say, "I cannot pay it for six or twelve months," the mortgagee would compel him to take a new mortgage at a higher rate of interest. He might say, "If you will pay me ten per cent., I will give you two years more to pay it." That is the greatest objection I see to passing the Bill without any restriction. The proposed amendment will not interfere with Promissory Notes or Bills of Exchange. The Act to regulate the interest on those is proposed to be repealed, and people can then make any bargains they like, except in cases where mortgages or judgments are given. Under the present law, on all Promissory Notes and Bills of Exchange, payable within three years, any amount of interest may be charged. We are only endeavouring at present to afford some protection to those persons who are placed in such unfortunate circumstances that they would have to submit to such terms as hard-hearted money-lenders might choose to dictate.

Hon. Mr. McLaren: I now see the matter in a different light. I think there should be some restriction, and seven per cent. would, in my opinion, be a fair rate.

Hon. Mr. Dingwell: The reason that I proposed six per cent. was, that that is the common rate on agreements at present, and if we could leave it at the same rate it would prevent that commotion which might be caused by a change.

Hon. Mr. Lord: I think it is better to restrict the rate to six per cent.; and if those gentlemen who are in the habit of lending money feel that they are injured, they can introduce a Bill next session to change it. I have the greatest respect for the gentleman who introduced this Bill. I believe he would not take one shilling more than the law allowed him; therefore, I presume that he was actuated by the best motives when he introduced the Bill, and I am also convinced that it is based on sound principles. I was mistaken with regard to the person who introduced the Bill when I addressed your honors before.

NOTES OF THE SESSION.

No. 8.

Worrell Estate.

Hon. Mr. Coles contended that the Worell Estate when handed over to the Conservative Government, in 1858, was in a prosperous condition, as shown by the Accounts of Mr. Aldous, the Land Commissioner. By those Accounts, it was shewn that the cost of the Estate amounted to £20,550: that the amount due on Sales, bearing interest, was £14981 15s 4d.; leaving a balance £4,758 16s. 8d. against the estate, to meet which there were 41235 acres of land to be sold, which at 2s. 6d. per acre, would have liquidated the said balance, and cleared the Estate. If, said the hon. gentleman, the present Government have, during the last six years, mismanaged the estate, so as to have spent all in the mismanagement, it is not the fault of the Liberal Government who bought it, for the cry of the Tory party, before they got into power, with respect to the Estate, was, "Let all the land be sold at auction for whatever it will bring, and close the Land Office." However, on their accession to power, they saw the Land purchase Act in a light very different from that in which they pretended to view it when they were out of power; and now they wish to charge the Liberals with whatever blame may attach in any quarter, for any loss on the purchase of the Estate. The statement, to which the Hon. Mr. Coles referred, in corroboration of his assertion that the Worrell Estate was in a prosperous condition when it passed from the hands of the Liberals into those of the Conservative Government, is as follows, copied from the Journal, dated 31st of January, 1859, and signed, "John Aldous."

Dr.		
To paid on purchase of Land,		£20,550 0 0
Cr.		
By amount due on sales,	£14,981 15 4	
Bonds,	809 8 5	
Balance,	4,758 16 3	
	£20,550 0 0	— £20,550 0 0
Land purchased,		83,309 acres.
Sold,		42,074
Balance unsold,		41,235 acres.
Balance in each year over expenses.		
1857	£365 14 0	
1858	415 17 2½	
To be deducted from balance above	£781 11 2½	

ORANGEISM.

Mr. Duncan. The Petition was false upon its face. But that was not all. When the Roman Catholic Bishop signed it, he knew it to be false; he knew he was signing a falsehood; and they who drew it up knew that they had drawn up a falsehood. The Petition was deliberately drawn up with a view to deceive. Whoever drew it up knew that he was stating a falsehood. He (Mr. Duncan) thought that when Responsible Government was conceded to the Colony, the concession gave us the right of governing ourselves, and of enacting whatever laws we might deem needful for the preservation of peace and good order and the promotion of the general welfare, so long as such laws should not be in any way opposed to the principles of the Constitution. The Orange Bill was a measure of that kind, intended to foster and protect the best interests of the Colony. The murderous riot, some years ago, at Belfast, led to the formation of Orange Lodges in the Island. The members of those Lodges had nothing in view but the assertion and observance of the principles of our Constitution, and the preservation of peace and good order throughout the Colony; they had no private ends of their own to promote; they had in no instance either violated the laws or sought to abridge or invade the rights and privileges of any class of their fellow subjects; and their rise and progress in this Island had a salutary influence upon the community. They had as much right to an Act of Incorporation as any other body or society, at whose request and in whose favor such an Act had been passed by the Legislature of the Colony — certainly quite as good a right to it as the Roman Catholic Bishop of Charlottetown. By whatever reasons the Duke of Newcastle had been influenced—whether by such as especially weighed with him with respect to the security of his public position, as a minister of the Crown, or otherwise—in withholding the Orange Bill from the Royal consideration, he had been guilty of a direct violation of the constitutional privileges of the people of the Colony; and it was a duty which the Legislature owed to the country and to themselves, plainly to declare—as was purposed to be done by the Resolutions then under the consideration of the House—in what a reprehensible light they viewed his conduct with respect to that Bill.

A desire to press the Committee to a division being manifested by some hon. members on the Government side of the House—

Hon. Mr. Whelan rose and said, there was a degree of unfairness in seeking to press a division upon the Committee before hon. members who might be opposed to the Resolutions had an opportunity to examine them fully. To that end, they should have been allowed to lie upon the table a sufficient length of time before being brought under the consideration of the House in Committee. He himself would have taken copies of the Resolutions — had a suitable opportunity been offered him to do so—in order that, as he intended to oppose them, he might be prepared with counter Resolutions to move an amendment. When common courtesy was observed, by a party in power, towards the minority, suitable opportunities were offered them to prepare counter Resolutions.

Hon. Mr. J. C. Pope observed that, if the hon. member who had last spoken was more observant of the hours at which the House commenced business in a morning and resumed it in an afternoon, and were, in a general way, as early in his place as he ought to be, he would have no occasion, at any time to complain that due opportunities were not afforded him to consider any Resolutions to be brought forward by the party in power, and to prepare others in opposition to them.

Hon. Mr. Whelan, in reply, said, it was certainly that the attention which it was necessary for him to give to the direction of his private business did not always admit of his being as punctually in his place in the House as some other hon. members were; but, he thought, censure of any hon. member for negligence—either real or apparent—in the discharge of his parliamentary duties, *could not have come, from any quarter, with a worse grace than from the hon. member* from Summerside. The absence of that hon. member from the Island, in the prosecution of his own private affairs in England, had occasioned the summoning of the Legislature for the despatch of public business, to be delayed a month beyond the usual period; and that delay, occasioned by his inopportune absence, might—and, indeed, most probably would—prove greatly detrimental to public interests, both directly and indirectly. Yet that hon. member, only just returned to attend to his parliamentary duties, had the assurance to tax him (Hon. Mr. Whelan) with neglect of public duty and the retarding of the prosecution of public business, *because* he was occasionally absent from his place at the opening of the House in a morning or at the resumption of business in an *afternoon*! Ill, indeed, did such a charge become that hon. member! Ill, indeed, did it become any hon. member on the Government side of the House! As to the Government, their general mode of directing parliamentary proceedings was such as, he believed, had never been adopted by any other administration, either here or elsewhere; for pliant as their supporters were, it was yet deemed necessary by them (the Government) to hold a *caucus* meeting almost daily, in the Library, for the purpose of drilling them into still greater subserviency—if that were possible. Than such a mode of conducting it, scarcely any thing, he thought, could be retardative of the progress of the legislative business of a country.

Contract for carrying the Mails to and from this Island and the neighboring Provinces.

Resolutions from Supply.

A sum sufficient for the Summer and Winter Mails.

Hon. Mr. Coles moved a Resolution to the effect that the amount proposed to be allowed for the Mail Service be reduced £1500. He did so, he said, because the Contract entered into, by the Government, with the Steam Boat Company, was £1500 per annum more than Mr. Boultenhouse had tendered to do the work for. The question having been put, and the division thereon having been called for, Hon. Mr. Coles objected to four members of the House being allowed to vote thereon, inasmuch as they were, by parliamentary rule, incapacitated from doing so in consequence of their being shareholders in the said Steam Boat Company. The hon. members, to whose votes the Hon. Mr. Coles objected, on the said grounds, were the Hon. Colonial Secretary, the Hon. J. C. Pope, and the Hon. D. Davies, members of the Government, and Mr. James Duncan, a supporter of the Government. In support of his objection to the votes of these hon. members, the hon. gentleman read the Rule of the Imperial Parliament, by which it is declared that no member of the House, having any share or interest in any Company, entering into a Contract with the Government, could vote on any question before the House in which such Company had any interest. The hon. members whom he had named were, he said, members of the Steam Boat Company having the Contract for carrying the Mails to and from the Island and the neighboring Provinces; and, therefore, according to the Parliamentary Rule which he had just read, they were precluded from voting on the question then before the House; inasmuch as, were they to vote thereon, their doing so would be a direct voting of money into their own pockets.

His Honor the Speaker said there was no proof before him that the hon. members named were shareholders in the said Company; but, if they were, they certainly were excluded, by parliamentary rule, from the privilege of voting on the question then under the consideration of the House.

Hon. Mr. Coles replied that the hon. members whom he had named could not but be very well aware whether they had a right to vote on the question or not; and he would, therefore, leave it to their own sense of honor to do so or not.

The hon. gentlemen whose right to vote had thus been directly disputed remained in their places, neither denying nor admitting their alleged disqualification to do so; and, notwithstanding their silence, may have been interpreted as an admission of their disqualification, they voted on the Division, which was as follows:

For the Motion of the Hon. Mr. Coles.—Honbls. Messrs. Coles and Warburton, Messrs. Sutherland, Sinclair, Walker and Howlan—6.

Against it.—Honbls. Colonel Gray, Colonial Secretary, J. C. Pope, D. Davies, and Laird, Messrs. Haslam, Ramsay, McLennan, John Yeo, D. Montgomery, Howat, J. Duncan, Brecken, Kaye, McAulay, Green—16.

Any comment upon the peculiar features of the *facts* above stated would be quite superfluous.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary read the Resolution which was moved by the Hon. Mr. Warburton, declaring Mr. Boultenhouse's Tender the lowest, and that as it was calculated to save the Island a large expenditure of public money, it ought, therefore, to be accepted. This Resolution, said the hon. gentleman, was negatived by the House, and, therefore, it was the House, and not the Government, who rejected Mr. Boultenhouse's Tender.

The Hon. Mr. Coles contended that the effect of the rejection of the Hon. Mr. Warburton's Resolution by the majority of the House, was to leave the whole of the Tenders in the hands of the Government, as some objections had been made to the security offered by Mr. Boultenhoose. This, said the hon. gentleman, would appear from the opinions touching the question expressed by some hon. members who voted against the Hon. Mr. Warburton's Resolution, as well as from the Resolution which was carried. Hon. Colonel Gray, in the course of the discussion of the question, said "He was of opinion that it would be useless to call for fresh Tenders, and that the offer of Mr. Boultenhouse was the best that the Government could accept." Mr. Davies said, "If Mr. Boultenhouse's Tender was accepted, the most ample security should be required." Hon. Mr. Laird said, "If Mr. Boultenhouse gave proper and ample security, his was decidedly the best offer." Mr. Brecken remarked, "At the present state of the proceedings, he could not but acknowledge that the tender of Mr. Boultenhouse was the most acceptable of the three." Mr. Montgomery strongly objected to the Tenders of Messrs. Hodgson and Bourke." Mr. Davies again said, "He would be sorry to see Mr. Boultenhouse's Tender set aside."

Hon. Mr. Coles having read the several opinions as above cited by him, said, "Mr. Speaker, I think it is clear, from the opinions which I have just read of hon. members who voted against the Hon. Mr. Warburton's Resolution, that they only wanted to leave the question open, to the end that it might be ascertained whether the security which Mr. Boultenhouse was prepared to offer was sufficient. Mr. Boultenhouse was here at the time, and was told that he would be communicated with upon the subject; but he never heard any thing further about it from the Government. This shows that the House did not vote the Contract to Messrs. Hodgson and Bourke; but the Government, of which four of the shareholders were members, gave the Contract to themselves at £1500 more per annum than Mr. Boultenhouse had tendered to perform the work for."

SUMMARY OF HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY PROCEEDINGS.

Saturday, April 30.

On motion of Mr. McLennan, the *House* went into committee on the report of the committee on public accounts.

Hon. leader of the Opposition remarked that the committee had rectified the error relative to the entry of 1000*l*, which appeared in both the receipts and expenditures of the Colony. It was difficult, he said, to understand or correct the outport accounts. Between the first sheet of the auditors' classified Impost and Excise accounts, and the corrected one, there appeared to be no less than thirty-five descrepancies. The classification submitted by the Government, and prepared by a gentleman who prides himself upon being the best accountant on the Island, differed in some respects from the one submitted by the auditors. There was also a difference of 600*l* between the amount shown in the Impost accounts and that credited in the Treasurer's office, but this was accounted for by the different Excise officers being allowed to pay themselves instead of accounting to the Government for the whole amount of the duties received by them, and the Government issuing warrants for the payment of their salaries as all the other officers of the Colony are paid. These accounts, he said, would never be properly kept until a Financial Secretary was appointed, whose duty it would be to correct all mistakes. *He* said much credit was due to the chairman of the committee (Mr. McLennan) for drawing up the Report so as to secure the signatures of the Opposition as well as Govt. members of committee.

Hon. Mr. Davies approved of the suggestions of the hon. leader of the Opposition in reference to the mode of paying the salaries of out-port and Excise collectors. These officers had not, however, acted in any way contrary to the present act which recognises their right to pay themselves.

The Report was then adopted and agreed to.

Hon. Mr. Pope moved that the Resolution of the committee on supply relative to pew rent be now received.

Hon. G. Coles moved an amendment that it be received this day three months.

For the amendment:—hons. Coles, Hensley, Haviland, Warburton, Thornton, Beaton, Messrs. Conroy, Howlan, Walker,—9.

For the Resolution:—hons. Col. Gray, Col. Sec., J. C. Pope, Longworth, Laird, Kaye, Davies, Messrs. Green, McLennan, Duncan, Haslam, Howat, Montgomery,—13. The Speaker then took the Chair, and the Resolution was carried on the same division reversed.

The bill relating to summary and appeal cases from the inferior to the Supreme Court was read a third time and passed.

The hon. Legislative Council by message informed the House that the bill to consolidate and amend the Land Assessment Act, and also the Act to raise a Revenue had received the assent of that hon. body.

Hon. Mr. Haviland called the attention of the House to a question of privilege, and said that the bills just alluded to should have been sent down to the House; he said he was lead to make this request because there were, he believed, some hon. members of the Legislative Council who were disposed to infringe upon the liberties of this House.

Hon. J. Longworth also said that the bills alluded to should be submitted by message from Council; said Acts were then submitted to the House by the Clerk of the Legislative Council.

A message from his Excellency the Lieut. Governor was received commanding the attendance of the House at the Bar of the Council Chamber, where his Excellency was pleased to give his assent to the Act for raising a revenue.

House in committee resumed the consideration of the appropriation bill.

Hon. G. Coles moved that the sum of 7*l* appropriated for the payment of His Excellency's pew rent in St. James' Church be struck out of the bill, which motion was lost on a division of 13 against 6.

Mr. Howlan moved that the sum of 300*l* appropriated to Messrs. Palmer and Pope as Delegates to England on the subject of the Land Commission be struck out of the bill, which motion was lost on the following division: Yeas—Howlan, Coles, Beaton, Conroy, Walker, Hensley, 6; Nays—Col. Gray, Col. Secty., Brecken, Haslam, Green, Montgomery, McLennan, J. C. Pope, Yeo, Laird, Howat, Kaye, Davies, Longworth, Haviland, 15.

Hon. J. Longworth moved that the bill relative for the granting of letters patent to John Robinson to Liverpool, England, be submitted, a short debate on the subject took place, during which honorable mention was made of the distinguished patent of Mr. Duchemin, as a work of art which had secured letters patent not only in America, but also in England and France. That it would tend to advance the interest of the Colony to foster enterprize and improvement of every description was discanted upon by hon. members, after which the bill was read a second time and agreed to.

On motion of Col. Sec., a Committee was appointed to determine what vouchers relative to the public accounts should be published in the journals of the House. This motion elicited a discussion upon the necessity of having a Financial Secretary for the Colony, whose duty it would be to prepare the public accounts. Already £100 a year was paid for auditors' salary, to which sum might be added the expense the Colony sustained because of the manner in which the time of the House was occupied in examining and correcting accounts, and also the deficiency that might appear in the returns of any officer which would be promptly collected by the Financial Secretary.—It was argued by hon. members on both sides of the House, that the appointment of such a functionary would not only expediate the business of the Legislature, but also prove a great saving to the financial interests of the Colony.

Mr. Brecken moved that the thanks of the House be conveyed to His Excellency the Lieut. Governor for the various despatches, messages, and correspondence submitted by His Excellency for the information of this House.

Hon. Mr. Coles seconded the motion, and said, it should be remembered His Excellency was not allowed a private Secy. by the Government of the Colony, this he considered very wrong. When we had a private Secretary's salary paid for out of the public funds, he could be required, and it was expected of him, to place all necessary documents before this House in proper order; but now it was depending upon a gentleman upon whom we have no claim whatever for such papers as we may require. The gentleman, he said, to whom he alluded (His Excellency's private Secretary) received no salary from this Colony.

Hon. Mr. Haviland said he was now free to speak out his mind on this subject, and would unhesitatingly say that it was extremely niggardly on the part of the government not to pay the salary of Private Secretary; this he said was the only Colony, in which the Private Secretary is not a paid official.

Hon. J. Hensley said he would be glad to see a Commission of public works also appointed. For want of this officer, much of the public money was thrown away in the construction and performance of roads, bridges, &c.

Hon J. Warburton supported the hon. J. Hensley's views on this subject and referred to the shameful manner in which public grants for roads, bridges, &c., were mis-appropriated.

Mr. Duncan also agreed with what had fallen from hon. members on this subject; he said that it must appear evident to every intelligent person in the community, that the services of a Commissioner of public works would prove a great saving to the country, much of public money was now thrown away for want of a proper knowledge of the manner in which it should be expended. In illustrating his arguments he instanced the case of a Ship builder who having several vessels building would refuse or neglect to pay a Foreman or Inspector of the work. From his own experience in this branch of business, he could say that the want of competent superintendence would inevitably end in a loss to the owner. The same result would follow in every department which required a heavy expenditure of capital, but more especially in that branch of the public service, over which a Commissioner of Public Works would exercise control. It must be perfectly clear he said, to every hon. member of that *House*, that it would be a great saving to the public revenue, to have a fit and proper officer appointed, whose duty it would be to see that the appropriations for the Road Service were properly and judicially expended.

Hon. Mr. Laird remarked that as the discussion had taken a wide range, he would direct the attention of the House to an officer, the duties of whom would be second to none yet named by any hon. member. In Canada they had a Minister of Agriculture, whose business it was to superintend the agricultural interests of the country, and his reports clearly show this his labors tend very materially to the advancement and improvement of agricultural pursuits. In this Island our chief dependence is upon our agricultural resources, we therefore above all other should be the first to encourage in every possible way that important branch of industry; and the appointment of a minister of agriculture for the whole Island would doubtless confer a benefit upon the interests of this Colony.

Mr. Howat said he thought the time had arrived for him to speak. A few years ago, he said, we were told Auditors of Public Accounts were going to do everything that would be necessary to perfect the system of placing before the House in a classified form the Public Accounts, and yet we find blunders committed. *What* guarantee, he would ask, have we that a Financial Secretary would be more competent or perform his work better than the Auditors had done. We were every now and then annoyed by officeholders asking for increase of salaries, and some of them even threatening to resign, because as they allege of the small salaries they receive; and how could we be expected to provide for additional officers? He for one would not support the appointment of any of the officers to whom allusion had been made by hon. members To multiply officials by the dozen and have them scampering about this building half their time was a doctrine to which he would never give his consent. The object he said of the hon. leader of the Opposition relative to these matters, was to lead the government into difficulties, he would therefore advise them to be on their guard.

The appropriation bill was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Brecken as chairman of committee, reported a draft address in accordance with the Resolution of the House, acknowledging the indebtedness of the House to his Excellency in submitting for their information, despatches, messages, and correspondence relating to the interests of the colony. Said address was received and read.

House adjourned.

Monday, May 2d.

The honorable Legislative Council by message informed the House that they had passed the following bills viz:

A bill authorizing the government to open a cash account with the bank of P. E. Island,

A bill relative to the issuing of certain debentures.

Hon. Col. Gray presented to the House a despatch received this day from the Secretary of State announcing that Her Majesty the Queen was pleased to confirm the Act to incorporate the Farmer's Bank of Rustico.

A message from the Legislative Council announced their assent to the appropriation bill.

A bill to enable John Robinson of Liverpool, England, to obtain letters patent, was read a third time and passed.

Hon. Col Sec. informed the House that he had corresponded with the honorable Speaker of the House of Commons, on the subject of obtaining for the use of our Legislature the Journals of the Imperial Parliament, and said he was glad to inform the House that the said Journals were kindly offered. He would therefore suggest the propriety of making provision for having them bound.

Hon. J. Hensley asked the government by whose authority had the Mail Steamer been despatched on yesterday (Sunday) for the English mail to Cape Tormentine? He admitted that cases might arise in which perhaps necessity might require work to be performed on the Sabbath day, but in this case it was no work of necessity. The steamer might as well have been sent this morning as yesterday; what was the use of having a statute requiring the due observance of the Lord's day, if those in the government employ did *not* observe it. He was sure, he said, that the members of the government, when they considered the matter, were as anxious as he was to enforce the strict observance of the Sabbath, but he felt it incumbent upon him to ask by what authority the mail steamer had yesterday (Sabbath) been despatched to Cape Tormentine.

Hon. leader of the Government replied and said, that all matters connected with the mails and postal arrangements were under the charge of the Post Master General's department.—Passengers and mails were delayed and kept on the other side because of the floating ice in the Straits. The steamer had made several attempts during the past week to get to Pictou, but could not succeed. Information by telegraph was received that the American and Colonial mails were forwarded to Cape Tormentine; and also that a number of passengers for this Island had arrived there, and were doubtless anxious to proceed on to the end of their journey; and further, had not the mails been here this morning in time to be forwarded to the different country post offices, whole weeks' delay, in many cases, would have been the consequence. He therefore had no hesitation in saying that under all these circumstances the Post Master General considered he had acted for the best in this matter.

On motion of hon. J. Longworth a com. of conference with the hon. Legislative Council was appointed relative to an amendment made by the Council to the bill altering certain terms of the supreme court in this Island; said com. reported that the Council passed unanimously the amendment in question, relative to the changing of the March term of the supreme court in Georgetown.

Hons. Hensley and Beaton contended that the change asked for in the bill was in accordance with the wishes of the people of King's county, more especially the eastern section of the county, and regretted that any obstacle was thrown in its way by the council They would rather see the bill thrown out altogether than submit to the amendment of the council.

Hon. Mr. Haviland said, that no less than three Grand Juries of King's County presented, at different terms of the Supreme court, to the Judge, the necessity of making an alteration of one week earlier in the time for holding the March term of the court at Georgetown. The Bill now before the House originated, in fact, with the people of King's County. It was therefore, he said, very extraordinary that they could not be allowed this alteration in the Act. He could not see the force or justice of the reasons assigned by the Legislative Council for their amendment, and hoped the House would have the good sense to throw out the Bill altogether rather than submit to that amendment. If, he said, the House would not now stand by King's County in this matter, and throw out the Bill, the people of that County would never again get their rights relative to this question.

After some further debate and conferences on this subject, the amendment of the Council was finally rejected by the House, and consequently the Bill was lost.

His honor the Speaker laid before the House a letter from his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor's Private Secretary, announcing that his Excellency would attend in the Council Chamber to prorogue the House at 5 o'clock this afternoon.—House adjourned.

AFTERNOON.

Mr. McLennan chairman of the Contingent Fund committee, submitted the report of that Committee which was read and agreed to.

Hon. G. Coles remarked that he had great pleasure in observing that a number of Ladies had just entered the Assembly room, as he believed for the first time. He trusted some steps would be taken during the recess to provide a Ladies' Gallery for the accommodation of Ladies.

Hon. Col. Gray replied and approved of the remarks of the hon leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Conroy also said he hoped that proper provision would be made so as to secure the attendance of Ladies at our Legislative Halls. Their presence, he said, would have a beneficial effect on the debates of the House.

CORRESPONDENCE.

MEETING OF FREEHOLDERS AT SQUAW BAY, LOT 49.

Verbal information having been circulated among the independent and respectable Freeholders of that portion of Township No. 49, that a meeting of the worthy inhabitants of said District would be held at the School House in that locality on Monday the 25th inst., at 3 o'clock, p. m., for the express purpose of deliberating upon the present pernicious agrarian and protracted and agitated land question, the source and origin of the apparent dissatisfaction and distracted state of this unparalleled Colony, and the propriety, constitutional, and feasibility of the tenant organizations throughout this Island, now embracing indigenous talent, effort, and almost incredible daily accumulating sympathy and numerical acquisition and strength. After further preliminary observations, approbatory of the judicious course adopted and pursued by the tenant organizasions of this retarded slave-holding and oppressed Colony, the meeting truly appreciated the laudable and independent attempts and efforts of the tenant organizations of this sea-girt Isle to emancipate themselves and succeeding generations from the intolerable yoke of land monopolists, the devastating scourge and cause of the prevailing destitution in this purely agricultural and inclement Colony. Therefore, the meeting, as an evident pledge of their approbation, commiseration and heartfelt sympathy for their more unfortunate fellow Colonists, enrolled their names in the bond of union, and liberally subscribing towards the fund in connection with the organization, at the same time extremely regretting, as *ardent and strenuous supporters* of this existing Government, that unfortunately the Legislature of this aggrieved Colony should assume the prerogative, without the consultation of their respective constituencies, to pass an Act confirmatory of the proprietory titles, and thereby imposing upon the inadequate tenantry of this Island a ruinous purchase, at a rental of fifteen years, &c. *The feelings of the meeting* cannot be more cogently illustrated than by adopting the following poetical quotation:

"O yes, 'tis thus grieved Isle, thy doom
Hath hitherto been sealed,
These Politicians dig thy tomb,
But leave thy wounds unhealed.
Thy vex'd land question never can
Be set to rights by thee,
Thy sons alone, joined as one man,
Thy tide of ills can stem."

The meeting being constitutionally organized by the appointment of Mr. Wm. Wood to the Chair, and Alex. McNeill, Acting Secretary, the following Resolution was submitted and unanimously approved of:—

Moved by James B. Gay, Esq., seconded by William Jones, Esq.—

Whereas, that in *the opinion of this meeting*, that the long agitated and non-settlement of the Land tenures, being the most vitally important and absorbing question at present affecting the mass of Her Majesty's loyal subjects in this Colony, and that no measure would be more conducive to the prosperity of the Colony, and peace and contentment of the tenantry and freeholders, than the conversion of the present injurious rent-paying system into a freehold; and recognising the strenuous efforts and powerful influence exercised by Sir Samuel Cunard and the other large proprietors, and their agents, to prevent the laudable efforts of the people, through their representatives in the Government, at all times, to effect this much desired consumation on terms at all possible to be complied with; therefore, this *meeting* reciprocate and cordially sympathises with the present popular movement throughout the Island, which constitutionally contemplates the settlement of this agrarian question, viz; the amelioration of the oppressed and suffering tenantry, by offering terms equivalent to what other estates in this Colony have been purchased for; and should the Government at this peculiar and critical juncture assume the responsibility of establishing the proprietors' proposition of sixteen years' purchase, that this meeting *cannot consider such legislation but* prejudicial, injurious and ruinous to the interests and well-being of the Colonists.

The meeting having accorded a vote of thanks to the Chairman for his impartial and praiseworthy conduct in the chair, the meeting in unanimity of sentiment and opinion consider that journals, patronized by the tenant organizations, should publish, gratuitously, communications tending to the prosperity and success of the object in contemplation; therefore, the meeting gave three lusty cheers for our gracious and beloved Sovereign, and dispersed in order, harmony and anticipated success.

ALEXANDER McNEILL, Sec'y.
Lot 49, 25th April, 1864.

TENANT MEETING ON BALDWIN'S ROAD, LOT 51.

A very numerously attended Public Meeting of the Tenantry and Freeholders of Baldwin's Road, Cardigan Road, and *the neighboring settlements*, was held at the School-house on the above named road, on Tuesday, the 3rd instant, for the purpose of taking into consideration the accumulated grievances entailed upon the country by the Leasehold System; and of forming themselves into a branch of the Tenant League, in order that they may be prepared to act in concert with their fellow-sufferers of other districts, as occasion may require.

Several speakers made very appropriate remarks on this subject, with a good deal of force and effect — facts which are of sufficient importance to prove that good results may be anticipated. Mr. Henry Bradley spoke very pointedly on the subject, in expressing his abhorrence of rent-paying, by saying that the system is a disgrace to any country having pretensions to independence or intelligence, and that our condition is the more humiliating when we consider our position in respect to our neighbours in the Colonies, who are perfect strangers to the many evils of rent-paying; and that therefore the united efforts of the tenantry should be used by every lawful means to abolish this pernicious system, which is so very much crushing the best energies of the tenantry throughout the Island. He also remarked that if the tenantry on Lots 48 and 49 are so vehement in this movement, and who, from their contiguity to market, shipping and other privileges, enjoy advantages superior to many districts in the Island—certainly then the tenants in this isolated place should lose no opportunity in following their example.

It has been remarked by many of the tenants on this part of the Montgomery Estate, (on Baldwin's Road,) that although they have not yet much reason to complain of very great harshness on the part of their agents in urging their demands for rent, nevertheless they are and will be at the mercy of those agents, who may probably be "*nursing their wrath to keep it warm*" until it suits their own purpose; and that therefore it devolved upon them equally as well as others to have their minds fixed as to the course they should pursue in cases of emergency. It was also the unanimous opinion of those present at the meeting that every embarrassment should be caused to those Proprietors, their agents or bailiffs, who might have the hardihood to attempt seizing or selling the effects of any individual tenant in these localities, until some reasonable negotiation shall be entered into, which will enable the tenantry to purchase their farms on terms similar to those obtained on the Government estates throughout the Island.

After these and other remarks of a similar nature, the Meeting was declared duly organized by the appointment of Mr. Henry Mooney as Chairman, when the following Resolutions were submitted and unanimously agreed to, viz:—

Proposed by Mr. Thomas McKenna, and seconded by Mr. Dennis Mulligan:—

Resolved, That as the present Government, either from incapacity or deception, notwithstanding all their extravagant promises, have utterly failed to settle the differences so long existing between landlord and tenant; and as any terms which the proprietors or Government offer as a pretended relief to the tenantry, namely:—15 years purchase, with all arrears since 1858 paid down, are not only useless, but ruinous to the great majority of tenants; we are, therefore, zealously determined to withhold the payment of rent in any form, until we participate in the benefits of the Land Purchase Bill, so liberally extended to other more favoured portions of our fellow-colonists.

Proposed by Mr. James Curran, seconded by Mr. Patrick Cairns:—

Resolved, That in the opinion of this meeting the Government have taken upon themselves most unwarrantable liberties, and very much abused the trust reposed in them, by passing into Law the 15 years' purchase Bill, in opposition to the well understood wishes of the people; and are, therefore, deserving of the most unqualified censure from the Tenantry.

Proposed by Mr. John McWade, seconded by Mr. Hugh McInnis:—

Resolved, That no effort shall be wanting on our part to co-operate with our fellow tenants of Lots 49, 50, 35, 36, and other parts of the Island in their laudable efforts to be relieved from the servile and galling yoke of Landlordism, and to effect a purchase of the land in fee simple, at a just and equitable valuation, according to the quality and location.

Proposed by Mr. Terrence Cairns, seconded by Mr. Peter Curran—

Resolved, That we, the Tenantry, assembled at this Meeting, will be satisfied with nothing less than a right to convert our leaseholds into freeholds, on the same conditions as those obtained by settlers on the Worrell, Selkirk and other estates; and that we are strongly impressed with the idea that those who reclaimed the dreary forest from a wilderness state, have every just right to assert that they will not submit any longer to be the slaves of a proprietary faction, who are well known to have but a very slender claim to lands in this Island, and for which they have received quite enough already.

It was resolved that two of the Island journals interested in the Tenant Right movement be requested to publish the proceedings of this meeting.

A Committee of Management having been duly appointed, and the usual vote of thanks been accorded the Chairman, not forgetting to give three most hearty cheers for our Sovereign Lady the Queen, the meeting retired to their respective homes.

J. E. KELLY, Sec'y.
May 4. 1864

Late European News.

THE WAR IN DENMARK.

THE BOMBARDMENT IN SONDERBORG.

Copenhagen, April 4. — The Prussians have bombarded Sonderborg 48 hours, without any previous intimation. Eighty towns-people, women and children, have been killed or wounded. Fifty houses in the centre of the town have been burnt. Fifteen hundred shells have been thrown into the town, which is deserted. The cannonade suddenly and completely ceased this morning. It has, however, recommenced. The Danish position is uninjured. Last night our outposts were frequently disturbed by the enemy, who, however, in each instance withdrew.

[The Danish city of Sonderborg is under a process of deliberate destruction. First it was announced that the Prussians had, without any previous warning, or any notice to remove the women and children, commenced throwing shells into the city. Next day London and Paris and Berlin and Vienna heard that nearly a third part of the town had been burnt down, but that the cannonade had ceased. Then it was told that the intermission had not been of long continuance; and the succeeding account was that Sonderborg had been bombarded for forty-eight hours, that eighty towns-people, women and children, had been killed or wounded, and that the city was then deserted. This is not a fable imported from the other end of the earth, it is a reality passing before the eyes of Europe. These people, who are killing women and children, and burning their habitations, and these poor wretches, who are being burnt in their homes like bees in their hive, are among us. We can almost hear the guns that are doing the butchery; we might communicate by telegraph in a few minutes with the actors. The King of Prussia, or the Emperor of Austria, or the Emperor of the French could in an hour send a telegraph message into the Prussian camp which would explode with greater power than any shell there and blow away the siege itself. This story of death and wounds and rushing away for safety, is not a fictitious tale of woe, to be mourned over in maudlin tones of sympathy; it is an acting atrocity, which might have been stopped.—There are no examples now-a-days of a city being shelled intentionally without full previous notice being given. If some rare instance should happen in America, we apprehend that even General Butler would not undertake to defend so cruel a blunder.—What possible object can the Prussians serve by destroying this city, and the people inside it? The war itself has ceased to have an object. Every shot that is fired is fired in pure waste; every death that occurs is a human sacrifice at a shrine which has not even an idol. There is not only no object in this war, but there is not an excuse for any military operations of the commonest kind. It may be imagined, perhaps, that, even without any defensible military object, if two squadrons of Danish and of Prussian horse were to meet in the open, the instinct of fight, old hatreds, and recent emulations might send them on each other cleaving and piercing. Hot blood and high passion would excuse this in the eyes of Europe, although, after the conflict was over, the residum of all this effervescence would be sad and repulsive enough. But to pour shot and shell into a town for forty-eight hours, to burn houses, and mutilate a wretched little village crowd, all in cold blood, and to do this when there was nothing to be decided by the war, and the whole matter had already been submitted to arbitration — fie upon it — it is an abuse of the privilege of a belligerent to be brutal.—How is it that such a waste of wickedness is committed? The Germans are not naturally a cruel race, loving cruelty for its own sake? Why should they inflict such useless woes upon these poor Danes?]

THE BOMBARDMENT OF SONDERBURG.

The laws of warfare seem to be gradually dissolving into the chaos from which they emerged as European civilization advanced. Humanity is interested in the highest sense in watching the progress of commanders in order that the conditions imposed by Treaties and Congresses may not be set aside by belligerents. There is no excuse to be offered even for the Americans when they burn towns and villages, and make war upon non-combatants. If the Americans have never been parties to the diplomacy of Europe, they had at least the advantage of knowing all that had been decided in one quarter of the world from motives of humanity. Even in Asia we do not pretend to relieve our commanders from the just criticism necessarily following such "untoward events" as the bombardment of Kagosima. All that the Americann have done in their own country, and all that the English and the French have done in Asia and Africa, cannot be compared, in point of deliberate and useless cruelty, to the conduct of the Prussian army at Sonderburg. We desire to speak with caution as to an event which is only yet reported to us by telegram, and of which the full details, and, as we hope, explanations, have yet to arrive. We know enough, however, already to show us that a very foul crime against the human race has been committed by one of the most enlightened nations in Europe. It is stated by the Special Correspondent of the *Times*, that "the Prussians have bombarded Sonderburg forty eight hours without any previous intimation;" that "eighty towns-people, women, and children have been killed or wounded;" that "fifty houses in the centre of the town have been burnt;" and that "fifteen hundred shells have been thrown into the town, which is deserted." It is impossible to conceive any statement more colculated to prove that the Prussians are *both* cruel and cowardly. For a belligerent to shell a town without the previous notice demanded by the laws of war, in order to provide for the removal of non-combatants, is at once so base and brutal as to cause Englishmen at once to withdraw any sympathy from the Prussian cause. The eighty women and children killed and wounded were murdered and mangled without any justification known to the laws of warfare. We do not profess to complain of the burning of fifty houses in the centre of the town, as if war is to be conducted on any principle at all, it must be on one which inflicts as much loss on an enemy as possible. But nothing in the shape of an unnecessary destruction of human life is to be justified, and it is an unnecessary and purposeless waste of human life to kill and wound noncombatants like women and children.

It would be very easy to lash ourselves into a state of frothy indignation as to this transaction, but it is not our wish that the English people should do so. We may, however, ask whether the Government do not conceive that so fearful an outrage does not justify some act of high-handed intervention, not upon any ground of sympathy or any expression of opinion as between Denmark and Germany, but upon the highest ground of humanity. The presence of the British fleet in the Baltic would be the best remonstrance we could offer to the notice of the Prussians, for they are so profoundly philosophical that anything like argument would be wasted on men so theoretically humane and practically inhuman. The Prussian commander has placed himself and his army beyond the pale of civilization, and it is equally our duty and our interest to bring Prussia back to a better state of mind. To make war *upon* women and children is not to be allowed unless Europe is to roll backward to the barbarism of the Middle Ages And yet it seems that we are fast tending that way, for, although we are able to boast of the advances made in a state of peace, when we do get to war we seem to degenerate into acts of cruelty of which Henry the Eighth and Louis the Fourteenth would have been ashamed. In the Austro-Italian war, in 1859, Count Cavour appealed with great effect to the Cabinets of Europe, when the Austrians shot a farmer and his family in cold blood. So now the Danes have a right to call on all good men to denounce as brutal cowards the people dressed in the uniforms of soldiers, who, standing safely behind guns and batteries, coolly shell and destroy the lives and properties of peaceable inhabitants The Prussians do not dare to meet the Danes in open conflict hand to hand, man to man. Prussia is very desirous of proving her prowess in the field, but if she conceives that she inspires Europe with any salutary fear by such transactions as the bombardment of Sonderburg, she may only live long enough as a Power in Europe to find that there is a higher power in the world than gunnery and statecraft. Enlightened men soon come to regard powers capable of cruelty, like Prussia, as only useful for a temporary purpose, which, when fulfilled, may lead us calmly to contemplate their being improved off the face of the earth. It would be better that the Rhenish Provinces should be absorbed by France, and that Prussia should once more be represented by the Duchy of Brandenberg, than that she should continue only to plague her own subjects at home, and play the part of a brigand and a murderer, under cover of warfare, beyond her territory. — *London News of the World, April* 10.

The War in the States.

THE RESOURCES OF THE SOUTH.

[From the New York World.]

The protraction to three years of a war which the administration assured foreign governments would terminate in three months, and which the mass of the northern people expected to see closed within the first year, is not very creditable either to the forecast of our rulers or to the sagacity of our people. We have failed chiefly by bad management; but we have also greatly underrated the resources of a people whom we scorned to conciliate and deemed it easy to subdue. Neither government nor people are yet disabused of this original error; nor newspapers have accordingly teemed, during the winter, with stories of starvation, exhaustion, and discouragement wholly irreconcilable with the colossal magnitude of the military task now immediately before us.

The greatest error into which we of the North have fallen is an egregious under-estimate of the resources of the South. The problem of the war, as it presented itself to our minds, was, whether twenty millions of people could cope successfully with twelve millions. Thus stated, stript of all modifying accessories, it could admit of but one answer. And when it was considered that the twenty millions had a navy, and the twelve millions had none; that the North abounded in great wealthy cities and diversified manufactures, while the South was a sparsely settled agricultural region, dependent on foreign commerce for a market, the illusion under which the northern people labored at the outset of the war may seem natural and pardonable. Why is it that the expectations founded upon such data have not been realized?

The reasons are many, each strong in itself, and in the aggregate overwhelming. We proceed to name some of the most prominent:

First. The management of the war, viewed on its purely strategic side, has been in the main, a tissue of blunders resulting from civilian interference with military plans. This point has been discussed to exhaustion; we merely allude to it in passing.

Second. The political policy of the government has obstructed the success of the war. It has been a policy of exasperation calculated to strengthen the prejudices, inflame the passions, and consolidate the opposition of the South. Secession, originally the work of an active minority, has by this means become the choice and the determination of the whole southern population. This point is also trite, so we leave it with a mere mention.

Third. The geographical obstacles to military success are a source of disappointment which would have been equally encountered had the civil policy and military management of the government been ever so wise and prudent. A region equal in extent to France, Spain, Austria, and Prussia; a contour of surface broken by elevations and mountain passes, affording strong defensive positions; three fourths of the vast region covered with virgin forests which have never felt the axe, and of a nature to prevent accurate reconnoissance;—these are obsacles which afford great advantages to population fighting on the defensive. In point of fact, we have penetrated within the rind of the Confederacy only where we were favored by rivers. Our main successes have been on the Mississippi, the Tennessee, and their tributaries. True, we have saved Kentucky; but a majority of the people of Kentucky have been steadfastly loyal. The same remark applies to West Virginia, which we have detached from a seceding state. But we have gained no considerable area, in which the mass of the population adhered to the rebel cause, except by the advantage of our naval resources have given us on the great rivers. This point, again, is not new, and we hasten on.

Fourth. The South has a powerful augmentation of its resources in its warmer climate. In a great part of the North we consume in the winter what the bounty of the earth bestows on us in the summer. It used to be a favorite statistical trick of the abolitionists to compare the hay crop of the North with the boasted cotton crop of the South, and demonstrate the immense superiority of its money value. It never seemed to occur to these astute statisticians that this enormous hay crop was a tribute levied upon us by the severity of our climate. From the first of November to the first of May, that is, for half the year, our horses, cattle, and sheep, instead of cropping their own living in the pastures, must be fed by the product of our summer industry. Add to this the necessity of more substantial and expensive dwellings to protect us from the rigour of the winter, and better barns and outbuildings for our cattle; add also the great labour expended in the preparation of fuel, and the enforced idleness of our agricultural population during more or less of the winter months, and we may easily see why twelve millions of people have proved relatively so much stronger in resources than, at the outset of the war we supposed them.

Fifth. Another of the chief causes of southern military strength is the institution of slavery. The slave consumes a smaller proportion of the products of his labor than a free laborer, and consequently affords a larger surplus for expenditure on other objects. To the labor of the male slaves we must add that of the female, who have few indoor duties, and of the children, who spend no time in schools, an addition which makes about twice as many productive laborers in a given slave population as are found in a free population of the same number.

These considerations do not, by any means, prove that the South cannot be subdued; for to balance our disadvantages the loyal states possess that great superiority in population and wealth from which, in the outset, we too hastily inferred the easy suppression of the rebellion. But they should convince us that advantages in this contest are not all on ourside; they ought to cure us of the vaunting and vainglorious spirit in which we have been wont to indulge. It is absurd to have wasted so much time in discussions as to what we will do with southern property and southern slaves, while the great task yet remains unaccomplished, of subduing the southern armies. It is madness to waste so much distracting effort on measures which, until the military problem is solved, serve no purpose but to inflame and exasperate the rebel population, and to brace up their resolution to the extreme point of reckless self-sacrifice. The military difficulties are sufficient without rearing up gratuitous moral obstacles, which render conquest arduous, and subsequent government under republican forms impossible.

From the South.—The Richmond *Enquirer* announces "all ready" for the approaching conflict of arms, and says that "what man can do to prepare for the fearful day has been done, and the South, at least, stands ready, like the strong man armed; the good man with his sword loose in the sheath, his harness bright and his heart full strong. People and army feel alike that when the clash comes it will be a struggle for life or death. It adds:

"Numbers have not reduced the rebellious Confederates to loyalty; the blockade has not curbed their defiant treason; starvation has not humbled their proud spirit; and the fourth year of the war opens upon their armies numerous as those of the foe, as well drilled, and in *better morale*, and ready to test the policy of concentration."

The *Enquirer* says it is believed there is more salt in the Confederacy now then ever before at any one time.

A letter from Longstreet's army says the enthusiasm which prevailed among the men at the beginning of the war has broken forth anew, and they are ready for anything that may turn up. Longstreet has given Morgan permission to "go somewhere."

Federal journals report a "brilliant affair in Tennessee." A party of Federal cavalry, commanded by Colonel Stokes, defeated a band of so-called guerillas. The "brilliant" part of the affair is narrated as follows:—After the defeat of Ferguson's command, the guerillas scattered, and were eagerly hunted down by Colonel Stokes' men. Whenever one was taken, he was shot without ceremony. On the capture of one of the gang the next day after the fight, he was told to prepare for death, when he began to plead piteously for his life. He informed the cavalry that if they would not kill him he would conduct them to a house where Ferguson was concealed. They agreed to the proposition, and soon a squad of Colonel Stokes's men had surrounded the house in which the guerilla chief was secreted. A party entered and found Ferguson lying on a bed in one of the rooms, suffering from the wound received the day before. They immediately surrounded the bed, and riddled his body with pistol balls."

The Loss of Plymouth.—Rebel reports and our own go to show that the garrison of Plymouth, not much short of two thousand, twenty-five pieces of artillery, and a vast amount of stores, have fallen into the power of the enemy. Also we have lost a number of gunboats sunk by a rebel ram, which has been the principal cause of the disaster above detailed. Months since it was known that this ram was being completed; but the people of the North depended upon the unceasing vigilance of Secretary Welles, who has spent sixty millions on iron-clads to destroy this vessel and defeat the purposes of its construction. The result proves how reliable our venerable Secretary is.—*New York Herald.*

Every day now brings news of some serious Federal disaster, and nothing is done any where to realize the great hopes which the people of the North were led to entertain. The affair on the Red River would seem to have been far more serious than the Federals are willing to admit. At the very best the expedition has been a miserable failure. The fall of Plymouth is a heavy blow. Meanwhile, President Lincoln, his Ministers and his Generals, seem more devoted to the business of President-making than to the work of subduing the South; more desirous of a party victory than of a national success. Grant is still preparing to do something wonderful; and despite all efforts to keep it down, gold is again going up rapidly.

Cairo despatches of Saturday, state that it is generally conceded that the late battles in Louisiana were not favorable to General Banks, inasmuch as he retreated forty miles, for want of water, while the enemy maintained their ground. The steamers Rob Roy and Mattie Stephens, which arrived at New Orleans from Red River, had to fight their way down through a constant fire from guerillas on the banks.

THE CAMPAIGN IN LOUISIANA.

Three Days' Battles.

FIRST DAY.

Grand Ecore, La., April 11.

We left Natchitoches on the morning of April 6, and marched until nearly dark, when we camped in a pine forest. On the morning of the 7th we started again, and reached the town of Pleasant Hill about five o'clock. This was the first open piece of country that we had found since we left Natchitoches, and that was only a mile square. The cavalry had been in a brisk skirmish during the afternoon. About fifty wounded men were brought in, and a hospital was established.

At two o'clock on the morning of the 8th, the 1st brigade of our division—composed of the 19th Kentucky, 77th Illinois, 23d Wisconsin, and the 67th Indiana, numbering about 1500 men—was started in advance, and by daylight commenced skirmishing with the enemy. We—the Chicago Mercantile battery—started at daybreak with the 2d brigade and the 3d division, numbering about 2500 or 3000 men, marched through dense