NEWS BY THE CANADA

AUSTRALIA.

By the overland mail we have received advices from Melbourne to the 12th of November, and Sydney to the 8th, being one month later advices than those brought by the Marco Polo.

The following is an extract from the *Sydney Empire* of November 8 :—

The general condition of these colonies remains nearly unaltered. The specific condition of a locality is affected by the quality and numbers of its arrivals and departures. The authenticated accounts of Victoria, and particularly of Melbourne, are most distressing, and they are confirmed by all the private testimonies we receive. The Government is destitute of vigour and wisdom. The arrivals are too rapid and too numerous to be suddenly provided with homes and employment. The golden idea has excited cupidity to a pitch so extreme, that there is the utmost insecurity both of person and property. The more respectable diggers and dealers are swamped by the vast crowds of disreputable adventurers who have no stake in the colony,no interest in its welfare, no concern with its final success, nor any moral principle to keep them from the most atrocious outrages. But the general state is best indicated by the universal recklessness of high prices in every branch, showing that neither political economy nor moral discretion at present obtains, in any appreciable degree, in the mass of the people collected in that colony to profit by the gold excitement.

The case, although very far otherwise than as it should be, is still exceedingly different in New South Wales. What it might have been, had we been inundated with so sudden and so reckless a throng as that which has for a time inundated Victoria, it is hard to say. The money spent in drunkenness is enormous. The largest wages create the worst habits. Men were far more steady and prosperous generally at half their present wages than they are now.

The wealth acquired at every handicraft does not so much fill churches and reading-rooms as public houses. Little good in point of morals has yet been derived from the immigration that is going on. The ship generally proves a bad place for moral training, and on arriving, the inflated minds of the immigrants are rarely capable of settling down to the sober duties of industrious and orderly life. Such is certainly the general state of the case, albeit distinguished by honorable exceptions. The gold fever must be allayed, or the number of persons not affected by it must be largely increased,before the ordinary course of industry will offer so much the stronger inducements as they furnish the best means of securing a good moral and religious state of mind.

The religious denominations are not wanting in effort to keep pace with the extension of our gold fields. Various parties are exerting themselves to supply religious instruction at the manifold spots where gold has called together any appreciable number of diggers. The remark they make,however, is, that it is little more than fulfilling a profitless duty. The nature of the employment and the Sunday habits it engenders, together with the reckless and vagrant practice of nearly all gold seekers, render fixedness of religious labours and ordinances impossible. It is scattering truth by the way side, and only a few grains here and there can be expected to germinate. There is a remarkable difference between New South Wales and Victoria in respect to the gold fields, and their direct moral influence. In Victoria, the diggings are confined to two or three singular productive localities, which therefore attract and concentrate an immense concourse. There is a greater facility to condense religious effort at such places, accompanied, however, by the disadvantage that the greater the mass at such places, the more lawless, the more reckless of all religious restraint, the more marked by whatever is vile and villanous. On the contrary, in New South Wales the gold is distributed into so many portions, and so widely scattered, that at no one place a very large population assembles. The difficulty is correspondingly great to supply religious teaching to them all ; and yet there is this advantage, that vice has a less forcible condensation, and, therefore, is not so able to render nugatory the instructions of zealous men.

On the whole, it is entirely to the future we look for the moral advantages of the gold discovery. They assuredly have not yet begun to be realized. It is in no respect owing to these discoveries, that the voluntary support of religion, unaided by the state, is now gaining the good opinion of a very large number of colonists, including some in the highest quarters. No other support of religion than a voluntary one can be regarded as a moral test at all. A recent motion in council for an increase,out of the revenue, to clergymen's salaries was thrown out with contempt, and very just arguments were employed for its rejection. But this only a general indication of the progress of the times.

The great lack at present is that of labour—labour that will be content with ordinary callings, and settle itself on the soil, not for the purpose of digging yellow metal, but of producing human sustenance. Let the English public be told that, for the want of this, we are paying at Sydney £40 a ton for flour, that bread is 9d the 2 lb. loaf, and vegetables are retailed at an extraordinary price. Everything retailed for consumption is looking high, much higher than most persons can afford to pay. High earnings are thus often absorbed in high expenditure. The chief cause of this is want of labour. The advantage gained by the high prices is limited to a comparative few,the disadvantage is broadly felt. It is indispensable to the welfare of this community that a large supply of labour should be soon imported, and that, when imported, it should not be employed in digging gold, but in supplying the necessaries of life and commerce.

The New South Wales gold fields are gaining ground in general opinion. Almost at every place where depreciation has taken place, subsequent experiments have shown that the depreciation has been unfounded. New localities are continually revealing their treasures, and the older ones are showing that they have not been sufficiently explored. They require hands to explore them. It is, however, indispensable that we should have hands for other labour. The reports respecting the state of agriculture and the amount of produce are conflicting, but on the whole wear a gloomy aspect. We fear that the retrogression has been considerable.

It is difficult to speak of our marine interests with satisfaction. The effects of existing laws or of their mal-administration, are much to our discredit and injury. The constantly recurring nuisance of the desertion of seamen has no adequate check in the police courts. But we shall turn to another topic. We have every reason to complain of the miserable tantalising with which the long with-held boon of steam communication has been made to annoy us. If the Australian and Sydney are to be specimens of the accommodation we are to receive for the great and additional cost of our correspondence, it were better that the matter should be revoked at once, and that we should fall back on private ships. The Sydney will be at least 100 days in reaching us, come when she may, and the Australian was 95. Surely these are not the signs of progress. We are looking with great anxiety for the opening of other lines, more especially for that by Panama. It is now demonstrably certain that nothing short of this will do for New South Wales. There is likely to be a great lack of coasting steamers in our colonial traffic ; and this want is the more severely felt on account of the state of our roads, and is another result of the want of labour.

Registered Letters by the Australian Mail.—The extraordinary number of 4300 registered letters passed through the London chief post-office, in St. Martin's-le-Grand, on the day of the arrival of the Australian steamer. Most of these letters, undoubtedly, contained remittances ; and several of them were so weighty, that the postages amounted, in not a few instances, to the sum of 27s. per letter, the single rate being 1s. only. The mail itself was the heaviest yet received in London from that interesting portion of the globe.

The French Navy.—No less than twenty ships of the line are now building in the French dockyards, and for the greater number of them crews have been ordered. In addition to these there are 18 frigates and 15 other vessels of different classes building, which are to be all propelled with screws.

A Clyde Shipbuilder and the French Government.—It is reported that Mr. Napier, the eminent shipbuilder, recently received an order for six first-class steam-frigates, which he found emanated from the French Government. He at once communicated with the Admiralty, leaving it with them to decide the course he should take. He was advised not to execute the order, at the same time being commissioned with an order to build six similar vessels for the British Government.

The Steam Ship Great Britain.—The screw steam-ship Great Britain, Captain Mathews, which sailed from Liverpool with the mails, &c. for the Cape of Good Hope and Australia,reached Melbourne on the 10th of November last, having made the run from the Cape to Melbourne in 24½ days. The whole voyage from Liverpool to Melbourne, including detention occupied 81 days. She was to leave Melbourne on her return voyage the 1st of January.

M. Kossuth is, it is understood, about to pay an early visit to America, where the election of a democratic President has given many of his admirers new influence.

The report of the death of Francisco Madiai, at Florence, has been contradicted.

The large nugget of gold, weighing 28lbs., found in the Australian goldfields, and sent to this country in the Australian steamer, has been sent to the Colonial-office, and will be presented to her Majesty by his Grace the duke of Newcastle, Secretary of State for the Colonies.

An English Company have contracted to supply Berlin with water, erect two fountains, and clean the streets.

The great military activity in Poland increases every day. The number of soldiers in Poland at this moment is not less than 80,000. The cholera has not disappeared.

A negro from the United States, Ipa Aldrige, made his *debut* at Berlin, on the 14th instant, in the character of *Othello*. The house was crowded, and gave him a brilliant reception.

A lucifer-match manufacturer, at Marseilles, M. Roche, at whose house a clandestine printing-press was lately discovered, has been sentenced to six months' imprisonment, and a fine of 10,000f., besides the confiscation of the press.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint the Duchess of Sutherland to be mistress of the robes, in the room of the Duchess of Athole, resigned.

A Telegraph to the Pacific.—A memorial was granted to Congress a few days ago, asking for a grant of 1,500,000 acres of land, to be located along the line of a telegraph, which the memorialists propose to build between St. Louis and San Francisco, by the way of Salt Lake City. The memorialists propose to give to the Government in return for the grant, the right for ever, to transmit, free of charge, over the line, all official despatches and communications, with a preference over all others.

Bread Stuffs.—The number of barrels of Wheat Flour imported into this port from the United States and Canada, during the last year, was 111,317 ; nearly all this quantity was Canadian Flour. As compared with the previous year, the importation of 1852 shows a large increase over that of 1851. The quantity of Wheat imported in 1852, was 180,582 bushels, and in 1852, was 176,697 bushels, which shows a slight increase last year. The quantity of Corn Meal and Rye Flour imported last year, was 1892 barrels, being much less than what was imported in 1851.

It will be seen from the above statement of the importation of bread stuffs, into this port alone, that with all the agricultural resources of our Province, we are still in a great measure dependent upon our neighbours for a supply of the staff of life.—*St. John Courier.*

Nova Scotia Industrial Exhibition.—Meetings in behalf of the above object, numerously attended, have lately been addressed by M. B. Desbrisay, Esq., at Pictou, River John, New Glasgow, Tatamagouche, Wallace,Pugwash, Amherst, Guysboro' and Antigonishe. At several of the meetings, the Ladies by their attendance, shewed the interest they felt in the undertaking. A good working committee was appointed at each meeting. Some of these committees are already vigorously at work, and the rest will meet for business immediately.—Liberal contributions have been promised to the funds, and many handsome and valuable articles will be forwarded to the Exhibition from the Eastern portion of the Province.—*Colonist.*

Banquet to the American Minister.—The Hon. J. R. Ingersol, who succeeds Mr. Abbot Lawrence, as American Minister to the British Court, was entertained at a splendid banquet on Monday evening, given by the American Chamber of Commerce, at the Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool. Sixty gentlemen, including the Earls of Derby and Seaton, sat down to dinner.

More than 300 infants have been christened Eva, in Boston, U. S., after the gentle heroine of "Uncle Tom's Cabin."

Different sounds will travel with different velocity: a call to dinner will run over a ten-acre field in a moment and a half, while a summons to return to work takes from five to eight minuets.

HASZARD'S GAZETTE.

Wednesday, February 16, 1853.

"Be just, and fear not:
Let all the ends thou aim'st at, be thy country's,
Thy God's, and Truth's."—*Shakspeare.*

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor's Speech, at the opening of the present Legislative Session.

We have not, at present, time to analyze the Speech with which His Excellency opened the present Legislative Session. Were it our determination and purpose "*to do nothing but oppose, thwart, and obstruct the legislative measures*" of the present administration, we should, very likely, feel disposed to give an unfavorable colouring to some parts of it,—and might even succeed in the attempt. But we honestly disclaim any such intention ; and, as the Speech distinctly indicates the purpose of the Government to bring forward such measures of relief, as are most loudly and most justly called for—such measures as, we hope, will receive the sympathy and support of all classes and parties in the Colony—we are very glad to be able to say, most sincerely, that we think the speech, as a whole, and the *reforming*, but *conservative*, spirit which pervades it, such as ought to afford —nay, such as will afford, abundant satisfaction to every one in the country, who, regardless of party objects and mere individual hopes of profit and distinction, to accrue to himself, through the overthrow of the present Government, has his truly patriotic heart set upon nothing political, so much as the advancement of the general welfare and common interests of the people at large.

In our politics we are, we believe, both truly liberal and truly conservative. Our object is not to write a certain body of men into, and another set out of, power and office. But we desire to see brought into practical recognition what we esteem to be sound and constitutional principles ; and the men, be they who they may, who, when in power, honestly and energetically endeavor to meet all the social wants of the community and "to keep the machine of public life in decent and 'tenantable' repair," shall always have our support, for the attainment of such objects, to the full extent of our humble abilities.

It is, indeed, true that, amongst the men at present in power and office, there are some,with whose claims to the occupancy of their present position, we are not satisfied ; but this can afford us no just reason for opposing and decrying those measures of the Government, the wisdom and necessity of which we fully recognize. Such opposition is factious in the extreme—most dishonest and hateful.

We have said, we are *conservative*, as well as *liberal*, in our politics. So we are. But our conservatism is not of the stand-still, do-nothing school ; and neither is it such as will ever induce us to advocate the entering on a retrograde and reactionary course. No ; never will our politics identify us with those who would repeal and reverse the concessions which have been made to the people. Our conservatism would embrace peace, order and unanimity ; and yet concede, in time, all the demands of the people which are founded on justice and reason.

That conservatism which claims to recognize a certain number of families, who are to constitute an aristocracy or nobility in the Island, is none of ours. With such a state of things, this Island was cursed long enough ; but, thank God, we hope it is now dead, never to be revived again. When we look back at that state of things, and contemplate it in some of its worst features, our blood boils in our veins, and our indignation rises to such a degree, at the bare recollection of it, that we dare not trust ourself with a free expression of our sentiments concerning its monstrous injustice. The principles which sustained it, and the exclusiveness by which it was surrounded and defended, are, however, at length, "dead, and buried at a cross-road, in a place of infamy." They were worthy of their doom : so let them pass. But, whilst we thus, remorselessly,and *in toto*,censure and condemn the principles and exclusiveness which characterized that happily defunct system, it is due to several of those men who ranked under it, to say that they were not only eminently well qualified to discharge the duties of the offices which they filled, but that they did so with a punctuality, fidelity, and urbanity, which were all alike pleasing to the people, and most deservedly won for them, individually, a very large share of the public confidence and esteem. Such conservatism as we profess, "signifies the recognition of the sovereignty of the people and the legitimate aspirations of the unprivileged and oppressed ;" whilst, at the same time, there is implied in it "the defence of Constitutional Laws, which serve to develope and authenticate the germs of liberty." Our conservatism is the conservation and perfect recognition and establishment of the natural and inalienable rights, privileges, and liberties of the people ; and with no class or school of politicians whose conservatism is less liberal, will we ever consent to act in concert.

We believe the Colony is very far from being unprovided with men of real talent, real virtue, and real patriotism ; and,amongst such, we think there can now be but few, if any, differences of opinion. Such men—as we said,a short time ago—are to be found, both in power and out of power, both amongst the men of the new school and amongst the men of the old School ; and their union—a union which, we trust, will be the result of the next general election—will terminate the reign of party obstructiveness ; and, in manifesting the cheerful acquiescence of all in the full operation of the principles of representative and responsible government, afford a satisfactory proof that no other form of government is fitted to be permanently conducive to the social and moral progress of an intelligent people.

The questions to be discussed by the Legislature, in the present session, will, nevertheless, prove difficult enough, and "excite that amount of party warfare which is conducive to the wholesomeness of the political atmosphere in a free country ; but they are not of a kind to dissever the links which bind together conscientious and intelligent men, in the discharge of public duty." It is true we believe the Opposition will manifest no great alacrity in furthering,by their assistance, the views of the Government ; but we would gladly trust that they are now prepared "by the calmness of their demeanor, the moderation of their language, and the prudence of their conduct, to earn for themselves the respect and gratitude of all the friends of free institutions and of a truly liberal policy."

Blackwood's Magazine, &c.—The recently enacted United States and Colonial *Reduced* Postage Laws afford opportunities for procuring regularly from the United States, *at a small rate of postage*, not only all or any portion of the periodical *Magazines* and *Reviews* of the United States, but also reprints of all the standard British periodicals of the same class, which last are regularly issued, in a correct and beautiful style of typography, by the eminent publishers, Leonard Scott & Co., 79, Fulton-street, New York. From their establishment, we have to acknowledge the receipt of the last number of *Blackwood*. Its contents are of a very interesting character, particularly an article on *Slavery and the Slave Power in the United States of America*, a *Review of the Life and Writings of the late Thomas Moore*, and a political article on the *Defeat of the late Tory Administration.*

Address of the Assembly in Answer to His Excellency's Speech.—The Address, as usual is, with one exception, a mere echo to the speech ; we, therefore, think it needless to publish it. The exception consists in the Assembly's dissent from His Excellency's views concerning the scale of official salaries. His Excellency thinks that scale too low ; but the Assembly reply—"Though the salaries of the public servants may appear small, in comparison with the amounts paid to officers performing similar services in the other Dependencies of the Crown, yet we do not conceive that the circumstances of the Colony, with a due regard to economy, warrant any increase of those salaries."

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Friday, Feb. 11.

Michael Campion, Esq., elected to represent the First District of King's County, in the room of Donald Beaton, Esq., took the oaths and his seat.

The Hon. Mr. Whelan, from the Committee on Expiring Laws, reported—

That the Act, 10 Vic., cap. 9, "for the encouragement of Education," will expire on the 3d April next; or, if the Act, 15 Vic., cap. 13, being the Free Education Act, shall go into operation before that day, then so soon as the Act, 15 Vic., cap. 3, shall go into operation; and that the Acts "for raising a Revenue" will severally expire on the 1st May.

The draft of an Address, in answer to His Excellency the Lieut. Governor's Speech to both Houses, at the opening of the present Session, was presented to the House by Mr. Clark, and ordered to be committed to a Committee of the whole House to-morrow.—Adjourned.

Saturday, Feb. 12.

Mr. Speaker laid before the House the Impost and Light Duty Accounts for the District of Colville Bay, for the past year. Also, an Account of the Moneys expended under the superintendence of the Commissioners for Prison Discipline for Queen's County, during the past year.—The former were referred to the Committee appointed to examine and report on the Public Accounts, and the latter laid on the table.

ADDRESS IN ANSWER TO THE LIEUT. GOVERNOR'S SPEECH.

The House resolved itself into a Committee of the whole, to take into consideration the draft Address reported from the Special Committee, replying to the Speech of His Excellency the Lieut. Governor, to both Houses, at the opening of the present Session—Mr. Yeo in the Chair.

On the 3d paragraph, in reply to His Excellency's remarks on the One-ninth Bill, passed in the year 1851, but which has not yet received Her Majesty's confirmation, coupled with the subject of a uniform Currency for the British North American Provinces, being read—

Mr. Mooney said, he did not fully agree with what was stated by His Excellency with reference to the One-ninth Bill. He was not willing to give His Excellency credit for the course he had pursued with reference to that matter; but he wished to ask the members of the Government, if any answer had been received to the Address of last Session, praying that instructions might be transmitted to the Lieut. Governor, signifying Her Majesty's willingness to sanction a Bill to compel the registration of the original Grants or Patents of Lots or Townships of Land in this Island. Judging from the tenor of the Royal Instructions, he considered the One-ninth Bill already virtually dead—two years having nearly elapsed since it was passed by the Legislature of this Island.

Mr. Haviland deemed the subject under discussion an important one; he therefore moved that absent members be sent for.

The Hon. Mr. Coles said, the paragraph just read had reference to the One-ninth Bill, and there was surely no connexion between that measure and the Address of last Session, alluded to by the hon. member (Mr. Mooney). A despatch had been received from Sir J. Pakington, however, having reference to that Address, which would be sent down to the House so soon as the Address in answer to His Excellency's speech had been delivered.

Mr. Montgomery remarked, that all the hon. member (Mr. Mooney) had asked for was, whether any answer had been received to that Address.

Mr. Mooney said, that was all he had asked for. In his opinion, at the expiration of two years the One-ninth Bill would be actually dead.

Hon. Mr. Coles said, he had no doubt His Excellency would leave it to the discretion of the House to deal with that measure as they might think proper.

Hon. the Treasurer said, it could not be considered a fault of His Excellency, or the members of his Government, if no answer had been received on the subject of the One-ninth Bill. Understanding the state of things at home, His Excellency had not deemed it prudent to press the matter upon the attention of Her Majesty's Government; but now that matters were in a more settled state there, he was, he had no doubt, fully prepared to follow up the views of the House. His object would be, to renew the application; but as the House is now in Session, His Excellency suggests whether it would not be better for them to renew the application. In the event of a positive refusal, the Royal Instructions would then come into operation.

Mr. Mooney did not wish to laud His Excellency for the course he had pursued.

Mr. Speaker thought the Lieut. Governor had done as much as could be expected of him under all the circumstances.

Hon. Mr. Coles.—His Excellency merely gives us his reasons for not pressing the measure upon the attention of the Home Government at what he deemed an unseasonable juncture.

Mr. Mooney thought there was no necessity to address His Excellency, praying that he would be pleased to do what he had already expressed his willingness to do. "It shall be my duty to endeavour to afford proof to Her Majesty's Government, of the necessity for legislation on the principle which I have enunciated, and which induced me to give my assent to the Bill in question." These are his own words, as contained in his speech on opening the last session of the Legislature,—there could, therefore, be no necessity for this House undertaking to do what he was so willing to undertake himself.

Hon. Mr. Palmer, who had entered during the debate, said he did not expect, on entering the House, to find the Address in answer to His Excellency's speech under discussion, whilst there were so many empty benches, and no regular reporter at the desk. He thought hon. members should have waited till there was a full House, or at least until the afternoon, when the regular reporter would be in his place, before proceeding with a matter of this importance. He had however, in rising, no particular matter in view. He thought there was nothing particularly objectionable in the paragraph just read. It was very ingeniously calculated to answer the purpose intended. He long since knew what would be the fate of the One-ninth Bill; and he apprehended the object of putting the statement into His Excellency's mouth contained in the speech, with reference to that matter,was to keep the subject as much alive as possible—would afford political stock for six months to come. It would be very unwise in the Government to lead people to believe that the question was settled. They had done their duty most faithfully in putting the matter into His Excellency's speech. He could, therefore, find no fault with him for having done so, and was quite disposed to let it pass without further comment.

Hon. Mr. Coles remarked, that, had it not been for the hon. member (Mr. Palmer) and his brother Proprietors, the One-ninth Bill would have received the Royal Assent long ago. It was very well in that hon. gentleman's estimation, to keep up some little agitation. But he (Mr. Coles) was persuaded that the majority of that House did not wish to keep up agitation. The Government here cannot compel the Home Government to pass the One-ninth or any other Bill. But the influence of the proprietors at the Colonial Office was evidently much shaken. The Free Education and Small Debt Bills were sufficient proof of this. The Colonial Office at home and the Ministers of the day were, more than ever, inclined to allow the Colonies to pass such Bills as they might think necessary for the welfare of the Inhabitants. The loss of this one Bill did not, he thought, afford much cause for complaint. Canada was a powerful and influential Colony; but their Clergy Reserve Bill had been refused the Royal Assent. Nova Scotia and New Brunswick had also passed Bills which had been treated in a similar manner. We ought not, therefore, to grieve over our One-ninth Bill. It should also be remembered, that in former years it was next to impossible to get any Bill passed at home that bore in any shape upon proprietors' interests; and it was unfortunate that, in this Colony, scarcely any Bill could be passed that did not, in some way or other, clash with those interests.

Mr. Longworth thought the address went rather too far. It tells His Excellency the reason why the Bill in question had not been assented to, and it goes so far as to thank him for doing what he had not done. He should therefore certainly dissent from the passage in the Address to which he alluded. It had been asserted, that everything that goes home must be passed; but here is one case that directly contradicts this statement.

Hon. Mr. Coles said that the hon. member (Mr. Longworth), was wrong in thinking that this House had given any reasons why the One-ninth Bill should be assented to. There had been two or three changes of Ministry and a general Election since the Bill had gone home—which was the reason why His Excellency had not fulfilled his promise.

Hon. Mr. Whelan said the address did not thank His Excellency for doing what he had not done. It merely concurs in the propriety of the course he had persued.

Hon. the Treasurer said, the matter resolved itself into this: Did the House believe His Excellency was sincere? and, if so, had he exercised a just discretion? He believed he was, and that he had exercised a sound and wise discretion in this matter. The Lieut. Governor has had sufficient experience to know that at such times as those referred to by His Excellency, the public business is in a great measure transferred to the subordinate officers—consequently a great deal of business is conducted by such subordinates as a mere matter of routine. With the view of preventing that mode of disposing of this question, His Excellency had acted in the way he had done. He (Mr. Pope) believed His Excellency had faithfully performed, as far as circumstances would permit, the promises he had made. Earl Grey, in his Despatch of the 6th Nov., 1851, says, "I am not aware of any good reason for supposing that landlords will, in future, show less indulgence than they have hitherto done." If, however, it can be shewn that proprietors are now distraining for rent, the present Colonial Minister would find that Earl Grey was mistaken, and would find in this circumstance a strong argument in favor of the passage of the Law in question. If the hon. member for Charlottetown (Mr. Longworth) could not discover a greater disposition than formerly, on the part of the Ministry at home, to allow the Colonists to manage their own affairs, he must be blind indeed. Had this not been the case, Sir W. Molesworth, now a member of Her Majesty's Government, would not have been called to fill that important position. We have, therefore, every reason to believe, that the postponement of this question for a season, will be the means of our ultimately getting a just and equitable Law passed by the Home Government.—The Hon. the Treasurer then animadverted, in pretty severe terms, upon the conduct of a portion of the Island Press with reference to this measure, and concluded by observing, that he thought this Island had much reason to congratulate itself on its now possessing a Governor who is fully disposed to carry out a measure of this nature, and that the House ought to feel deeply obliged to His Excellency for the course he had hitherto pursued with reference thereto.

Mr. Davies thought the reason why the Governor had not succeeded in carrying out this measure was, because it was not based upon justice and equity. As it came down amended from the Council, it was a partial measure,—one portion of the rents reserved in sterling being made payable by the addition of one-ninth, and the other by the addition of one-half, to the sterling amount of such Rents.

Mr. Haviland perfectly agreed with the hon. member for Queen's County (Mr. Davies), with respect to the partiality and injustice of the One-ninth Bill. It offered a premium to grinding and oppressive landlords, who would be fully borne out in oppressing their tenantry by the provisions of the Act in question.

Hon. Mr. Coles thought the hon. members who had just spoken had given very good reasons for thanking His Excellency for the course he had pursued. The Act was, however, when before the House, approved of by hon. members nearly unanimously. [Cries of "No—it was amended in the Council," from the opposition.] If a man had taken a farm, and agreed to pay £7 10s. per annum for it, he thought the proprietor should not be compelled to take less than that sum; but where the tenant had been in the habit of paying but £5 currency, with the addition of One-ninth thereto, he thought it would be equally unjust to allow the landlord to exact £7 10s., or to compel the tenant to pay in sterling money. But the principles of the Bill were not then before the House. The question now before them was, Had His Excellency acted wisely, or otherwise, in the course he had pursued? Two or three changes of Ministry, and a dissolution of Parliament, had recently taken place at home; and now that matters there were in a more settled state, His Excellency hoped to be able to turn their attention to this subject. As to the observations of the hon. member for Charlottetown (Mr. Palmer), with reference to the thinness of the attendance of members, he thought that the number of absentees was about equal on both sides of the House; and as to the absence of the regular Reporter from the desk, that was his look out. There was, however, he perceived, quite as efficient a Reporter in the box at that moment, as the one to whom the hon. gentleman had alluded.

Mr. Longworth thought that the paragraph under discussion was equivalent to a Vote of Thanks to the Government for all that they had done for the last twelve months. He reminded the hon. the Treasurer, that he had stated, on a former occasion, that were this measure refused the Royal Assent, he, for one, would immediately resign his office. [The Treasurer: "I would do so now."] Reasons were given by the Assembly last Session why this measure should be passed by the Home Government, and the clause of the Address now under discussion adds—"Whilst this opinion is impressed upon our minds, we fully appreciate the course adopted by your Excellency in reference to the Bill, and concur in the propriety of your abstaining to communicate with Her Majesty's Colonial Minister on the subject," &c. But, after all that had been said, he (Mr. Longworth) was at a loss to conceive why the evidence on this subject had not been sent home, as promised by His Excellency last year.

Mr. Davies said it would be remembered that he supported the Bill in its original shape; but when it came down from the Council amended, he opposed it,—as he considered their amendments unjust and oppressive.

Mr. Montgomery thought that this was the reason why the Home Government had not passed the Bill. The amendments made by the Council certainly went to give a premium to exacting proprietors, at the same time not allowing their more honest fel-