

News by Telegraph.

LONDON, March 3.—The report reached here from the East, that the United States made propositions to the Turkish Government, offering to build a port at Marmoriza, on the coast of Asiatic Turkey, to be used as a station for vessels of the American navy, but the Sublime Porte declined to grant the necessary concession for such a purpose.

LONDON, March 3, eve.—Mr. Train was again arrested this evening, as he was about to deliver a lecture at the Rotunda as alleged for debt. The audience was very indifferent and demanded their money at the door. A serious disturbance was threatened at one time, but the crowd finally dispersed. All is now quiet at the Sligo Asizes. To-day the trial of Nugent for treason was discontinued, in consequence of the illness of one of the jury, and is postponed until the next term of Court. The Prussian Minister of State has been authorized to confiscate the estate of the Ex-King of Hanover.

LONDON, March 4, eve.—The present condition of Ireland and the question of Irish Reform, are to be considered in the House of Commons, on Tuesday, the 10th inst. The consideration of the subject was postponed from the 25th ult., in consequence of the resignation of Lord Derby and the suspension of parliamentary business pending the formation of a new ministry. Despatches from Annesley Bay say that letters from the British captives have been received at the advanced post of the Expedition, having been brought in secretly by native messengers. The letters are dated Magdala, where they were securely guarded by their jailors, though in great fear of the vengeance of the King. They were still as well treated as their condition as prisoners would permit, and all were alive and in good health. The letters gave the important intelligence that King Shoo, a powerful tributary Chief, had left Magdala in a great rage against Theodoros. It was believed he would turn his arms against the Abyssinian monarch as soon as the British soldiers appeared in sight. No knowledge as to what plan of operation or course of policy King Theodoros intended to adopt. Consols closed at 93½. U. S. 5 20's. Breadstuffs and provisions unchanged. Gold opened at 141.

WASHINGTON, March 5.—The United States Senate at Washington, to-day, is being organized as a high Court for the trial of President Johnson. The Chief Justice presides. Money market continues quiet.

LONDON, March 6th, eve.—A despatch from Annesley Bay says the advance of the British Expedition was awaiting at Antalo the appearance of Kassine, Prince of Tigre, who had promised to meet Gen. Napier there with a large force of native troops.

LONDON, March 7th.—Consols 94.

NEW YORK, March 7.—The Senate, as a Court of Impeachment, has assigned Friday, March 13th, for President Johnson to appear for trial. Gold 141½.

LONDON, March 7.—In the House of Commons last evening, Mr. Shaw Lefevre called up the question of Alabama claims, and made a long and eloquent speech on the subject, urging the settlement of the question on the plan proposed by the American Government. In calling for papers on the subject, and moving for a consideration of the question, he disclaimed having any feeling of prejudice. All future negotiation, he said, would add to the complications already existing. He sketched the progress of the recent civil war in the States to its termination. He said the fall of Sumter invited the famous proclamation of Great Britain which recognized the Southern insurgents as belligerents. They had no fleet, but they purchased their ships in ports. These ships, notwithstanding vigorous measures to stop them, sailed our vigilance, went to sea, and were hospitably received at British colonial ports. They captured and destroyed, during the war, over two hundred American vessels in less than two years. The United States flag was literally driven from the sea, while the commerce of Great Britain was doubled for the reason. The speaker thought it ought to treat their claims generously. They were first made in 1862 by the American Minister, Mr. Adams. After questioning the course of Mr. Adams on this and other questions, Mr. Lefevre continued: An arbitration has been proposed by the American Government, but refused by Lord Russell, who repelled the suggestion. Lord Stanley might have taken another course, but he insisted that the responsibility of England was only a moral one in the Alabama case. The less said about morality in this question the better. He regarded the breaking out of a war between England and the United States as extremely unlikely, but all needless irritation should be shunned. Lord Stanley praised the pacific tone of Mr. Lefevre's speech, and warmly complimented Mr. Adams for the conciliatory spirit he displayed on the subject under discussion. He said we could not make indiscriminate concessions, but we could learn the rights of the case. He thought England had been entirely neutral, but no neutrality would have pleased America. What the United States wanted was neutrality coupled with warm sympathy and support. He denied that the United States Government claimed, or could claim, that the necessary recognition of the South was a violation of the law, but only that it was unfriendly, rash, and unprecedented. The United States only pressed for the purpose of showing that but for the unfriendly action of England the Alabama depredations would not have occurred. He concluded by advising the appointment of a mixed commission for the proper adjustment of the question. John Stuart Mill, W. Gladstone, Mr. Forster and others took part in the debate.

LONDON, March 8, eve.—Nearly all the leading journals have editorial articles on the debate in Parliament on Friday night, on the Alabama Claims. The Times says the debate must convince the United States that England wishes to state the law in this case, in the American sense; and that the failure of Great Britain to refer the Alabama Claims to arbitration, is due to a desire to avoid her just obligations. Mr. Seward has only to get Lord Stanley in a like spirit to end the misunderstanding. The tone of the articles in the other journals is generally the same.

PARIS, March 8.—In the Corps Legislatif, last week, the clause on the press bill, which subject persons connected with public journals to forfeiture of their electoral rights, as a punishment for certain offences, was defeated by a decisive vote.

NEW YORK, March 9.—Gold 140½.

LONDON, March 9, eve.—The House of Commons this evening in reply to an enquiry from Mr. J. Harvey Lewis, Mr. Gathorne Hardy, the Home Secretary, said that the police had been previously informed of the plot for blowing up one of the walls of the Clerkenwell Prison and effecting the release of the Fenian prisoners. Their informer, who was in the prison, was to give them notice when the conspirators were to give the fuse, by throwing a white ball over the wall, whereupon the police were to secure the guilty parties on the night before the explosion. A cask of powder was seen in the street, but no attempt was made that night. The preconcerted signal was not given. The powder was allowed to remain, and arrests were made, the police supposed that the execution of the plot was postponed to the following evening, and were off their guard when the explosion took place unexpectedly during the day. Mr. J. McLeary Brown left the British legation in China and was accredited to act as Secretary of legation to Mr. Burlingame, on his mission for the Chinese Government with the full consent of the British Ambassador, who endorsed his credentials.

LONDON, March 11th.—In the House of Commons last night, John Francis McGuire, Member for Cork, in moving that the House go into Committee on the state of Ireland, said that though Ireland was part of the Empire, and now peaceful, yet the personal liberty of every man in the country was at the mercy of spies, policemen and Government officials; and this state of things existed when reports of the Courts showed there were few cases of ordinary crime. He then quoted the statistics of pauperism and emigration, and declared that the country was decreasing, and its people in despair. Discontent was a word inadequate to express the state of feeling. He denied the statement made by Lord Mayo that the farming class in Ireland were loyal. The grievances of the past had made a deep impression on the Irish people, and the effect of all future laws should be to relieve these bitter remembrances. The laws in regard to the tenure of lands were defective, and operated so disadvantageously that the means of a tenant which were good two years ago are worthless now. He denounced London Guilds, who held large

land needed commissions of inquiry on the establishment of Church rates, that Church was not suited to a majority of the people who disented from it. What would the people of England think if Dr. Manning would lay claim to and occupy the See of Canterbury? Exeter Hall would revolt, and religious ultraists would join the ranks of the Fenians. Mr. Charles Meade, member for Oxford city, regretted that Mr. McGuire had offered no plan for the solution of the question. After speeches from Mr. C. Darley Griffith, member from Devon, and Sir Frederick Heigley, member for London, Lord Newbury moved the adoption by the House in Committee, of resolution in substance as follows:—“That discontent in Ireland is a source of uneasiness to the Empire, and must be remedied; that the present Church, School and Tenure system are unjust in the opinion of this House, those wrongs should be righted.” Mr. James O'Brien Member for Cassel, in the course of his remarks, declared that a large body of the Irish sympathized with Fenianism. He also replied a length to the attacks recently made upon the people of Ireland by Mr. Roebuck. Earl Mayo, chief Secretary for Ireland, made a long and able speech. He admitted that great discontent prevailed in Ireland, but said it was exclusively nourished by the Irish in America. The Irish in Australia and Canada felt no discontent even in Ireland the feeling was confined to the lower classes only. There was no prominent Fenian leader in Ireland who was not aided and pushed on by friends in the United States. He repelled the idea of English misgovernment; and said the present Government at Dublin were nearly all Irishmen, and the police force was entirely composed of natives. He advised the maintenance of the present policy, but promised that a Bill would soon be introduced for the relief of tenants. At the conclusion of Earl Mayo's speech the debate was adjourned until next Thursday. Gold 139½.

LONDON, March 12.—Gen. Dix, the American Minister to France has arrived in this city, and it is understood he will remain here two or three weeks, it is said he has come here on business connected with the question of the Alabama claims. The House of Commons in committee of the whole agreed to report for passage the bill introduced by Mr. Gladstone for the abolition of Church rates. Mr. Waters, recently arrested, has been discharged from custody. The case Mullany is to be brought up in the House of Lords next week. Great preparations are being made in Dublin and other parts of Ireland for the reception of the Prince of Wales. It is reported in Berlin that a proposition was recently made to Lord Stanley to submit the Alabama claims to the arbitration of Russia, and that they are willing to entertain the proposition as far as it applied to the question of indemnity, but he refused to submit the other point in dispute.

ROME, March 11th.—One hundred Zouaves who volunteered for the Papal service have arrived here.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 9.—Advices from Victoria of the 7th, state that there is excitement there over the threats by the Fenians. A gunboat full of marines patrolled the harbor, and the magazines were double guarded. The engine houses were also guarded and the volunteers were ordered to be in readiness for instant service.

BOSTON, March 11.—The Republican ticket was elected yesterday in New Hampshire by about three thousand majority.

BOSTON, March 11.—Gold opened to-day at 139½.

NEW YORK, March 11th.—Gold 139½.

LONDON, March 10.—The War Office Department has just received additional despatches from the Commander in Chief of the Army in Abyssinia. The military situation at the English front is unchanged. King Theodore from with a more friendly spirit. Mr. Rassam a captive official of the Queen, thinks the king detain him merely until the English troops arrived at the royal headquarters, when he will be set free. The Morning Post, in an editorial on the subject of Church Reform, says that the plan which will be pursued by the new Government under Disraeli, in regard to the Irish Church, is as follows: 1st, The consideration of the Church question will be put off until the Commission on the Irish Church Establishment, already appointed, shall have made their report. 2nd, This Commission will be appointed to enquire into the relation of landlords and tenants. 3rd, A Charter will be granted for a new Roman Catholic University. 4th, Irish railways are to be subsidized by Government. The Prince of Wales will make a visit to Ireland, where he is to be made Knight of the Order of St. Patrick. The Fenians who were captured at Merlhyr, in Wales, have been indicted for treason, and will be tried at the Swansea Assizes. Despatches from Annesley Bay say that King Theodore has arrived in the immediate neighborhood of Magdala, with his troops and war material. The advance of the British expedition was steadily pushing ahead under Gen. Napier, and at last accounts were two days' march beyond the village of Altergal.

Mr. Brecken also reviewed His Excellency's Speech, and was replied to by the Hon Mr. Howland. A few remarks were made by the Hon Mr. Laird touching the general depression felt, because of the withdrawal from the channels of trade of a large sum of money for the purchase of the Conard Estate; to which the Hon. Mr. Duncan replied by stating that there existed no scarcity of money, in proof of which he stated that large sums of money were deposited in the Banks awaiting investments.

After which the House went into a Committee of the whole on the address in answer to His Excellency's Speech.

Hon. Mr. Kelly in the chair. A long debate on the second paragraph in the address then followed. Hons. leader of the Opposition, McAnulty, Henderson, Duncan, and Messrs. Brecken and Prowse, severally addressed the Committee, from the opposition side of the House; and Hons. leader of the Government, Atty. General, Davies, Howland, Laird, and Messrs. MacNeill and Bell, on behalf of the Government. The leading topic in the debate was the purchase of the remaining portions of proprietary lands in this Colony. The speakers on the opposition side contended that the paragraph under consideration was far from satisfactory to the tenantry, who were led to believe that the present majority would initiate some definite measure for their relief. The Tenant Leaguers especially had sent representatives to Parliament for the very purpose of carrying out their declared intentions, relative to the property of introducing a compulsory measure for the land question, and it would now seem that the promise made to them were to be broken. It would appear that the Government having failed to prevail on absentee proprietors to sell their lands, was not going to adopt any further measures for the relief of the tenantry who are anxiously waiting to be relieved from the rent-paying system. The lands of the larger proprietors having been purchased by the late Government, it now only remained for the present party in power to deal with the lesser ones, and surely they from whom, more than any preceding party in the House, was expected the amelioration of the tenantry, were not going to rest satisfied without maturing some measure.

The speakers on the Government side of the House denied that they had made any promises to the people which they had not endeavored to carry out. There were no promises nor pledges made by them further than to carry out the principles of the Land Purchase Act. The principle object of the tenant league organization was to displace the Conservative Government, and by uniting with the old Liberal party to form a Government that would be free from proprietary influences and in whom they would have more confidence than they had in the late Conservative Government. The fact that a Delegate was sent to England for the very purpose of proposing to absentee proprietors the purchase of their lands in accordance with the principles of that bill proved that they were not recreant to their principles. They regretted that the said proprietors refused to sell, as expressed in the paragraph under consideration, and alluded to the purchase of land tenures in Ireland, and stated that a correspondence was going on relative to the subject which would be submitted to the House in due time, and which would prove to the Opposition and the public generally that the present Government were not wanting in their efforts to abolish the land tenures.

At the close of the debate the question was put on the paragraph in question and carried. House adjourned.

TUESDAY, March 10.

The House in Committee of the whole, resumed the consideration of the address in answer to His Excellency's Speech. Hon. Mr. Kelly in the chair. The third paragraph in the address having been read, a long debate on the subject followed, and was kept until 10 o'clock, p. m.

Mr. Howland observed that proposals had been made to absentee proprietors, all of which they refused. The country expected and had a right to expect some further action on the all important question of releasing the remaining portions of the tenantry of the Colony from Proprietary bondage. Some definite rate of purchase should be fixed, and a reasonable compensation made to proprietors, by which they could not justly be said to suffer any material loss. The Liberal party accused the Conservatives of not effecting the final settlement of the question, and now the former were expected to adopt some energetic course of action. True, the Conservatives passed the 15 years Purchase Act, which was at all events partially compulsory. The abolition of proprietary claims in Canada was a precedent upon which to act. The British Government sanctioned that. Why not attempt a similar measure in this Colony? It could only be refused if it appeared the Loan was now available, and he would lend his support to any measure that would be submitted for the purchase of the land tenures.

Hon. Atty. General concurred partially with the remarks of the hon. member (Mr. Howland). He, the Hon. Atty. General, then gave an account of his interview with Miss Sullivan, to whom he referred, on behalf of the Government, the purchase of her Estate on the Island, but which she refused to accept. He also read his letter addressed to Lord Melville, to the effect that he was authorized by the Government of the Colony to offer, for the purchase of his Lordship's Estate in the Island, estimated at 10,000 acres on Lot 29, and 182 acres on Lot 53—together with all arrears of rent, and securities for the same due thereon—the sum of £4,000, at payable by instalments, as described in said letter, to which his Lordship replied declining to accept the proposition on the ground that the terms would be disadvantageous to him. (Hon. Atty. Gen.) then spoke of his interviews with several other landed proprietors in England, and regretted to have to say that they were not disposed to meet his views on the subject of selling their lands to the local Government. The question was not to remain in abeyance, a correspondence opened answers to which might be expected in a few days, when the subject would be laid before the House. The remaining holders of proprietary lands were acting improperly in not consenting to sell on reasonable terms. The fact that large portions of the lands of the Colony had been already sold to the Government, tended to increase discontent among the remaining tenantry, and until the question was finally settled permanent peace and contentment would never prevail in the country.

Hon. Mr. McAnulty said the question had been a stalking horse by many for the purpose of securing places and positions, the duties of which they were very incompetent to discharge. He was not sorry that the loan had proved a failure, his opinion on the subject had not changed since last session. The measure was not calculated to benefit the tenantry, and would only (if obtained), sink the Colony into debt. He contrasted the different position in which this Colony stood relative to the question of a loan to that of Nova Scotia and the other Colonies possessing, as they did, the means of enriching themselves which the Island had not.

Hon. Mr. Henderson said his sentiments relative to the question of obtaining a loan from abroad were unaltered. It would appear from the amount of capital in the Banks, a loan was not necessary. He observed that the compulsory principles of the 15 years purchase, introduced by the Conservative party, were now to be adopted by the present majority. The provisions of that much despised bill were coercive and binding on consenting proprietors; and a bill was passed also by the late Government, as a supplement to the 15 years purchase Act, enabling the Government to loan to tenants, purchasing half the lands under provisions of 15 years Purchase, one tenancy was required for that purpose, and many of the bills. Despite all the prejudices that had been created against the Act, a portion of the tenantry of the Colony were relieved from the payment of large sums of back rents, and bonds, which had been cancelled by the bill. These were incontrovertible facts. He approved of the caution taken to ascertain the views of the British Government touching a coercive measure, and he would, regardless of party, support any measure for the relief of the people.

Mr. P. Sinclair contended that no general benefits accrued to the tenantry from the provisions of the Fifteen Years Purchase Act. The lands were valued at too high a rate in that Bill, and it was a failure as a

coercive measure. The sums required to buy the land under the Fifteen Years Purchase Act, would yield the tenant in interest more than the annual rent payable. It could not be termed compulsory, for it was a voluntary proposal on the part of the Proprietors in place of the Award of the Land Commission. He was highly pleased with the course pursued by the Hon. Attorney General when in England, and as Proprietors refused to sell, he would support a coercive measure, and he hoped that both sides of the House would unite to mature a Bill by which the question would be forever set at rest.

Mr. McNeill said he was blamed for holding extreme views on the question. The offer of the Hon. Attorney General was a fair one, and it would yet be seen that it would have been the interest of Proprietors, as well as tenant, to have complied with the propositions submitted. The famous Land Commission favoured compulsion, and he did hope both sides of the House would agree on a Bill compelling Proprietors to yield to the public interest. There was nothing novel in the principle, and the sooner it was applied the better for the dearest rights of the people. There were many reasons for the adoption of a compulsory course. How could it be expected that men who had been persecuted and handcuffed for rent, would, in case of an invasion, stand as targets to be shot at for the protection of the rights of their persecutors. He alluded to Sheriff Dodd's letter, which, he said, was a libel and slander on the country.

Hon. Mr. Duncan read statements to show that upwards of £58,000 was deposited in the Banks, and as proof of their prosperity, a bonus of 5 per cent. had just been declared in the Bank of P. E. Island. It was he said altogether unnecessary, and contrary to the best interests of the Colony, to obtain any loan from abroad, when plenty of capital could be had at home for all available purposes.

Hon. Mr. Howland would ask if the moneys deposited in the Banks were available for the purchase of lands. He thought not. The money in the Banks was the property of minors and others, by whom, or on whose behalf, deposits were made that could not be appropriated to the purchase of lands. Business men, and Merchants also, had accounts with the Banks, and the sums placed to their credit were liable to a call at any moment, and was deposited for the purpose of making it available for the prosecution of the ordinary trade and business of the country, and not to be appropriated to the purchase of proprietary lands.

Hon. Leader of the Opposition said that he was not prepared to express his views on this new measure respecting which a correspondence had taken place between the Local Government and the Home Department, which course was rather novel under Responsible Government. He would like to know if any distinction would be drawn by the contemplated measure, between local and absentee Proprietors, or were they all to be put into the same category. He instanced cases in which tenants over whom he was acting as Agent, had been remitted large amounts of arrears by the Fifteen Years Purchase Act, for which they expressed to him their gratitude.

Mr. Cameron regretted that the efforts of the Hon. Attorney General, relative to the purchase of the lands of absentee Proprietors had not met with that success which was desirable. There was an expression of opinion contained in the Fifteen Years Purchase Bill, relative to the high value put on lands, that was calculated to injure the cause of the tenantry. Though he had never been a member of a Tenant League, he would defend the conduct of the large majority of that body.

Hon. Leader of the Government said it was a difficult task to legislate in this Colony against Proprietary influences. He reviewed the several enactments of the Liberal party relative to the Land Question, and said now that all reasonable offers and every possible effort had been made to purchase Proprietary claims, and had partially failed in totally abolishing the tenant system, it was not to be wondered at, that a coercive measure, would be resorted to. Some stringent measure, which he hoped would meet the approval and support of both sides of the House, would have to be adopted.

Mr. Brecken averted to the arguments that had been used in favor of the loan, and said it was well for the interests of the country that the Hon. Atty. General, whom he was ready to admit, had conducted his mission conscientiously and diligently, had not succeeded in borrowing money under the Loan Bill. Had the policy of the present Government been carried out, the Colony would now be paying interest on the loan and no lands in the market. It would not do to cripple the commercial and other interests of the country by negotiating a loan at a ruinous rate of interest.

Mr. Prowse said that many of the poorer tenants would rather endure, for a time at all events, hardship and privation, in order to pay their instalments and become freeholders, than continue to pay rents all their lifetime. The 15 years Purchase Act, was a coercive measure against those proprietors who were compelled under its provisions to sell their lands. The loan bill was not required, as money was attainable in the country.

Mr. George Sinclair was pleased to know that the Loan was available, if required. It was not reasonable, from the very nature of things, to expect peace or real contentment in the country until the land tenure was abolished.

Hon. Mr. Laird held the opinion that the soil of any country should be the property of the tiller of that soil. The fact that Lord Melville, an absentee Proprietor, received annually, from the soil of Lot 29, the sum of £200 sterling, was no small tax on the settlers on that Township. It was not to be expected that people thus burdened would remain dormant. It was the duty of every man who loved his country to aid in any measure coercive or otherwise, that would relieve the people from the unjust demands of Proprietors.

Mr. Reilly said it was a vital principle to decide whether the people should be governed by the bayonet or by public opinion. He was not indebted to the Tenant League for his seat in that House, but was dependent, in common with his fellow countrymen, on the success of the Agriculturist. The people of the Colony were grossly libelled by the letter of Sheriff Dodd, and the actions of the Conservative Government relative to the question to which that correspondence alluded. Could it be denied that the Colony was saved the payment of £5,000 stg. by the mission of the Hon. Atty. General to England. That sum was demanded for the maintenance of troops stationed here hunting tenantry. Both parties in that House had for many years strived to secure the consent of absentee proprietors, and though their efforts met with some success, yet a large portion of the people were still under the yoke of the proprietor, and it was now high time to have recourse to some more stringent measures than had hitherto been resorted to. If the negotiations now pending should prove a failure, compulsory measures would be perfectly justifiable.

The question having been put at the close of the debate on the paragraph under consideration, it was carried, and reported agreed to.

Progress was then reported, and the House adjourned.

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Hon. Mr. Henderson said his sentiments relative to the question of obtaining a loan from abroad were unaltered. It would appear from the amount of capital in the Banks, a loan was not necessary. He observed that the compulsory principles of the 15 years purchase, introduced by the Conservative party, were now to be adopted by the present majority. The provisions of that much despised bill were coercive and binding on consenting proprietors; and a bill was passed also by the late Government, as a supplement to the 15 years purchase Act, enabling the Government to loan to tenants, purchasing half the lands under provisions of 15 years Purchase, one tenancy was required for that purpose, and many of the bills. Despite all the prejudices that had been created against the Act, a portion of the tenantry of the Colony were relieved from the payment of large sums of back rents, and bonds, which had been cancelled by the bill. These were incontrovertible facts. He approved of the caution taken to ascertain the views of the British Government touching a coercive measure, and he would, regardless of party, support any measure for the relief of the people.

Mr. P. Sinclair contended that no general benefits accrued to the tenantry from the provisions of the Fifteen Years Purchase Act. The lands were valued at too high a rate in that Bill, and it was a failure as a

coercive measure. The sums required to buy the land under the Fifteen Years Purchase Act, would yield the tenant in interest more than the annual rent payable. It could not be termed compulsory, for it was a voluntary proposal on the part of the Proprietors in place of the Award of the Land Commission. He was highly pleased with the course pursued by the Hon. Attorney General when in England, and as Proprietors refused to sell, he would support a coercive measure, and he hoped that both sides of the House would unite to mature a Bill by which the question would be forever set at rest.

Mr. McNeill said he was blamed for holding extreme views on the question. The offer of the Hon. Attorney General was a fair one, and it would yet be seen that it would have been the interest of Proprietors, as well as tenant, to have complied with the propositions submitted. The famous Land Commission favoured compulsion, and he did hope both sides of the House would agree on a Bill compelling Proprietors to yield to the public interest. There was nothing novel in the principle, and the sooner it was applied the better for the dearest rights of the people. There were many reasons for the adoption of a compulsory course. How could it be expected that men who had been persecuted and handcuffed for rent, would, in case of an invasion, stand as targets to be shot at for the protection of the rights of their persecutors. He alluded to Sheriff Dodd's letter, which, he said, was a libel and slander on the country.

Hon. Mr. Duncan read statements to show that upwards of £58,000 was deposited in the Banks, and as proof of their prosperity, a bonus of 5 per cent. had just been declared in the Bank of P. E. Island. It was he said altogether unnecessary, and contrary to the best interests of the Colony, to obtain any loan from abroad, when plenty of capital could be had at home for all available purposes.

Hon. Mr. Howland would ask if the moneys deposited in the Banks were available for the purchase of lands. He thought not. The money in the Banks was the property of minors and others, by whom, or on whose behalf, deposits were made that could not be appropriated to the purchase of lands. Business men, and Merchants also, had accounts with the Banks, and the sums placed to their credit were liable to a call at any moment, and was deposited for the purpose of making it available for the prosecution of the ordinary trade and business of the country, and not to be appropriated to the purchase of proprietary lands.

Hon. Leader of the Opposition said that he was not prepared to express his views on this new measure respecting which a correspondence had taken place between the Local Government and the Home Department, which course was rather novel under Responsible Government. He would like to know if any distinction would be drawn by the contemplated measure, between local and absentee Proprietors, or were they all to be put into the same category. He instanced cases in which tenants over whom he was acting as Agent, had been remitted large amounts of arrears by the Fifteen Years Purchase Act, for which they expressed to him their gratitude.

Mr. Cameron regretted that the efforts of the Hon. Attorney General, relative to the purchase of the lands of absentee Proprietors had not met with that success which was desirable. There was an expression of opinion contained in the Fifteen Years Purchase Bill, relative to the high value put on lands, that was calculated to injure the cause of the tenantry. Though he had never been a member of a Tenant League, he would defend the conduct of the large majority of that body.

Hon. Leader of the Government said it was a difficult task to legislate in this Colony against Proprietary influences. He reviewed the several enactments of the Liberal party relative to the Land Question, and said now that all reasonable offers and every possible effort had been made to purchase Proprietary claims, and had partially failed in totally abolishing the tenant system, it was not to be wondered at, that a coercive measure, would be resorted to. Some stringent measure, which he hoped would meet the approval and support of both sides of the House, would have to be adopted.

Mr. Brecken averted to the arguments that had been used in favor of the loan, and said it was well for the interests of the country that the Hon. Atty. General, whom he was ready to admit, had conducted his mission conscientiously and diligently, had not succeeded in borrowing money under the Loan Bill. Had the policy of the present Government been carried out, the Colony would now be paying interest on the loan and no lands in the market. It would not do to cripple the commercial and other interests of the country by negotiating a loan at a ruinous rate of interest.

Mr. Prowse said that many of the poorer tenants would rather endure, for a time at all events, hardship and privation, in order to pay their instalments and become freeholders, than continue to pay rents all their lifetime. The 15 years Purchase Act, was a coercive measure against those proprietors who were compelled under its provisions to sell their lands. The loan bill was not required, as money was attainable in the country.

Mr. George Sinclair was pleased to know that the Loan was available, if required. It was not reasonable, from the very nature of things, to expect peace or real contentment in the country until the land tenure was abolished.

Hon. Mr. Laird held the opinion that the soil of any country should be the property of the tiller of that soil. The fact that Lord Melville, an absentee Proprietor, received annually, from the soil of Lot 29, the sum of £200 sterling, was no small tax on the settlers on that Township. It was not to be expected that people thus burdened would remain dormant. It was the duty of every man who loved his country to aid in any measure coercive or otherwise, that would relieve the people from the unjust demands of Proprietors.

Mr. Reilly said it was a vital principle to decide whether the people should be governed by the bayonet or by public opinion. He was not indebted to the Tenant League for his seat in that House, but was dependent, in common with his fellow countrymen, on the success of the Agriculturist. The people of the Colony were grossly libelled by the letter of Sheriff Dodd, and the actions of the Conservative Government relative to the question to which that correspondence alluded. Could it be denied that the Colony was saved the payment of £5,000 stg. by the mission of the Hon. Atty. General to England. That sum was demanded for the maintenance of troops stationed here hunting tenantry. Both parties in that House had for many years strived to secure the consent of absentee proprietors, and though their efforts met with some success, yet a large portion of the people were still under the yoke of the proprietor, and it was now high time to have recourse to some more stringent measures than had hitherto been resorted to. If the negotiations now pending should prove a failure, compulsory measures would be perfectly justifiable.

The question having been put at the close of the debate on the paragraph under consideration, it was carried, and reported agreed to.

Progress was then reported, and the House adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, March 11.

The House in Committee had under consideration that paragraph in the Address relating to the petition of the inhabitants of the Selkirk Estate, asking for the adoption of measures for their release from all further payments on account of their purchases on that Estate. The Report of the Hon. Atty. General and Solicitor General on the subject was alluded to, in the course of the debate which took place, and was kept up the whole day.

Hon. Leader of the Opposition said the question peculiarly affected the constituents of the hon. members for Belfast, and he had no doubt, however widely they might differ on other matters, they would be of the same mind touching the question involved in the paragraph under consideration. He had expected that a measure would have been matured by the Government, based on the opinion of the Law Officers, and submitted to the House.

Hon. Mr. Davies in reply, directed the attention of the Committee to the paragraph in question, and said the report of the Law Officers of the Crown would be presented to the House, and then the subject would be entertained in a more definite manner, and a measure well matured would be submitted, such as would give satisfaction to the people, and such a measure too as

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