers. They are easily applied: they dispose the hair to remain in any desired position; by their use the hair becomes soft and silky. Persons using these preparations will preserve their hair through life. Every Druggist sells them. W. R. Watson, Agent for P. E. Island.

AN ARTICLE FOR THE SEASON.

INTERESTING TO EVERYBODY.

This is the season of poetry. Sentiment thaws out with the snow, and expands with the early flowers. The press grows eloquent on the tender grass, the unfolding buds, and other vernal vegetables. But, with all this elevation of the spirit, there are many afflictions of the flesh. Appetite, over-stimulated by the stringent cold of winter, subjects the weak stomach to dyspepsia, and the liver to an overflow of bile. The blood is over-rich, and among the consequences are biles, eruptions, and other external disorders. Ill health is a sad drawback to our enjoyment of the glories of nature, and therefore it is as well, in advance of the fervid heats of summer, to purify the fluids of the body, give tone and energy to the digestive powers, and remove from the superficial vessels those acrid humors which sometimes produce a species of *efflorescence*, much less agreeable than that of the orchard or the parterre.

Under these circumstances, we cannot better serve the dyspeptic or plethoric reader, or, in fact, any reader who is out of health or has had a premonitory warning of coming sickness, than by advising him (or her) to have recourse to Holloway's famous remedies. Whatever may be the source of the difficulty, in whatever portion of the system the seed of disease may be entrenched, HOLLOWAY'S PILLS will assuredly reach the locality, and extinguish the disorder in its elementary stage. They are peremtory messengers that will not be denied access to the most intricate windings of the internal organization, and which no principle inimical to health in any part of the human machine can successfully resist. This may seem a sweeping assertion, but there is a mass of authentic testimony to fall back upon which will fully sustain it. It is a familiar aphorism that "what everybody says must be true," and it is beyond controversy that the majority of christendom use and praise Holloway's remedies. War demands his Ointment for its mutilated victims, and Peace requires it for her chapter of accidents. He who keeps by him both his Pills and his Ointment, as standard household curatives, may say with Cato, though in a different sense—

"Thus am I *doubly* armed."

We believe in being *fore-armed* against disease and casualties, as far as possible. Some years ago a man was bitten by a *cobri di capella* in the Surray Zoological Gardens, in London. A preparation had been provided which was said to be a certain antidote to the poison of this serpent; but it was not at hand, and the poor fellow was dead before the remedy could be found. We mention this fact to illustrate the necessity of having Holloway's Pills and Ointment always within reach. That they are specifics for nine-tenths of the diseases of the human race seems to be a fact established by conclusive proofs; and if so, the propriety of keeping them where they may be always made available on the instant, must be obvious to the head of every family.—*Cincinnati Sun.*

It appears that the imports from Nassau—the haunt of the blockade-runners—rose from £274,584, in 1861, to £4,295,816 in 1863. The value of land in the city and suburbs has risen from 300 to 400 per cent., and in good business situations much more.

The production of the mines in Prussia in 1864 was of the value of 70 millions of dollars. Coal and iron furnished considerably more than one half, while the gold product was only worth about $150. 198,-832 persons are employed in the mines and mining works.

The collieries of Great Britain number 3,160 The amount of coal mined in 1863 was 86,292,215 tons. Over one-fourth of this amount is obtained from Durham and Northumberland districts, one-eighth from Scotland, and but little from Ireland.

The Rev. C. W. Vining who has safely returned from a journey in the East, thoughtfully brings us, among other curiosities, some of the newspapers published in Egypt and Turkey. They are in four languages. French, Turkish, Armenian, and Greek. We cannot read them, but he can, and through his patience we have been gratified by their contents, and the materials of which newspapers are made up in the land of the Osmanlis. Our American enterprise is well represented: stoves, wooden and tin-ware, ploughs, axes and tools are advertised from this country. In each of the four languages are heralded the virtues of the remedies made by our celebrated countrymen, Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., of Lowell. They seem not to depend on their home reputation for confidence abroad, but publish the certificates of the Mussulmen rulers themselves, to the cures which those medicines have made in their midst. The Rev. gentleman informs us that the whole of the remedial aid employed in those countries comes from Europe or America, as they possess no medical colleges or schools in which they have any confidence themselves. There are the religious ideas which pervade the human family, but almost all that is useful in art or invention must be carried back to these, the earlier settlements of mankind.—[Lynn News.

In a prison in Paris, the juvenile vagrants and young thieves are organized on a military plan, the well behaved being raised to the ranks of corporals and sergeants. They are also taught a trade, and recently the study of music has been introduced.

According to a Russian custom, the wife of the late Duke de Morney cut off her hair and put it in his coffin, as a pledge not to marry again.

An Oil well has been lately struck at Petroleum Centre, Penn., which is said to be now flowing five hundred barrels daily, although its yield is estimated at a higher figure by many.

The Constitutional amendment ablolishing slavery throughout the United States was unanimously ratified by both branches of the Tennessee Lesgislature on the 5th inst. Tennessee is the twentieth State that has adopted the amendment.

COLONIAL LEGISLATURE.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

SATURDAY, March 25.

Debate on the Liquor Licence Law continued.

Hon. Mr. DINGWELL: I am as anxious as any of your honors to afford proper accommodation to the travelling public, but I do not think this clause will effect any good houses. On the other hand, it is a safeguard against houses which are not properly conducted, being allowed to continue—houses which, perhaps, were good once but have fallen. I do not concur in the propriety of legislating on men's interests every Session. I do not think it is a sound principle to legislate upon individual rights; but still, I think we are safe in passing this Bill. Perhaps it will not shut up three public houses on the Island; at least, not three which are entitled to the name of houses of accommodation.

Clause agreed to—Clause relating to store license read.

Hon. Mr. RAMSAY: That is a part of the Act which is often evaded, and I have often heard it said that those stores are not much better than grog shops. Perhaps the parties are not allowed to drink in the stores, but they take their bottle outside and drink it, and then go in and get another. I think many of those stores are a public nuisance, and I would not allow them to sell less than two gallons.

Hon. Mr. LORD: I do not speak against this amendment, and pint license may be an injury in some cases if people will take bottle after bottle and drink it; but, suppose a little brandy or wine is required for sickness, how would his honor like to have to pay for two gallons, as he would have to do if there were no store license granted? Perhaps, if he only wanted a pint, he would have to pay £3, for you cannot get good brandy for less than £1 10s. per gallon. No doubt, the benefit intended to be derived from store license is often abused, but still, there is a strong argument in favor of pint or quart license, if there is any good in the article at all, and I think there is, for I have had a very fair trial of it.

Hon. Mr. GOFF: I think it is a very necessary feature of the Bill. Sometimes it is necessary for medicinal purposes, and the stores are the only places where there is any probability of getting a good article. A person would not like to go to a tavern for it, where they generally sell bad, adulterated stuff. There is a store in Georgetown, and I never heard of them drinking over the counter.

Hon. Mr. MCDONALD: By that clause, a man has to get the consent of two-thirds of the inhabitants before he can open a store. The regulations in regard to stores are already very stringent, and if it is to be the case that a man has to get the consent of a majority of the inhabitants of a district before he can sell less than two gallons, we might as well say that no person shall sell any quantity without the consent of the inhabitants. Therefore I do not feel disposed to support that clause.

Hon. Mr. GOFF: I think Georgetown and Summerside should be exempted from the operation of that clause.

Hon. Mr. WALKER: I consider it absurd to require the consent of two-thirds of the inhabitants of Georgetown and Summerside before a man could open a store—the very same as tavern license. I would, therefore, oppose that clause.

Hon. Mr. HENDERSON: I do not see why they should not be put upon the same footing as tavern license. There is no end to the extent to which those store licenses have been abused, and, therefore, I would be sorry to see that clause struck out of the Bill. If there are localities to which it is not applicable, let it be shown. We cannot use the same arguments in favor of the stores which have been used in regard to the taverns or houses of accommodation.

Hon. Mr. RAMSAY: If Georgetown and Summerside are exempted, why not exempt St. Eleanor's and Cascumpec, and other thickly populated places. If we make any exemptions, I think it would be considered class legislation.

Hon. Mr. DINGWELL: There is some force in the arguments on both sides. If a man wants a little good liquor, he would go to a store for it, where he would be most likely to get a good article; and, on the other hand, it is often considered a great nuisance to have a store in a settlement. Persons will go and buy a pint and just go outside and drink it, and perhaps drink a little inside, too. I do not exactly agree with the clause, but I do not see how we can improve it.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL: I am sorry to have to disagree with some of your honors, but I do not see why a different rule should apply to this from the last evil we were trying to obviate. It has been found that the old law did not work well. It is just as much abused with regard to the store license as the tavern license. If a person wishes to purchase a little to take home, he can get it at the tavern, and to sell it in stores is interfering with the proper business of the taverns. As to the objections which have been urged against the clause, on the ground that it would prevent facilities for procuring small quantities for medicinal purposes, I cannot see any force in them, for a man can get it at the tavern as well as at the store, and wherever there is a store there is generally a tavern within a few miles of it. I have heard the law, in this respect, very much complained of, and several persons have said to me that it was a pity that the license had been reduced to a pint.

Hon. the PRESIDENT: The reason it was reduced was, that it was considered absolutely necessary to allow persons to get small quantities for medicinal purposes. It would be very hard to compel a man to purchase two gallons when he only wanted a pint. I happened to go to a store not long ago, and the man told me that he had just run out two gallons of wine in pints for sick people. Under this clause, I believe there is not one store keeper in ten that would take the trouble to procure license. I am not in favor of affording facilities for obtaining liquor, but it is often wanted as a medicine, and it is no use to try to make laws to put down drunkenness.

Hon. Mr. HENDERSON: I would just remark that I have frequently to do with cases of sickness, and the instances where wine or brandy is required are few and far between. And I think your honors would find that immorality has resulted from pint license in twenty cases for every one in which it has been a benefit in case of sickness.

Hon. Mr. WALKER: I do not think it is worth while to alter the clause, for it is certain that there will be an application to alter it next year again.

The question of concurrence was then put on the clause under consideration, and the Committee divided:

CONTENTS — Hon. the President, Hon. Messrs. Henderson, McLaren, Ramsay. Goff, Lord, Dingwell and Walker—8

NON-CONTENTS—Hon. Messrs. McDonald and Anderson—2.

So it passed in the affirmative.

The House was then resumed, and the Bill reported agreed to without any amendment.

Adjourned till Monday next at eleven o'clock.

MONDAY, March 27.

A Bill in further amendment of the laws relating to the sale by license of spirituous liquors, and a Bill to incorporate the Summerside Bank, were severally read a third time and passed.

A message was brought from the House of Assembly by the Hon. Mr. Hensley, with a Bill to repeal the laws now in force establishing and regulating the rate of interest, and to make some provisions on the same subject, and a Bill to alter the time for holding certain terms of the Supreme Court in the several counties of this Island.

MERCHANTS' SEAMAN'S BILL.

The House then resolved itself into a Committee of the whole to take into further consideration a Bill for the regulation of Merchant Seamen, and the Hon Attorney General proposed the following amendment, which was agreed to:

Folio 32 line 4,—Leave out "in any part of the Island," and insert "for the County in which the owner or part owner of the ship resides; or, in case the owner or owners reside abroad, then for the County wherein such ship was last in port."

The House was then resumed; and the Chairman reported the Bill agreed to with several amendments.

BOARDS OF HEALTH.

A Bill to amend the Act for constituting Boards of Health, was then read a second time and committed—Hon. Mr. Beer in the chair.

Hon. Mr. LORD: I observe that this is merely an amendment to the present Act, and I suppose the intention of it is to save the Health Officer a little trouble. We had a similar act in force a few years ago, and many a time the owners of vessels had to pay the fee without the Health Officer seeing them at all. The law is not so well carried out now as it was some years ago. In nine cases out of ten the passengers are ashore and get their dinner or something else, before the health officer is on board. I think the Health Officer must have friends in the other end of this building or we would not have such a Bill brought before us. I would like to know what sized vessel it refers to, or whether it refers to Colonial as well as foreign vesels?

Hon. the PRESIDENT: It refers to all vessels suspected of having sickness on board.

Hon. Mr. LORD: Well, I consider it an extreme hardship that owners or masters of small coasting vessels—perhaps only running over to Nova Scotia—should have to pay the health Officer's fee at the Custom House before they could get a clearance. At all events, there should be something to show that the Health Officer had really visited the vessels, before the fee would be demanded from them.

Hon. the PRESIDENT: It does appear to me that the Health Officer should leave his account with the Collector of Customs; otherwise how is that officer to know whether a vessel has been visited or not?

Hon Mr. DINGWELL: I think that clause is rather too sweeping. I would like to protect the health of the city and of the country, but I do not wish to give unnecessary trouble and expense to owners and masters of vessels. By this clause every master of a vessel would have to pay the health officer's fee before he would get his clearance, therefore there is no inducement held out to that officer to do his duty. If the Health Officer is to have fees he should earn them.

Hon. Mr. LORD: His honor (Mr. Dingwell) has exactly spoken my sentiments, and I think it is out of the question to expect the Health Officer to board vessels and do his duty unless he is provided with a boat and two men, with a yellow flag flying at the stern. He cannot provide himself with a boat out of the small fee which he is allowed at present. That vessel with the small pox was at the wharf last year before the health officer was on board. I would like to oblige the health officer but I cannot support that clause.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL: The observations of his honor who has just resumed his seat are very proper and worthy of consideration. The Health Officer is authorised to board vessels in his discretion by the Act of 1857, and vessels which are not suspected of having sickness on board will not be boarded by him. But, as observed by your honors, the collector of customs will not have any opportunity of knowing what vessels have been boarded by the health officer, unless he gets some intimation of the name of the vessel boarded. It will rest with the health officer himself, and I think he has the right to collect his fee when he boards a vessel, but if he does not do so, he will have to give some intimation to the collector. Therefore, I think the clause requires amendment.

Hon. Mr. HENDERSON: The law should contemplate two things, the safety of the citizens, and to avoid any factious interference with vessels putting into the harbor, such as would be detrimental to trade; and with these two objects in view, our enactments on this subject cannot be made too pointed. But I have doubts whether what is desired can be accomplished by this Act. The health officer has not the means of accomplishing what is required of him, therefore, I think the Bill requires amendment.

The Hon. Attorney General then submitted the following amendment, which was agreed to:—

Folio 2, line 11.—After "House" insert "after notification by the health officer to the said collector that such fee is due and unpaid."

(Some discussion arose upon the necessity of providing a boat for the use of the health officer, to enable him to board vessels suspected of having sickness on board, before they should come in close proximity to the town. The Hon. Attorney General proposed an amendment to provide a boat, at the expense of the Government, for that purpose, which was agreed to by the Council, but was subsequently disagreed to by the House of Assembly; provision having been made in the appriation bill for that service.)

The House was then resumed and the Bill reported agreed to with several amendments

A message was brought from the House of Assembly by the Hon. Mr. Haviland, with a Bill to amend the law of real property. Also, by the Hon. J. C. Pope, with a Bill to compel masters of vessel to exhibit a light while in harbor in the night time.

Adjourned till four o'clock, p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

JURISDICTION OF THE MAYOR'S COURT.

The House again resolved itself into a committee of the whole to take into further consideration a Bill to extend the jurisdiction of the Mayor's Court—Hon. Mr. Walker in the chair.

Hon. Mr Beer moved that the Bill be amended by adding the following clause:

"It shall be lawful for the City Council, of the City of Charlottetown, to license boarding houses, victualling houses, saloons, and houses of the like description, within the limits of the city, to sell spirituous liquors, and by a Bye-law to fix the rate, and prescribe the conditions under which such licenses shall be granted."

I believe, said his honor, (Mr. Beer) that there will be no objection to this clause. The City Council have found it necessary to have such houses under their jurisdiction. At present they cannot license them when they have not the accommodations required by law for a tavern, and the License Law which we have passed this session does not apply to the City.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL: I very much doubt the propriety of inserting a clause of that kind, though it is limited to the city. The great protection which we have at present against having the city overrun with those low taverns, is, that no person shall obtain license to sell liquor, except store license, unless he has the accommodations required by law for a tavern. I do not know any reason why such extreme facility should be afforded to obtain licenses in the city: but, on the other hand, I see very great objections to it. If such a law were passed, every shanty about town would be a "licensed tavern." A man may write a sign over his door in the finest gilt letters, and then say he is entitled to a license to sell spirituous liquors. He may call it a shop, or a saloon, or whatever he pleases. We would soon have a nice nest of shops if such a permission were granted. Black Bill may go to the City Council and say he has opened a fine saloon for the accommodation of ladies and gentlemen, and will be entitled to a license.

Hon the PRESIDENT: It would also extend to private boarding houses, and I think the city authorities have sufficient power in regard to granting licenses already.

Hon. Mr. BEER: At the present time no houses can be licensed unless they have the accommodations required for a tavern, and the authorities desire to have power to license saloons and boarding houses to sell liquor. But I must admit that there is some weight in the objections of his honor the Attorney General.

Hon. Mr. HENDERSON: I am much of the same opinion as his honor the Attorney General; I am confirmed in that opinion by the painful recollections which I have of the effects of gin palaces in England. After a trial of two years, their effect was found to be so demoralising that they had to be put a stop to by an Act of Parliament. What I have seen is sufficient to convince me that they would have the same effect here and in other places. Unless we can presume on the morality of the citizens of Charlottetown, we may conclude that it would lead to degradation.

Hon. Mr. RAMSAY: I do not think Charlottetown is badly off for grog shops. I would think that if a Bill were introduced to reduce their number, it would be a greater benefit than to increase them. I certainly would not consent to a Bill to open more of them. There might be some reason in giving a little more liberality to respectable boarding houses, but as the same privileges would extend to all, and would be likely to lead to immorality, I cannot support the clause.

Amendment withdrawn.

The House was then resumed, and the Bill reported agreed to without any amendment.

A message was brought from the House of Assembly, by the Hon. J. C. Pope, with a Bill for raising a Revenue.

DEFAMATORY WORDS AND LIBELS.

On motion of the Hon. Attorney General, a Bill to amend the law respecting defamatory words and libels was read a second time, and committed to a committee of the whole House.

Hon. Attorney General moved that the Bill be amended by adding the following section:—

"In every cases, [illegible] civil or criminal, where a trial shall be had for a [illegible]ne, or other periodical printed Newspaper, Magazine, [illegible] given of the printed publication, evidence may be given [illegible] the production [illegible] publishing of such libel by [illegible] or other [illegible] Newspaper, Magazine, [illegible]d libel, of the actual [illegible]on, containing the alleged [illegible] published [illegible] proved to have been [illegible] and which shall be [illegible] said defendant, or by his [illegible] published or printed by the [illegible] implied; and it shall be [illegible] authority, express or implied, [illegible] printing and publishing prima facie evidence of such p[illegible]ent containing [illegible] to produce any printed document [illegible] and which, the libellous matter complained of, [illegible] therein, among other printed matter contained [illegible] said purports to be printed and published by the [illegible] defendant, together with the testimony of any competent witness, who shall, on oath, state to the effect, that he knows the said defendant, and verily believes that the printed paper, so offered in evidence, has been printed or published by the authority, expressed or implied, of the said defendant."

The House was then resumed, and the chairman reported the Bill agreed to with a certain amendment.

A message was brought from the House of Assembly, by the Hon. Mr. Longworth, with a Bill to carry into effect certain unexecuted agreements, made by the late John Hodges Winsloe, for the sale and leasing of certain parts of his estate.

Adjourned till to-morrow at 11 o'clock.

TUESDAY, March 28.

The following petitions were presented to the House:—

By the Hon. Mr. McDonald.—Of divers inhabitants of Georgetown and Royalty, praying that an Act may be passed to authorize the erection of a pound, or place of confinement for unruly cattle, on the public square in Georgetown.

By the Hon. Mr. Palmer.—Of divers tenants settled on the south part of Lot 38, the property of the Rev. James F. Montgomery, praying that an Act may be passed to enable the tenantry of this Island to avail themselves of the provisions of the Fifteen Years' Purchase Bill passed last Session.

By the Hon. Mr. Ramsay.—Of divers inhabitants of Summerside, praying that an Act may be passed to incorporate the said town.

The last named petition was referred to a select committee, consisting of the Hon. Messrs. Ramsay, Palmer and Goff, to report upon next Session, by Bill or otherwise. The other two petitions were ordered to be laid on the table.

A Bill relating to merchant seamen, a Bill to amend the law respecting defamatory words and libels, and a Bill to enlarge the jurisdiction of the Mayor's Court in the City of Charlottetown, were severally read a third time and passed.

On motion of the Hon. Attorney General, a Bill to carry into effect certain unexecuted agreements made by the late John Hodges Winsloe, for the sale and leasing of certain parts of his estate, was read a second time, committed, and reported agreed to without any amendment.

A Bill to alter the time for holding certain terms of the Supreme Court was then, on motion, read a second time and committed—Hon. Mr. McDonald in the chair.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL: This Bill, your honors, involves the same principle which was contained in a Bill which was before the Legislature last Session, and which was disagreed to by this House. I do not offer any objection to the alteration as regards Hilary Term in Charlottetown, which this Bill changes from the first Tuesday in January to the second. The first Tuesday is found inconvenient on account of the uncertainty, or rather, I might say, the certainity of the weather; for we are almost certain to have bad weather at that season. Then, as regards the change of the June term at St. Eleanor's from the first to the second Tuesday, it is a question which your honors who represent that County are more capable of speaking upon; but, as far as I understand, it would be an acceptable change. Last year I was rather opposed to this alteration, because I thought it was doubtful whether the second Tuesday would not be as valuable to the jurors and suitors as the first; but as far as I can learn, I believe the inhabitants of the County would prefer the change, as their agricultural operations would be more likely to be brought to an end. I therefore waive any objection which I may have had to that alteration. But I feel differently inclined with regard to the proposed alteration of the term in King's County from the second Tuesday in March to the last in February. It is desirable to have as even an interval between the different terms as possible, and we are proposing to carry the January term for Queen's County one week further into the year, and the other two weeks further back, leaving a very short interval between them. Besides, the last Tuesday in February is most likely to be inconvenient as regards the state of the travelling. I remember when a term was held in Charlottetown in February, and it was proverbial for a great snow storm. I therefore think it is by no means an improvement. I think it would be better to leave it as it is, or at the farthest, it should not be altered more than one week. For these reasons, I will object to the alteration as regards King's County.

Hon. Mr. ANDERSON: As regards Prince County, I think the second Tuesday in June would answer much better than the first; but, if to change the Term in King's County to the last Tuesday in February would bring back the old fashioned snow storms, I do not think it would be a desirable change, for I remember having to attend the Court here once in February, and I had to go home on snow shoes.

Hon. Mr. RAMSAY: I am aware that the changes will meet the approbation of the inhabitants of Prince County. Farmers in that County seldom get their agricultural operations completed before the tenth of June, and it is a great inconvenience to them to be called away from their work in the first week of that month, which is one of the most busy weeks they have. When jurors and suitors have to come a long distance, perhaps from the North Cape, it is not only the loss of their own time which they complain of, but the inconvenience of taking away their horses at that busy season. However, this change will remedy the evil in a great measure. As regards the change in the other Counties, I cannot speak particularly, but I have heard complaints with reference to them in King's County, on account of the state of the travelling on the second Tuesday in March.

Hon. Mr. GOFF: I think it would be still better to make it the third Tuesday in June, for the second week is often a busy one with farmers as well as the first. I would rather attend the Court a week in May than the second week in June. As regards the March term in Georgetown, I think the seasons have changed of late, so that we often have muddy roads when the Court is heald there, and therefore the Grand Jury suggested the change. It is a great inconvenience to persons who have to come from the East Point, or from Souris, when the roads are bad. I therefore consider the change a good one, but if your honors think it will bring it too near the January term in Charlottetown, I would not object to making it the first Tuesday in March in Georgetown.

Hon. the PRESIDENT: This is similar to the bill which was before us last session, and I think striking out what referred to King's County was the cause of that bill being lost. The bill of last year only made a change of one week in the time of holding the Court, but this bill brings it two weeks further back. Still, if the time between the terms is sufficient, I think the last Tuesday in February would be more suitable than the first in March, because the Court would then probably be over before the Legislature would meet, which would prevent another inconvenience. I was favorable to the bill of last year, and I am also inclined to support this bill.

Hon. Mr. DINGWELL: I have never heard [illegible]ints about the time of holding many compl[illegible]n, neither have I seen the Court in Georgetown [illegible] Still, if it a petition asking for a change [illegible] that will be considered an improvement, or [illegible] it would be a more convenient time on account of the state of the roads, I will not object to it. And if it is intended to have the Court over before the meeting of the Legislature, it would be better to leave the Bill as it is than to change it to the first Tuesday in March. It will perhaps induce the Government to call the Legislature a little earlier. It generally meets too late for the interest of country members.

Hon. Mr. HENDERSON: Of course we cannot guarantee much either for or against the weather, but there is but little dependence to be put on travelling in sleighs in the month of March. And if there was not some very potent reasons for the change, it is rather singular that the presentment should have been made by the Grand Jury, and that the measure should have been before us two sessions in succession. As to the Court being over before the meeting of the Legislature, I do not think it would make much difference though it were not. There is very little business done the first few days of the session, and those members who had to attend the Court would be back before any business of importance would be brought forward.

Hon ATTORNEY GENERAL: I think the first Tuesday in March would answer all the purposes. If the Legislature meets about the last of Febuary, as it is likely it will, the business of the Court would be over before anything would be done in the House of any consequence. I fear that if we move it two weeks further back we will be going from one extreme to the other. I am not carried away with the idea that our seasons are changed or are changing. I think the month of February is just the same now as it was years ago, and in the first week of March we are less liable to have severe snow storms than in the last week of February. To make it the last week in February, and to hold the January term in Charlottetown on the second Tuesday in place of the first, will not leave an equal interval between the terms, and it may be the means of keeping one man out of his money too long while another is hurried too much.

Hon. Mr. MCDONALD: When the bill was before the House last session, I opposed the alteration in regard to King's County. One reason I had for doing so was that I had never heard any complaints made by persons who had to attend the Court as Jurors, Suitors, or Witnesses. Another reason was that one week made so little difference that it was scarcely worth while to make the alteration. But since that bill was before your honors I have heard the opinion of a number of persons who are in the habit of attending the Court, all of whom agreed that it was desirable to have the term changed. The roads often get broken up early in March, and the ice gets bad so that it is difficult to travel. I therefore intend to support this Bill, though I opposed a similar one last year.

Hon. Attorney General moved that the clause be amended by striking out "the last Tuesday in February," and inserting "the first Tuesday in March."

Hon. Mr. LORD: I do not know why such a bill would be brought in a second time unless it was considered really necessary, and no person should know the necessity for such a change more than his honor the Attorney General. It appears that the people desire the change. I presume it is not a party question, and if there is sufficient time between the terms to prepare the business of the Court, I would support the bill as it is.

Hon. Mr. MCLAREN: I have not much interest in the alteration, but still I think a change is desirable, for we know that of late years the roads were very bad at the time the Court was held. As the bill only makes an alteration of two weeks, I do not think it is worth while to alter it.

Amendment lost. Clause agreed to.

The House was then resumed, and the chairman reported the bill agreed to without any amendment.