second £800; and the third, £1200. These sums looked large; but it was to be remembered that, as the amount of the bounties increased, there was a proportional increase in the revenue, consequent upon the legislative encouragement given to the fisheries. It might be contrary to the now generally received principles of political economy, to attempt to force or foster any trade, by means of bounties; but, peculiarly circumstanced as the people of this Colony were, and much as encouragement was needed to develope its resources, and to call into action the latent energies of its people, and considering that the inducement to engage in the Fisheries, which was held out by the Act passed in 1851, had certainly been productive of public good, through the spirit of private enterprise which it had called into action, he was of opinion that it would be advisable to renew the Act for three years more. He was not, however, prepared to say that it would be wise to continue the full amount of the tonnage bounty for that time. On the contrary, he thought it would be better, if the Act were continued, to substitute a sliding scale for the fixed bounty, so that it might gradually diminish, and cease altogether when the Act should expire. The great public benefits which had already arisen, and which, to a still greater extent, would, in future, arise, from the encouragement wisely given, by the Assembly, to Agriculture, was evident to all; and, in his opinion, for the still better securing of general prosperity to the Colony, a similar liberal policy should be pursued with respect to the Fisheries. Than the fishing grounds of Prince Edward Island, no better were to be found in the world. But of what benefit could they be to the people, if the action of the Assembly, with respect to them, should resemble that of the dog in the manger? If the Americans were to be driven from them, our own people ought to receive every needful encouragement, from the Legislature, to benefit, by them, to the utmost. A larger amount of capital was requisite for the carrying on of ship-building, than for the prosecution of the fisheries; but the latter was likely to be the more lasting business of the two; and, therefore, it behoved the Government, by every means in their power, to seek its advancement.

Mr. Yeo.—He would go for the tonnage bounty as before, provided the House would also agree to give a premium on the catch of fish; for the greater part of fish cured in this Colony was caught in boats; and he thought it was unjust to give a tonnage bounty on vessels engaged in the fisheries, whilst no similar encouragement was given to the men who, with more labour and greater risk to their lives, prosecuted the trade in open boats. To deny the last class of fishermen a premium, whilst a bounty was given to the former, was certainly very unfair. About Tignish and the North Cape, many persons had expended much property and labour in the fitting out of boats in a proper manner for shore fishing. In that quarter, there was now a great deal of business done; and, by those carrying it on, a great deal of money was paid, to the increase of the revenue, on goods landed, for them, in Charlottetown. Unless the House, therefore, should agree to grant a premium on the catch of fish, he would vote against the bounties altogether. He would have all engaged in the fishing trade put upon the same footing, and no unfair distinction made between those who prosecuted it in vessels, and those who carried it on in boats.

Mr. Clark.—The Hon. the Colonial Secretary had said, that, as the amount of bounties had increased, there had been a proportionate increase in the revenue, in consequence of the encouragement given, by the Legislature, to the fisheries. That might be the case; but, even if it were, he (Mr. C.) could not see that any general or public benefit had arisen from it. It was well known that vessel-fishing had not been beneficial, either to those who had been engaged in it, or to the country. The men engaged on board such vessels had not even earned as much as paid for their victuals; whilst, in many instances, their absence, in harvest, from the farms on which they should have been employed, had occasioned further loss and unnecessary outlay in wages. If a business would not pay of itself, it was not right to tax the country for its prosecution. It was nonsense to talk of encouraging the fisheries by tonnage-bounty on vessels engaged in it. The only benefit derived from fishing, by the people of this Colony, was through the activity and enterprise of those who carried it on in open boats; and, although he would not vote for a tonnage-bounty on fishing-vessels, he would be very willing to vote for a premium on the catch of mackerel; for it was his opinion that, if mackerel fishing were encouraged here, as it is by the Americans, it would prove a source of wealth to the Colony.

Mr. Wightman.—Our fishermen were quite as much entitled to legislative encouragement as our farmers. Agriculture and the fisheries were our chief dependence; and it was the duty of the Legislature to foster and encourage both. It was true that our fishing-vessels were not very successful upon our own shores; but, with the returns made by such of them as had been sent to the Labrador coast, there had been good reason to be well satisfied. The fish taken by them had been sold at from 12s. to 15s. a quintal, and the herring at 20s. a barrel; and, in that shape and at that rate, large remittances had been made from the Island, which was certainly much better than to have remitted in cash, which would have been the case, had no legislative encouragement been given to the prosecution of the fisheries. In every point of view, our fisheries were entitled to legislative protection and encouragement. They were a nursery for the productive activity and enterprise of many of our young men; and they were, he believed, destined to be a lasting source of wealth to the country.

Mr. Davies.—There was not now the same necessity for granting bounties for the encouragement of our fisheries, as once existed. It was very well known that the success of those who were the first to embark in any new enterprise, was generally much less than that of those who did not engage in it until it had been fairly established, and they could be benefited by the experience of those who had preceded them in the business. The intention of the Legislature, in first granting premiums to, and tonnage-bounty on, fishing-vessels, was to induce individuals to prosecute the fisheries, in vessels properly manned and fitted out for the purpose, under the impression that, if so prosecuted, it would be found that the business was, of itself, a remunerating one: and, as had been anticipated, after a fair trial of three years, the returns had proved fishing to be a paying business. It was now evident that, when properly prosecuted, it would fairly compensate all engaged in it; and, therefore, there was no longer any necessity to encourage it by legislative bounties. It was generally agreed elsewhere that the sustaining of any branch of business by bounties, was bad policy; and that, if a trade would not pay without such aids, the wisest course was to abandon it altogether. He hoped the same opinion would prevail in the Assembly; but he at least thought it would be right for them to say, Experience has shown that, when our fisheries are properly prosecuted, they are sufficiently remunerative without the aid of bounties, and we shall now, therefore, leave those who are engaged in them to stand or fall by their own industry. I oppose the renewal of the Bounty Act in any shape.

Hon. Mr Macaulay. The subject of bounties had occupied the attention of the most eminent statesmen and political economists; and the practice of granting them had, in general, been condemned. Notwithstanding the general condemnation of the practice, it was yet, however, firmly and systematically adhered to by the French, who, in the immediate neighbourhood oft his Island, were still, as they had long been,—by means of the bounties granted to such of their countrymen as were engaged in the fisheries,—raising up crews of active, hardy, courageous seamen, to man their navy. The Americans also, with a like intention, gave large bounties to their fishermen; and sent their young sailors, in that capacity, into our troubled waters, that, from being habituated to their dangers, they might be the better prepared to fight the battles of their country on the bosom of the deep. The people of this Colony could not, however, have any such motive for the granting of bounties to their fishermen; and the propriety of continuing them might now admit of question. Still, whilst admitting that, he could not but look with admiration upon the proposal submitted by the Hon. the Colonial Secretary; for they who were, last year, engaged in prosecuting the fisheries, under the regulations of the Bounty Act, were, no doubt, intending to do the same, under similar regulations and with like encouragement, this year; and it would amount almost to a species of direct injustice, on the part of the Assembly, to disappoint them, by refusing to continue the Bounty Act. Thence the justice and wisdom of the proposal of the Hon. the Colonial Secretary were apparent. The continuing of the Act for three years longer, and the gradual reduction of the bounty, by means of a sliding scale, and allowing it to cease altogether when the Act should expire, would, undoubtedly, be the fairest and wisest way of abolishing the practice.

Mr. Mooney maintained that the Legislature had no right to take £1143—the amount of the tonnage-bounty last year—from the people, and give it to a few individuals who were willing to embark in the fisheries. Whilst the farmer was paying the merchants and others owning fishing vessels, to export their fish, all he could get for himself were a few miserable gasperaux or smelts. If the fishing business could not support itself, he would say let it fall, "let every herring hang by its own tail." He would oppose the renewal of the Bounty Act, because he believed the granting of bounties, how much soever they might have benefited a few, had been injurious to his constituents, and not only to them, but to the people in general, and to the poor especially. He agreed with Mr. Yeo in what he had said about those who prosecuted shore-fishing in open boats. They were certainly much better entitled to legislative premiums for their encouragement, than they to whom tonnage-bounty had been extended; and, were he to consent to the continuance of bounties for the encouragement of the fisheries, it would only be with a view to the benefit of the poor, hardy, and daring men who prosecuted them in open boats upon our shores.

Hon Mr. Lord.—As he had never been engaged in the fishing business, he could not speak concerning it, from his own experience. He was, however, rather in favor of bounties; for they had certainly been the means of extending the trade. Since the passing of the Bounty Act in 1851, it had been doubled; and the increase had, undoubtedly, been occasioned by the impetus given by the bounties. It was all nonsense to say that it had been attended by no benefit to the farmer. Who supplied the provisions required by the fishing-vessels? They were not inported: but bought from the farmer. And the men employed on board the fishing-vessels were not foreigners, but the farmers' sons. It was all well enough for such hon. members as were opposed to the granting of bounties, to say that there was plenty of employment to be found ashore. At present such was happily the case; but it was not so when the Bounty Act passed in 1851. Should the bounty be hastily and at once withdrawn, the country would cease to place confidence in the Assembly. Many vessels were being fitted out for the approaching fishing season, by individuals fully expecting a renewal of the Bounty Act; and, if it should not be renewed, they and all dependent upon the business would have good reason to be dissatisfied with the determination of the House. Let them look for examples to other countries. What was done in Newfoundland for the encouragement of the fisheries? They did not indeed allow bounties; but they did what was equivalent to the granting of bounties:—they allowed all articles, imported for the prosecution of the fisheries, to be admitted duty free. And, again if they looked to the United States, they would find that there the bounties given were nearly equal to the value of the fish. It was certainly the duty of the Assembly to continue the Bounty Act, and, if they did not give the full amount of bounty at first allowed, to give at least a part. They were imperatively called upon to do it; for it would not only benefit those directly employed in the fisheries, but, through them, the farmers also, and, in fact, the whole Colony. As to boat-fishing, it would also, he thought, be well, if the revenue would afford it, to grant a small premium on the catch.

Mr. Clark.—The trade had certainly not paid those who had embarked in it, although, in the shape of bounties, the country had paid them 4s. 7½d. for every quintal they had brought into the Island.

Hon. Mr. Lord.—It was true that it was not a paying trade; and, for that reason, it was necessary to encourage it by bounties.

Mr. Fraser.—On the same principle, all who were engaged in unprofitable trades, whatever their nature, might look for, and were entitled to, the aid of bounties. When the last Act for the encouragement of the fisheries, by means of bounties, was passed, it was understood that it would be the last Act of the kind; and, if any regard were due to that understanding, it was not quite right to propose a renewal of it. The trade had been supported by legislative aid quite long enough—ever since 1833. It could now support itself; and the prosecution of it ought to be left entirely to the industry, skill, and enterprise of those engaged in it.

Mr. Davies.—It had been well shewn, by Mr. Macaulay, that the object of other countries which gave bounties to their fishermen, was not merely the encouraging of the fishing trade, but the rearing of brave and hardy seamen for their navies; and that there was no such motive to influence the Legislature of this Colony to pursue a similar course. The fact was that if the trade was found to pay, it would be prosecuted; and, if not, it would be abandoned: and so they should leave it.

Hon. the Colonial Secretary then submitted a Resolution, to the effect, "That the *Act for the encouragement of the Cod and Mackerel Fisheries*, be amended by the substitution of a sliding scale of Bounties, instead of the fixed Bounties allowed by the expiring Act: and that it be continued for three years only."

Hon. Mr. Conroy wished distinctly to record his vote against a renewal of the Bounty Act. He could not see why the agriculturists should be taxed for the support of the fishermen on the coast. The granting of bounties for the encouragement of the fisheries, as it was said to be, was a mere frittering away of the revenue. It was almost in vain to look for a single disinterested man, in the country, to raise his voice or his hand in favor of the bounty policy. It had given birth to a system of trickery and fraud; and they who had been appointed, by the late Government, to act as inspectors under the Bounty Act, had too often, there was reason to believe, been abettors of the trickery and fraud which had been practised under it. He wished to record his vote against the proposal for the renewal of the Bounty Act in the very strongest language. He was opposed to it as it had been the means of sending afloat for a time, a set of idle, dissolute vagabonds, who, when they came ashore, spent what they had obtained by it in drunken debauchery. It would be much better to give to paupers, what would be required for bounties if the Act were renewed; for, much as had justly been said against the encouragement of pauperism by the Assembly, positive pauperism was certainly a less evil in a country than the encouragement of such a set of lazy, debauched vagabonds, by means of tonnage-bounties to fishing vessels. The bounty system might, perhaps, suit some who made advances to those who were directly engaged in the fisheries; but such individuals, he believed, often duped themselves. The prosecutors of a fishing voyage often made nothing of it, and the merchant went to the wall besides.

Hon. Mr. Lord.—He supposed his hon. and learned colleague had intended, by some of his remarks, to have a shot at him, both as a member of the late Government, and as a supposed supplier of some who had fitted out vessels for the prosecution of fishing voyages. If so, however, he must have been doting or worse: for he (Hon. Mr. Lord) had not advanced goods to the value of £1 to any vessel that was fitted out for such a purpose. And, as to his observations, reflecting both upon the character of the late Government and of those whom they had appointed inspectors under the Bounty Act, he could tell him that the Government selected, for such appointments, none but men of standing and respectability; and he defied him to establish a charge of fraud or trickery against any of them. Such illiberal observations had been altogether uncalled for, and they were unparliamentary too. It was easy to make broad assertions, but it was sometimes very difficult to adduce any evidence in support of them; and he called upon his hon. and learned colleague to point out one instance if he could, of such disgraceful and dishonest practices as he had broadly preferred against inspectors and others.

Hon. Mr. Conroy.—The only answer he felt disposed to give, was to remind the hon. gentleman (Mr. Lord) that, at the last supper of our Lord with his disciples, after he had told them that one of them should betray him, Judas, said, as well as the rest, "Lord, is it I?"

(*To be continued.*)

SUMMARY.

FREE EDUCATION ACT.

On motion of Mr. Wightman it was—

Resolved, That a Special Committee be appointed to enquire into the operation of the Free Education Act, with a view to amend the same, and to report thereon to the House, with power to send for persons, papers and records.

Ordered, That Mr. Wightman, Hon. the Attorney General, Hon. Mr. Haviland, Mr. Fraser, Mr. Beer, Mr. Clark, and Mr. Davies do compose the said Committee.

PETITIONS.

Four Petitions were then presented to the House, and the same were severally received and read. Two of these were on the subject of Education;—one of which, from divers Inhabitants of Central St. Eleanor's, setting forth that they have not succeeded in obtaining the establishment of a School under the present system, and praying for an alteration of the law now in force for the encouragement of Education, was presented by the Hon. Mr. Haviland: and the other, from the Trustees of St. Dunstan's School, Charlottetown, by the Hon. the Attorney General.—They were both referred to the above Committee. The other two,—one of them, presented by the Hon, Mr. Lord, from Gallaton LeBlanc, Master Mariner, Arichat, Nova Scotia, praying compensation for loss sustained in being detained, as a Crown witness, during the Spring Term of the Supreme Court, in Charlottetown, in the year 1851; and the other, by the Hon. Mr. Whelan, from Peter McCallum, Esq., of St. Peter's, praying for the Tonnage Bounty under the Act for the encouragement of the Cod and Mackerel Fisheries. It was ordered, that these two be laid upon the Table.

THE ONE-NINTH BILL.

The Hon. the Attorney General introduced a Bill, to be intituled "An Act relating to certain Lease and Monetary Obligations, entered into before the passing of the Currency Act." In doing so, the hon. and learned gentleman stated, that the Bill was introduced in accordance with the Message of His Excellency, relative to the One-Ninth Bill; and that it was merely a transcript of the original Bill, with the exception of an amendment to protect Landlords against any further depreciation of the Currency. The Bill was read for the first time, and ordered to be read a second time on Monday, the 20th instant.

SUPPLY.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary gave notice that he would, on Monday next, move that a Supply be granted to Her Majesty.

R. B. Irving, Reporter.

HASZARD'S GAZETTE.

Tuesday, March 21, 1854.

We are no friend to bounties, and repudiate class legislation under any form, however specious. At the same time, we would willlingly encourage ingenuity and enterprise. We fully concur in the propriety of giving to genius the exclusive right, for a limited period, to make and vend those articles which are the product of its own invention; and in like manner, we would make the way smooth for the introduction of those useful articles of machinery which facilitate, abridge, or dispense with the exercise of human labor. If the man who could make two blades of corn grow where only one grew before, is to be considered a benefactor to his country, surely he who imports a machine that will enable one man to do the work of ten, is not less so. We would have added to the list of "articles imported free of duty," all labor-saving machines made of metal, and this for various reasons. In the first place, steam boilers, gas pipes, retorts, and all that kind of gear, may fairly be considered as sunken capital, which cannot be expected to yield any great profit for a considerable length of time,—the reverse of goods imported for sale, upon which the owners are enabled, by incorporating the duty with the price, to reimburse themselves in a year or two at furthest. Not so with machinery. He who ventures for the first time to substitute steam for horse or water power, must lay his account in having to wait a longer or shorter time, according to the magnitude of his undertaking, before the profits arising therefrom will compensate him for the outlay of his capital, and the interest continually accruing. In the next place, a duty upon labor-saving machinery operates as a positive discouragement to their importation. In a young country, like this, where capital is scarce, the rate of interest is consequently high; and a duty of five per cent. is just so much added to the original cost of the article, and renders it by so much the more difficult to be procured. It is to the interest of the Island that domestic manufactures should be encouraged; for whatever tends to diminish the cost of the production of manufactured articles, is a positive increase to the wealth of the community, in the proportion that the article is made cheaper to its inhabitants. A man, therefore, who imports machinery, contributes to this wealth, and is, therefore, deserving of encouragement. Moreover, in a country as yet but partially inhabited, and whose population are not the richest in the world, nothing that would tend to induce enterprising men with capital to settle amongst us should be lost sight of. Now, if it were well known that machinery could be imported duty free into Prince Edward Island, there is no telling what beneficial consequences might not result from it. We are just beginning to feel the advantages of machine instead of manual labour, and we trust every thing will be done by the present House of Assembly, to add to the impetus already given, by removing every obstacle to its importation and use. We are perfectly satisfied that in the course of a little while the general revenue would be more than proportionably augmented by the present partial sacrifice, for whatever tends to raise the Island to a higher position will likewise tend to augment and develope its resources, increase its trade and commerce, and open up new channels for the energy, industry and skill of its inhabitants—the best, the truest, and most reliable sources for increase of wealth, and consequently of income, whether public or private.

There is an old saying, that losers have leave to speak, and the Editor of the *Examiner* seems determined to avail himself of the privilege. There is one thing, however, common to every species of reiteration, whether it proceed from the clack of a mill, the barking of an ill-natured cur, or the incessant vituperations of a petulant Editor, viz., that it loses its effect from its very frequency; and parties who are compelled to bear the infliction soon cease to feel it as an annoyance, however galling it might have been at first.

The respective Editors of the *Examiner* and *Advertiser* have kept up such a monotonous series of abuse of their adversaries, that we mind it no more than a miller does the clack of his mill. Should any thing, however, out of the common way, arrest our attention, we shall not fail—if we think it worthy—to give to it a fitting reply. The articles in the *Examiner* of the 13th inst. are evidently the outpourings of the superabundant bile of a disappointed partizan, and as such, though they may claim our pity, call for no further remark.

ART OF READING.

To the Editor of Haszard's Gazette.

Dear Sir,—In my present letter I shall offer a few remarks, on what I conceive to be, the best mode of communicating to children the meaning of words and sentences. As soon as children are able to read dissyllabic and trissyllabic words and sentences, they should be encouraged to use a dictionary. But it is a grand mistake to suppose, that the definitions of words as given in a dictionary, can always be comprehended by a child; for many of the definitions are more difficult to be understood by a pupil, than the words themselves. Besides this, they are often so vague, and even sometimes seemingly opposite, that the learner is rather bewildered than instrcted. Out of a thousand cases of a similiar kind, which ha come under my own experience, I shall submit one example. The 24th Lesson in the Third Book on "The Dog", contains the following sentence.—"He" (the dog) "is our friend both in prosperity and adversity, diligent in serving his master, and only a friend to his friends, he is indifferent to every one else." In examining the class on the meaning of this sentence, I asked "What is it that is said here to be indifferent to every one else, except to its friend." The head pupil readily answered. "The dog." I then asked the next in the class. "What is signified by being *indifferent* to every one else i. e. what is the meaning of the word *indifferent*?" The pupil addressed, not having given an instantaneous answer, a child, whom for convenience I shall call A. and who stood near the foot of the class, shouted "Indifferent means *neutral*." The others, misapprehending the word *neutral* for *neuter*, and being often drilled in the genders of nouns and pronouns, exclaimed in derision, "*Neuter! Neuter!!* Please, sir, dog is masculine." Miss A. hung down her head upon hearing this, imagining that she committed a blunder; for she too, was familiar with the genders of nouns. Having told her, however, that she answered well, she regained her courage and said, "Please, sir, *Neutral* is the meaning in the dictionary." "Yes," said I; "but I fear the dictionary has not enabled you thoroughly to understand the word as it is used in this sentence,—was there no other word of explanation given in the dictionary?" "Yes;" she answered, "but I don't remember it." I then asked, "Can any one in the class give a better explanation of the word *indifferent*?" "Yes, *I* can" answered several voices. One said it meant, *heedless*; another *careless*; a third, *regardless*; a fourth, *not caring for*; a fifth, *not liking or disliking*; a sixth, *unconcerned about*. I now perceived, that at last some in the class, understood the word according to the meaning it was intended to convey in the sentence. I then intimated that, *not caring for*, was about as correct an explanation as could be given, but that in some other sentences it could be used to bear quite a different signification, and desired them to try and form some such sentences. One said that "Miss A. gave an *indifferent* explanation of the word *indifferent*;" and upon being asked its meaning in this last sentence, answered, "Deficient." Another said that her "Pa bought an *indifferent*;" piece of cotton at an auction, which meant that it was of poor quality." A third said he "saw a very *indifferent* looking horse this morning." This being ended, a some what similar conversation was held upon the words *neutral* and *neuter*.

Some may be disposed to think, that to dwell so long on the explanation of one word, is a waste of time; but when it is considered that a thorough definition of one word in its varied acceptations and bearings, necessarily includes a knowledge of several other words, the waste of time is only apparent. Almost every word in the English language admits of various meanings, and these different shades of meaning can only be determined by the scope of the sentence in which the word is used. Hence, the dictionary *alone*, is but a very insufficient guide to children in determining the true signification of a word in a sentence. It should always be remembered, that one word thoroughly and lucidly understood, is better than twenty of which a child has acquired but an indistinct and glimmering idea. I may also remark, that the understanding coupled with association, is the memory's most powerful auxiliary.

When a child gives his or her exposition of a word or sentence, and another volunteers and succeeds in giving a fuller and more intelligent one, the "Recorder" credits the latter with a "Merit." "These *merits* are balanced in the pupil's favor against errors, should the latter be committed; and if not, they are accounted so much clear stock to secure the pupil's promotion at the termination of the lesson. The following is one example of hundreds of a similar kind, which have come under my own experience.—A Miss of about nine years of age, was desired to spell and define the word *assiduous*. Having spelled it, she simply added, *industrious*. Another Miss about a year younger, who was ambitious of displaying her knowledge of synonymes, instantly exclaimed, "Please, sir, I can explain it more fully than that."

"Go on then," said I.

"It means, constant in application, persevering, diligent, industrious."

This, of course, showed more research, and consequently gave claim to a *merit*.

When dismissing the school in the evenings, I often select some of the more difficult words in the lessons, and explain them, requesting the children to have sentences formed for the next morning contain-