The Herald.

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BY

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JOB PRINTING

Of every description, performed with neatness and despatch, and on moderate terms, at the HERALD Office.

ALMANACK FOR APRIL.

MOON'S PHASES.

Full Moon, 7th day, 3h. 4m., morn., S. W.
Last Quarter, 14th day, 6h. 22m., even., S.
New Moon, 22d day, 4h. 7m., even., S. W.
First Quarter, 29th day, 2h. 5m. even., N. W.

DAY MONTH	DAY WEEK.	SUN rises	SUN sets	High Water	Moon sets.	DAY'S LENGTH
		h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
1	Wednesday	5 41	6 24	4 49	2 8	12 43
2	Thursday	40	25	5 56	2 57	45
3	Friday	38	26	7 6	3 41	48
4	Saturday	36	27	8 14	4 18	51
5	Sunday	35	28	9 14	4 54	53
6	Monday	34	29	10 8	rises.	55
7	Tuesday	32	31	10 57	7 9	59
8	Wednesday	30	32	11 41	8 16	13 2
9	Thursday	28	33	even.	9 21	5
10	Friday	26	35	1 6	10 22	9
11	Saturday	25	36	1 50	11 20	11
12	Sunday	23	37	2 34	morn.	14
13	Monday	21	39	3 21	0 6	18
14	Tuesday	19	40	4 9	0 58	21
15	Wednesday	17	41	5 3	1 40	24
16	Thursday	16	43	5 58	2 17	26
17	Friday	14	44	5 56	2 51	30
18	Saturday	12	46	7 48	3 17	34
19	Sunday	10	47	8 41	3 50	39
20	Monday	8	49	9 26	4 18	41
21	Tuesday	7	50	10 12	4 49	43
22	Wednesday	5	52	10 56	sets	47
23	Thursday	3	53	11 56	7 52	50
24	Friday	1	55	morn.	8 51	54
25	Saturday	0	56	0 18	10 6	56
26	Sunday	4 59	57	1 3	11 9	58
27	Monday	57	58	1 52	11 59	14 1
28	Tuesday	56	59	2 44	morn.	3
29	Wednesday	55	7 0	3 38	0 57	5

Prices Current.

CHARLOTTETOWN, April 11, 1868.

Provisions.

Beef, (small) per lb.	6d to 1s
Do by the quarter,	6d to 10d
Pork, (carcass)	5d to 6d
Do (small)	5d to 7d
Mutton, per lb.,	6d to 1s
Lamb per lb,	4d to 5d
Veal, per lb.,	3d to 5d
Ham, per lb.,	6d to 7d
Butter, (fresh)	1s 3d to 1s 6d
Do by the tub,	1s 1d to 1s 2d
Cheese, per lb.,	3d to 5d
Tallow, per lb.,	9d to 10d
Lard, per lb.,	8d to 10d
Flour, per lb.,	3½d to 4d
Oatmeal, per 100 lbs.,	21s to 23s
Eggs, per dozen,	9d to 1s 2d

Grain.

Barley, per bushel,	4s to 4s 6d
Oats per do.,	3s to s 2d

Vegetables.

Peas, per quart	
Potatoes, per bushel,	2s 10d to 3s

Poultry.

Geese,	2s 6d to 3s 6d
Turkeys, each,	4s to 7s 6d
Fowls, each,	1s to 1s 8d
Chickens per pair,	
Ducks,	1s 3d to 1s 6d

Fish.

Codfish, per qtl.,	20s to 30s
Herrings, per barrel,	25s to 40s
Mackerel, per dozen,	

Lumber.

Boards (Hemlock)	4s
Do (Spruce)	4s to 5s
Do (Pine)	7s o 9s
Shingles, per M	15s t. 18s

Sundries.

Hay, per ton,	70s to 80s
Straw, per cwt	2s
Timothy Seed,	15s to 18s
Clover Seed, per lb.,	1s 3s to 1s 4d
Homespun, per yard,	4s to 6s
Calfskins, per lb.,	6d to 9d
Hides, per lb.,	4d
Wool,	1s to 1s 4d
Sheepskins,	3s to 5s.
Apples, per doz.,	
Partridges,	

GEORGE LEWIS, Market Clerk.

A. HERMANS,

GUN-SMITH,

BELL-HANGER AND TIN-SMITH.

BEGS to inform his friends, and the public generally, that he has again commenced Busines on Dorchester Street, next door to the Reading Room Building, where he is prepared to execute all orders in his line with neatness and despatch.

ON HAND,

A neat assortment of Tinware, Kitchen Utensils, &c. &c.

including the patent BON TON COFFEE POT, which received the Gold Medal Prize, at the Paris Exposition of 1867. Also, BON TON LANTERNS, which will surpass everything in the Market, and suitable for either Farm use or on board Vessels.

A few WATER COOLERS on hand, which together with a large variety of other Stock will be sold cheap for Cash.

Mr. HERMANS is Agent for SAWYER'S CRYSTAL BLUE, a new, economical and superior article used in washing, whereby a saving of fifty per cent is guaranteed, and for which he begs to solicit the patronage of Laundry Maids, &c.

Ch'town, July 24, 1867. e

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY,

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

MONDAY, March 30.

Hon Col Secretary presented a number of petitions relating principally to roads, bridges and wharves, from divers inhabitants of various sections of the country, the prayer of which had not been entertained by His Excellency in Council.

Ordered that said petitions be laid on the table.

Hon Col Secretary also presented to the House Copy of Despatch from the Lieutenant Governor to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, dated 11th January, 1868, with minutes of the Executive Council of this Island, containing their views on the Land Tenures, and urging certain considerations on which they seek the sanction of the Imperial Government to the introduction in the local Legislature of a measure compelling proprietors to sell their interests in their Estates on the Island. Also copy of Despatch from said Secretary of State to the Lieutenant Governor, dated Downing Street, 2d March, 1868, in reply to said Despatch, and minutes of Council.

Ordered that said papers do lie on the table, and 150 copies be printed for information.

Said minutes seek the approval of Her Majesty's Government for the introduction into the Legislature of P. E. Island, of a measure compelling Proprietors to sell their interests in the Estates. The question submitted by His Excellency's Despatch was whether His Grace would sanction the introduction of a compulsory Act for the final settlement of the Land Question? Said minutes of Council expressly disclaim any intention to dispossess Proprietors of their Lands by unfair, unjust or unreasonable means; they would regard the rights of Property with zealous care, but they believe, at the same time, that those rights should never, for any length of time, be allowed to come into collision with public interests; and that the case now under review should be conceded, on the principle that those rights militate against the general welfare. Acting in accordance with the views they entertain on the subject, and believing that the Colony will never be prosperous and happy so long as the leasehold tenure exists in it, to any great extent, they have endeavored to induce the remaing Proprietors to tender their lands to the Government for sale, and their proposals not having been sustained, they are of opinion that the question cannot now be finally or satisfactorily settled except by the passing of a measure which would, under certain conditions, and in respect of certain compensations or valuations, to be carefully and equitably defined and settled, render the sale of large Estates of Township lands compulsory, unless some such course be adopted, the Council believes the question will long yet continue to retard the progress of the Colony; and they thus express their convictions with the object of ascertaining the views of Her Majesty's Imperial Government on the point, and whether its sanction would be given to the introduction of such a measure as that alluded to.

In said minutes of Council the whole question of land tenures in the Colony was reviewed, the general discontent which the leasehold system has entailed on the Colony, and the various efforts which have been at different periods put forth for the abolishment of that baneful system. It sets forth that a partial remedy had been applied since the year 1862, by the purchase of several estates, which tended to aggravate the evils complained of by tenants residing on lands whose owners refuse to sell their properties; that it was deeply to be deplored that the interests of 400 families in different parts of the Island should depend, to a considerable extent, upon the will of a single individual residing across the Atlantic; that the saving of all future contingencies connected with the [illegible] which the prospect of possessing free lands would apply to the energies of the people, the results of the liberal application of capital and labor to the soil which had hitherto been withheld or grudgingly applied, are all urged as reasons why the question should be finally and forever settled. The fact that the proprietory system, which had paralyzed the energies, and oppressed the industry of the people, had no longer any existence across the narrow strait which separates the Island from the Dominion of Canada; and that before thus seeking a compulsory measure for the settlement of the momentuous question, every effort had been exhausted to obtain the desired end by voluntary agreement with the remaining Proprietors, are adduced to show that the only alternative left was the adoption of a measure of the kind indicated, and thereby obliterate the last traces of the leasehold tenure in British North America. Without such a measure, the rising generation of the Colony, with the experience of their fathers before their eyes, would not go up to possess that land to which they clearly had the best natural right, but would emigrate, as many had already done, to the neighboring Republic, and there devote their youthful energies to enrich a rival nation, and thus deprive the Colony which had nurtured and educated them of their services in the flower of their age.

In the reply to said minutes of Council, H's Grace the Secretary of State fully recognizes the propriety of the course taken to obtain the sanction of the Secretary of State before introducing a measure which would naturally tend to raise in the minds of the people expectations with which, in the result it might be deemed inexpedient to comply, and states that after a careful consideration of the whole case, and of the grounds put forward by the Executive Council in support of a law for the compulsory sale of the land of those Proprietors who were not parties to the Act of 1864, His Grace was not prepared to advise Her Majesty to sanction such a measure. The views of former Secretaries of State upon the subject, and grounds upon which such views were based, had been so clearly explained in prior correspondence that it appeared to His Grace unnecessary to do more than to state that he found no special reason assigned in the minutes of the Council referred to, which, in his opinion, would justify, on the ground of public policy, the proposed direct appropriation of private property. The Secretary of State concludes in his reply to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, by expressing his desire to learn the extent of land actually purchased by the local Government, and how much remained in the hands of the original grantees, or their representatives, and also whether any tenants have availed themselves of the provisions of the Act of 1861, and if so, to what extent.

Mr McNeill presented a petition from inhabitants of Wheatly River and vicinity, relating to the gathering of seaweed. Referred to the committee already appointed, and to whom were referred other petitions relative to same subject during the Session.

On motion of the Hon Atty General, it was ordered that no petition of a local or private nature, on which a bill can be introduced, during the Session, be received by the House after Tuesday, the 7th April next.

Hon Atty General presented a petition from —— Taylor, of New Brunswick, asking to obtain a patent for an improved Spinning Wheel. Owing to informality relative to the manner in which said petition had been introduced, it was, on motion, ordered to be withdrawn.

House in Committee on Supply.

Mr Reilly in the Chair.

Hon Atty General submitted several resolutions, in accordance with the supplimentary estimates for the current year. The vote granting £1000 to purchase stone to macadamize the public roads, as follows:

Charlottetown & Royalty	£500	0	0
Georgetown & Royalty	200	0	0
Summerside and Royalty	300	0	0

called forth some discussion, Hon Messrs McAulay and Haviland, Representatives for Georgetown, and other hon members representing different sections of King's County, complained that the sums voted for Georgetown and Summerside were not equally divided. They contended that at late shipping seasons, produce was exported from, and goods imported to Georgetown for parties residing in different parts of the country, which it were impossible to receive in other parts of the Island. The increased traffic at Montague Bridge and Cardigan, was also urged as reason why the appropriations for the two votes should be equal to the Summerside grant. The distinction made between those places in the Resolution in question, was therefore invidious.

Hon Mr Laird and other hon members representing Prince County, contended that the division was a just one, that the shipping at Summerside had to be attended to during the muddy seasons, that the peculiar nature of the soil, especially in rainy seasons, rendered the roads in the vicinity of that town almost impassable, and that the rapid growth

(*Continued on fourth page.*)

DEBATES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

(*Continued.*)

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD: I think the Land Purchase Act clearly points out that each Estate purchased by the Government, is to be considered separately, and the accounts made up for that estate alone, without supplementing one estate on which a deficiency may occur, by an overplus from another. The ninth section of that act is as follows:

"After each purchase of lands, effected under this act, and conveyance taken, it shall be the duty of the Commissioner of public lands, within three months, to make a report and return of the lands purchased, (for each township a separate report and return); designating particularly the quality, nature, description and position thereof, and arranging the same into classes; and it shall be lawful for, and the duty of the Lieutenant Governor, by and with the advice and consent of Her Majesty's Executive Council thereupon, to fix upon and determine the price to be charged for the sale of each class and description of land; the same to be regulated so that a sufficient price be charged in the aggregate to cover all costs, charges and expenses of the purchase, transfer, survey and management of the lands—the purchase money and interest thereon, loss to the general revenue from decrease in the land tax, on account of lands purchased under this act, the salary of the Commissioner of public lands, and all other expenses attendant upon the working of this act—it being intended that this act shall, if possible, be self-sustaining, and that all expenses and outlays shall be paid out of moneys arising from the sales and rents of lands purchased hereunder, and that the purchase monies and interest should also be repaid out of the same fund without any resort to the general revenue, if it can possibly be avoided; but that this object being attained, the lands shall be disposed of to the tenants and other persons desirous of becoming purchasers, at as low a rate as possible."

Now, that clause, in my opinion, points out clearly that each estate is to be considered upon its own merits. That was the original intention of the Land Purchase Act; and this bill is merely for the purpose of setting that matter at rest.

Hon. Mr. DINGWELL: I think it is very liberal of the Government to bring such a bill forward, and I have no objection to seeing the people on that estate indulged in any reasonable way. At the same time, I cannot think that it was the intention of the act that each estate should be self-sustaining, neither do I think it should be, for some proprietors sell their estates upon reasonable terms, while others ask extravagant prices. If it was intended that each estate should be self-sustaining, it is strauge that none of the lawyers in the city had mooted this question sooner. However, if the act can be made to apply to each estate, I shall not object to it, and I suppose no injustice can be done to the people, by putting that construction upon it.

Hon. Mr. ANDERSON: As far as the Selkirk Estate is concerned, I am satisfied with this bill, but in future, I think any land purchased by the Government, should be considered as one estate, for it looks like class legislation to give land cheaper to the people on one estate than to those on another. The wilderness land should also go to the credit of the Government. It appears that there are 50,000 acres owned by the Government which are nearly valueless, so that it is not likely that those estates taken collectively will be self-sustaining.

Hon. Mr. LORD: I do not think it was the intention of the Legislature, in passing the Land Purchase Act, that if one estate was purchased at a less price than another, the tenants should not pay as much, and I stated at a public meeting that it was not expected to have any money refunded till the last estate was purchased; for I did not think a settlement should be made for one estate separately. If the Government should gain upon one estate, the overplus should go to make up the loss upon another. In my opinion, the act carries out that view; it says: "all expenses and outlays shall be paid out of moneys arising from the sales and rents of lands, purchased hereunder." It says "lands," not one township or one estate, and I understand it as meaning all lands purchased by the Government. I think it clearly carries out the idea, that before any money is refunded, the amount received from all the lands purchased by the Government, should be taken into account, and then, if there is any balance over the cost and working expenses, it should be refunded. However, this is a Government measure, and, of course, I am not going to oppose it.

Hon. Mr. GORDON: I think it is a matter of very general regret that this bill was deemed necessary. Had the Land Purchase Act been clear and explicit, this trouble would have been saved, but I think it bears two constructions. The people of the Belfast estate having paid their instalments so handsomely, I think they are entitled to the benefit which this bill will confer upon them, but, at the same time, it is a great misfortune that anything has occurred to render such a bill necessary.

The bill was then read a second time and referred to a committee of the whole House—Hon. Mr. MacDonald in the chair.

Hon. the PRESIDENT: I think it is generally understood through the country, that the Land Purchase Act was to be self-sustaining—that all estates purchased by the Government were to be so priced that no loss would accrue to the country. If the Government succeeded in getting one estate at a cheaper rate than another, I do not see why the people on both should not pay the same price for their land. Look for a moment at the Cunard Estate; the townships in Queen's County are all good land and well settled, and it is just as hard that the people on these townships should be charged a high price for their farms to make up for the large quantities of bad land in the other Counties, as that the settlers on the Selkirk Estate should pay a little more than would make that property self-sustaining. On the Cunard Estate I think some of the settlers are paying as high as 15s. an acre for their land, while, on the Selkirk Estate, I believe the highest price is only 10s. an acre, and some only pay 6s; therefore, I do not think they had any need to complain. For these reasons I think it is a pity that this bill was introduced. That Estate will probably be the only one in the Colony, of any magnitude, which will be self-sustaining, and eventually the country will be called upon to pay a large amount for the lands purchased by the Government.

Hon. Mr. HAYTHORNE: I cannot coincide with the remarks of his honor the President, for I do not think there is any particular hardship in the best townships on the Cunard estate paying a little higher price, owing to the excellence of their land and their favorable situation. These circumstances should govern the price of their land. We know there was comparatively little variation in the amount of rent which the tenants on the various townships on that estate were bound to pay, but there was a very great difference in the amount the proprietor received from the different townships. The settlers on those townships of the Cunard Estate, which his honor the President refers to, are better able to pay 15s. an acre for their land than some others are to pay half that amount. Indeed, that is probably more than some of them will ever be able to pay. Neither can I coincide with those who consider that the various estates should be thrown into one lot, for it would prevent the price of the land on any estate being modified according to circumstances. The Selkirk estate had a heavy amount of arrears of rent, and yet the proprietor received only a small amount from it. That shows that the tenants were not in very good circumstances, and to put that estate on a par with some of the townships on the Cunard estate, would be a hardship. Only 4318 acres on the Selkirk Estate were priced at 10s. an acre; 4767 at 9s.; 7451 at 8s.; 10,571 at 7s. 6d.; 503 at 6s. 6d.; while there were 12,440 at 6s. Now, these figures show that there must have been a large proportion of inferior land upon that estate, and, of course, it was considered that the prices should be varied according to the quality. It has been said that the land purchase act will not be self-sustaining, but I would rather see the general revenue charged with the expense of working it, to a certain extent, than that the settlers on any estate should continue to languish as tenants any longer.

Hon. Mr. BEER: It is entirely out of the question to suppose that the difficulty about our land tenures can be settled without the revenue of the Colony being charged with a considerable amount. It has been so in all cases where such questions have arisen. In Canada, for instance, they had a land question of ten times the magnitude of ours. The land belonged to the old seigniors, and if a man took a farm, perhaps not worth £10, and improved it so as to make it worth £1,000, every time it was sold the seignior received a per centage on the amount realized. The rent they had to pay was not quite so large as what is paid by the tenants on this Island, but they (the tenants), had certain restrictions imposed upon them, such as being compelled to have their grain ground at the seignior's mill. It was thought desirable to abolish the seigniorial titles, and a large portion of their public debt was incurred by the purchase of lands in Lower Canada. We cannot, therefore, expect to have this question settled without something being taken out of the general revenue, and I would not object to having the debt of the Colony increased to £50,000 to get this difficulty terminated.

Hon. the PRESIDENT: I cannot agree with his honor when he says that a large proportion of the public debt of Canada was incurred by the purchase of lands, for I do not think it was the case. But when the Government of this Island purchase land, it is their duty to let it out to the tenants at such a rate as would render the act self-sustaining; therefore, I do not see why the different properties purchased should be considered as separate estates. The properties purchased by the late Government, with the exception, perhaps, of the Cunard estate, will, I think, be self-sustaining; but I do not see why the Selkirk estate, which was purchased at a low figure, and sold to the settlers at reasonable prices, should be singled out. I think the Government should be allowed to make the best bargain they could, and not consider each estate separately, but let the act be worked upon a general principle.

Hon. Mr. BALDERSTON: I cannot agree with one remark made by his honor from the second district of Queen's County, (Mr. Haythorne), that it would be unreasonable to establish a uniform price for the land, for, if the Government is to lose, I think those who enjoy the benefit of the act should bear a proportion of the loss.

Hon. Mr. HAYTHORNE: If the proposition of the two last speakers were carried out, it would be better for the people to be still under the Proprietors, for many of them were then in easy circumstances, but since the Estates were purchased by the Government, they have paid more than they ever paid as tenants. I believe very few of the settlers on the Selkirk Estate have yet paid up the full amount of their instalments, but it will require a comparatively small sum to make up, in the aggregate, what the Government conceive they should pay for their land.

Hon. Mr. DINGWELL: I have no objection to the people on the Selkirk Estate obtaining the advantage which this bill will confer upon them, if the Law Officers can be borne out in their opinion, which, no doubt, they have given honestly and fairly; but whether it is the best method to be pursued with other estates which have been purchased, or may be purchased hereafter, is doubtful to my mind. I think it will be likely to embarrass the Government in many cases, if each estate is to be considered separately. I think the Act should be made as general as possible, so that none of the tenants would be injured by the unreasonable terms of the proprietors, who might ask very high prices for their Estates. If all the estates purchased by the Government were considered as one property, the operation of the Act would not be so difficult, and the tenants would participate more equally in the benefits to be derived from it. However, as far as the bill applies to the Selkirk Estate, I have no objection to it.

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD: This bill is not confined to the Selkirk Estate, but will apply to any other where the prices charged to the settlers will amount to more, in the aggregrate, than will reimburse the Government for its cost and working expenses.

Hon. the PRESIDENT: The act does not say, as far as I can understand it, that each estate is to be self-sustaining. It says: "this Act shall, if possible, be self-sustaining."

Hon. Mr. HAYTHORNE: I cannot see how there can be any doubt about the construction of the Act, or any reason why we should not concur in the opinion of the law officers. The 9th section of the Act commences with the words—"After each purchase," and that idea is carried out through the whole section. Now, when a section of an act commences in that way, I do not think there is any reason to doubt what its intention is.

Hon. Mr. LORD: I was not aware that there was anything in the bill respecting the Wilderness Lands. I thought they would be thrown in for the benefit of the Government. It is not intended, I suppose, that anything should be refunded to the tenants till the last farthing is paid up, and I apprehend a great deal of difficulty in settling up that account. I have conversed with numbers of the settlers on that Estate, and none of them expect to have anything refunded. There are a great many poor settlers on the estate who have not paid anything, and one class should be made to balance the other. The settlers on that estate obtained their lands at a very cheap rate, and I wish the last township was purchased on as favorable terms. I do not think it is necessary to restrict the Government to any price in purchasing land, but leave it to their discretion to make the best bargain they can, and let the country bear the loss, for I presume that there will be a loss. It cannot be expected that the Government can purchase estates which are all settled, and leased, perhaps, at 1s. 6d. an acre, for 7s. 6d. I would, therefore, be in favor of altering that act, and let the Government purchase land at 10s, 12s, or 15s. an acre. I know something about paying rent, for I was once a rent payer myself, and my father used to pay £10 a year, but he did not allow £30 or £40 of arrears to accumulate.

Hon. Mr. ANDERSON: It appears to me that there is a difficulty about the Wilderness Lands. What is to be done with them? If the estate is paid for, and if the Government will not take any thing more than will render the property self-sustaining, will those lands, amounting, perhaps, to 15,000 or 20,000 acres, be divided among those who have purchased their farms?

Hon. Mr. PALMER: I apprehend, your honors, that the wilderness land is to be taken into account as so much,—whatever it may be valued at,—to the credit of the estate. The commissioner will make up the total amount which he has received, and the total amount of the cost and working expenses of the estate; then the wilderness land will be valued, so that the estate may have credit for it, or, which is the same thing, that the tenants may have credit for. Therefore, whatever amount the wilderness land is valued at, will be considered as so much to the credit of the settlers, and will go towards reducing the price of their farms. As the Government have settled upon the principle, I do not know of any mode by which they could carry it out more fully. I do not think it will be productive of litigation. It will all rest with the Commissioner of Public Lands, who will have the account of the estate made out, and the costs apportioned amongst the tenants. Those who have paid more than their individual shares, will be entitled to have the overplus returned. I do not see that it can be productive of embarrassment, either to the Government, the tenants, or the Public Lands Officer. The whole thing is a mere matter of account, and as soon as these proportions are worked out, each man will know what he will have to pay, and what amount will be returned to him if there is a surplus.

Hon. the PRESIDENT: I am inclined to think the Government are putting themselves in a position which will eventually cost them a great deal of trouble. We know the first estate purchased by the Government—the Worrell Estate—was priced with a view of making the property self-sustaining, but it has not turned out to be so, and the gentlemen to whom the duty of valuing those wilderness lands will be entrusted, may be as far mistaken as they were. Till the property is all disposed of, it can scarcely be known what reduction is to be made, or what amount will be required to make the property self-sustaining.

Hon. Mr. DINGWELL: I do not think it is at all surprising that the Worrell Estate did not prove self-sustaining. It was a new scheme, and was an experiment to some extent, requiring many new offices to be created. Many unforeseen expenses had also to be incurred, which rose the expense of working the estate to a higher figure than was anticipated.

Hon. Mr. HAYTHORNE: At the time the Selkirk Estate was purchased, there were about 20,000 acres of wilderness land upon it, but by far the largest portion of it has been disposed of, and a great deal of what remains is of very inferior quality. Probably no more will be realized from what remains than will be required for opening up new roads. Now, to keep the question open till the whole of the land is disposed of, and the whole amounts paid up by the purchasers would be almost equivalent to telling them that the question would never be settled. I do not anticipate any serious difficulty in the working of this bill. With respect to what was said by his honor from the first district of Prince County, (Mr. Lord), I may remark that desirous as I am to see this question settled, I yet do not consider it advisable to raise the price which the Government are authorized to give, as it would probably cause the proprietors to raise their pretensions. I do not see why the Sullivan property should be more valuable than the Cunard property. No doubt there is some good land on both estates, and some most profound swamps. The Cunard Estate was purchased at 6d. an acre, and I presume the Sullivan Estate is not worth anything more. I suppose your honors are aware that Mr. Sullivan was offered the extreme limit of the Land Purchase Act, which he refused to accept. In my opinion, it would be unwise and impolitic to authorize the Government to give a higher price, for if they were offered an estate at a little higher price, they would not hesitate to accept it, if they considered that the circumstances would warrant them in doing so. Lord Melville was offered £4,000, or a little more than 10s. an acre for his estate, which he refused to accept; though, at five per cent, it would have returned him more than he has received annually from it during the last seven years.

Hon. the PRESIDENT: In my opinion the Sullivan Estate is not as good as the Cunard Estate. One of the townships is good, but the other three are very inferior.

House resumed and progress reported.

Hon. Mr. Beer presented a petition of certain inhabitants of Lots 33 and 34 praying that an Act may not be passed to give the public the right to collect weed on the shores of private property. The petition was read and referred to the Committee, to whom a petition, on the same subject, previously presented, was referred.

A bill was brought up from the House of Assembly by Mr. McCormack, to incorporate the St. Peter's Bay Agricultural Society. Read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

Adjourned till eleven o'clock to-morrow.

(*Continued on fourth page.*)