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HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, Friday, Feb. 23d.

LAND SETTLEMENT QUESTION.

(Debate concluded.)

Mr. Montgomery reiterated his former opinions, and added, that the improvement of the Colony was retarded by the arrears of rent; the tenantry find it impossible to pay this, or even that of the present time. Thus are they dispirited, and the effect upon some may become indolence; there is no encouragement whatever for them to exert themselves. Thus, miserable dwellings, miserable clothes, and dejected appearance, follow as the consequence. The hon. member's special pleading may carry away some from the real state of the case, but it would not have that effect with him (Mr. Montgomery,) who thought a purchase, with certain easy conditions, would give them encouragement to persevere.

Mr. Yeo said the immense sum requisite to buy up the lands must be an insurmountable barrier to its accomplishment, and therefore to say he could fall in withthe plan, would only be to make fools of his constituents.

Mr. Dalziel could not refrain from stating his opinion of this assembly and government being annexed to Nova Scotia. He hoped never to see this, for if we cannot legislate for ourselves, how is it possible that they can? (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Cooper said, all may not be benefited, as had been stated by the hon. member for Charlottetown (Mr. Palmer), if escheat was to take place. But that is no argument to shew that the proprietors are blameless. If they had acted up to the conditions of the grants, then one half of the lands would have been settled. As to purchasing, that he followed till he saw it was no use. It is said we effect nothing. How can we, when all our attempts are frustrated, and smothered almost before they are conceived? Should a delegate be appointed, they must say escheat is at an end (which is far from being true), or the government will not advance any funds. Some hon. members contend we cannot have a Court of Escheat; but where is that hon. member who is bold enough to say, we are not constitutionally entitled to one? The original grants ought to be urged by the delegates, and if this is not part of their instructions, he (Mr. Cooper) saw no use in such a delegation.

Mr. D. M'Lean said, the hon. member for Charlottetown (Mr. Palmer) may be faithfully representing his constituents; escheat may not be needed by the people of Charlottetown, but what has that to do with the tillers of the ground? As to annexation to Nova Scotia, an hon. member (Mr. Dalziel) says, if we cannot make alterations for the better, they cannot. Yet, is it not quite plain that we do not give satisfaction—that we do not create peace and tranquillity? If annexation is resorted to, we should then possess the privilege of a Court of Escheat. And is it not exceedingly probable, that with the united strength of both houses, our entreaties would command proper attention, with the home government. In regard to a purchase of the lands, government may not be able or willing to advance the money; but means might be resorted to, to guarantee payment to the proprietors. He would not pretend to give an opinion as to the price the lands should be. A commission should be appointed to value the whole of such lands. This colony must become like others; and in accordance with my views I now beg to submit a Resolution, by way of further amendment:

"That were a Law enacted, or an arrangement made, with "the sanction of the Imperial Government, to vest the free-"hold of the soil in the tenant, upon payment of a fair and "reasonable price to the proprietor, this Committee is of "opinion, that such law or arrangement would present few-"er difficulties, in the way of a settlement, than Escheat, or "the Court prayed for in the Address: That such a mode "of settlement has for precedent the practice of other British "Colonies—would be approved of by this House, and be "satisfactory to the country generally."

The House divided on the motion of amendment:

Yeas—Messrs. D. Maclean, D. Macdonald, Fraser, A. Maclean, Dalziel, Coles, Rae, Montgomery, Macgregor, Dingwell—10.

Nays—Hon. J. S. Macdonald, Messrs. Cooper, Macintosh, Cambridge, Beairsto, Hon. Mr. Palmer, Aitken, Yeo, Longworth, Thornton, Wightman, Hudson, Douse—13.

Mr. Thornton said he was rather puzzled to know how to proceed with so many resolutions, &c. &c., but thought he would take up the original—that of the hon. member for King's County (Mr. Cooper), which is, it now seems, of the same nature as those which have been so often answered before; and the hon. member is fully convinced himself that it cannot be of the least avail, if carried, though of this he has not the slightest expectation. It is equally difficult to make out what court it is the hon. member wishes his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor to establish and appoint. Yet, call it by whatsoever name he may, does he suppose, if his resolution were agreed to, that his Excellency would comply, without first consulting, by correspondence, the Imperial Government? and then where should we be? There cannot be two opinions upon this head; a refusal would follow, as a matter of course, and then again would be an end to the performance. Had it not been for the hon. mover of this resolution, there might have been an Escheat Court at one time, but the hon. member (Mr. Cooper) would not be content with the Escheat of a few Townships that were then liable, but those that were not must also be subject. Thus the hon. member, in grasping at a shadow, lost the substance. "I will, Sir, put it to you again, if the hon. member did succeed, what benefit could arise? The Crown would put up the lands for sale, and no single tenant could be sure of not being disturbed in his present possession. We had better take a bold and decisive course, and from this House at once make it known to the people, that it cannot be carried into effect; that the Imperial Government will never sanction it, or the least approach to it. The hon. member for King's County (Mr. Cooper) has stated, that I am pledged to bring forward some measure, and he grounds that statement on something I said last session, in supporting the address to Her Majesty. I then thought the proprietors would do something; but no doubt they act with due caution; and knowing by past experience, that if an inch is given, an ell would be required, it is now useless in us to proceed further, particularly as Her Majesty's Government seem determined to keep aloof from all interference between the proprietors and their tenantry; what may be the cause, I will not pretend to say. A Delegation is now contemplated. It may not be out of place just to give a brief sketch of what they are to be entrusted with; it will prove to the proprietors that we are determined not to leave a stone unturned, in our endeavours to ameliorate the condition of the tenantry, who cannot pay their present rents, much more the arrears; it will endeavour to convince them that it would be to their interest to encourage the fisheries, and also to obtain their views as to the disposal of the lands by sale, &c. &c. It has been seen repeatedly, that to attempt to compel them is useless; but it can be made plain to their view that there is a majority in this House determined to persevere in upholding the interests of the colony; thus persuasion may effect that which it is found any attempt at compulsion will not. These are some of the important matters the delegates would have entrusted to them; but not to ask for a Court of so equivocal and nonsensical a nature as the one now under discussion, which, in the first place, there would be no chance of obtaining, and in the second, if obtained, would do no good. The tenantry have been led to believe that if an Escheat Court was in being, they would all get free land. That is complete nonsense; it would be put up by the Crown, and probably at high rates, and those who have put such stuff forth are in duty bound to undeceive the deceived. Though this is not done, the majority of the people learn it from better friends. Let us now set this question at rest, and for ever; it has obtained a very free and full discussion, and I hope the hon. member (Mr. Cooper) will never more bring it forward, to put the country to still further expense. It is useless to attempt any thing that is not likely to obtain the sanction of her Majesty's Government. If the tenants could but obtain cash for their produce, it would be one source of satisfaction to them; this is a matter we should also make an attempt to accomplish. Allusion has been made to annexation by an hon. member (Mr. D. M'Lean,) and though, from the manner in which he made it, one might suppose he was serious, yet really, Sir, the question is so absurd that credit can hardly be given to the hon. member that he is so. If any benefit came from such a plan, that part of the Island at which I reside would receive the most; yet do I scout any such idea." The hon. member (Mr. Thornton) then concluded by declaring that he was very sanguine in expectation that much good and lasting benefit would be consequent upon the appointment of a delegation, entrusted to treat upon all the real grievances of the Colony.

The Hon. the Speaker apologised for again rising, but said he would not detain the house long. The hon. member for Princetown (Mr. Montgomery) had said, that if the hon. member who last spoke was a tenant, he would act differently. He (the Speaker) would ask if it was in consequence of their being tenants, that the constituents of the hon. member in Princetown Royalty were so loud in their abuse of the government? The hon. member for King's County (Mr. Cooper) had unblushingly stated to this house, that the answers of denial, received from time to time from her Majesty's Government, in reply to the applications for Escheat, ought not to be considered as replies to the Addresses of this house, but broadly states that they were advised and obtained, in consequence of secret despatches from the Executive Government of this colony, whom he is pleased to designate as the enemies of the people. There is not the least foundation for such a charge; but, he would ask, what were the answers he received at the Colonial-office, when he made his appearance there in person, as the paid Delegate from this Island? Did he not then meet with a positive denial to his request? Such was the opinion entertained by the Imperial Government of the hon. member, from the communications which he made to them, that Lord John Russell refused him an audience. Who is there that recollects that celebrated mission, who has not had cause to blush for the disgrace brought on the colony, by the meanness and incapacity of the Delegate? Having arrived in London by the cheapest mode of conveyance, namely a steerage passage, he finds he can do nothing for want of a copy of the laws of this Island! The next move is to apply to a young lawyer from Nova Scotia, who happened to be in London at the time, and to offer him the munificent sum of Five Pounds for himself, and another Five Pounds as a fee to be given to some other professional gentleman of eminence, and by whose joint exertions the entire freehold of this colony, comprising 1,300,000 acres of land, was to be wrested from its present owners, to become a prey to the rapacity of a discontented rabble. However, the tempting offer was refused, and the Ten Pounds returned to the pocket of the Delegate, and with the remaining Two hundred and ninety pounds of the public money, with which he was furnished, has never been accounted for to this day. One thing, he thought, was pretty evident, that this self-styled friend of the people never loses an opportunity of serving himself, while he thought it would be very difficult for him to point out one solitary act of his political life that has ever been of the slightest benefit to the public. And yet he has the effrontery to charge the government of this Island with being the enemies of the people. Who is there, he would ask, who recollects his famous Hay River Resolutions, wherein he advises the people to withhold the payment of their rents, and his equally celebrated speech at St. Peter's, where he attempted to persuade the people, that it was constitutional for them to take the law into their own hands, and of the artful and wicked manner in which he stated, that if they (in the capacity of jurors, of course,) were called upon, they would, on their oaths, be bound to declare that any persons distraining for rents, other than the Sheriff, were violating the law, and were not entitled to its protection, can wonder at the evil effects of such advice on the people of King's County? He well knows that if escheat were set at rest, his occupation would be gone. In the part of the country in which he (the hon. Speaker) resides, an escheater and a public robber were considered as synonimous, and such was the evil brought on the country by the escheaters, that he (the Speaker) could not look on them in any other light than as public enemies. At the last election he had informed the electors of the district which he has the honor to represent, that if there was one escheater among them, he (the Speaker) would beg of him, as a favour, not to vote for him, as he would certainly feel himself disgraced, if he thought he represented such an individual.—He would ask the hon. member (Mr. M'Lean) if he had made any calculation of the sum that would be required to carry out his scheme of purchasing the land of this colony, and how he proposed raising the needful? These were questions which he thought the hon. member was bound to answer, before the house could for a moment entertain such a proposition. Now, supposing the value of the lands to be only 10s. sterling, per acre, which was certainly much beneath their value, it would require £650,000 sterling, or £975,000 P. E. Island currency, and this sum to be raised and paid by the present occupiers, who, it is said, are quite unable to pay even the rents, much less the principal. He (the Speaker) was afraid that our Chancellor of the Exchequer would not only have to tax the rental of the proprietors, but he was afraid he would also have to levy a large per centage on the members' pay! "Let me entreat of you (said he) to throw overboard such visionary schemes. Consult your own dignity as a public body; show real sympathy for the tenantry, by fostering a better state of feeling between them and their landlords, whereby the latter may be induced to aid us in extending our agricultural and commercial enterprize, which will assuredly conduce to the general happiness and prosperity of the community at large."

Mr. Montgomery would persist in stating that it was not the tenantry who were the agitators, but the agents; they it was who indirectly, if not directly, caused it; and let them bear the burden.

Mr. D. M'Lean, in allusion to what had fallen from the hon. the Speaker, relative to the novel plan of settlement prayed for in a petition he (Mr. M'Lean) presented a few days since, said the hon. Speaker seemed staggered as to how the funds could be raised to purchase the lands of the proprietors; supposing, said the hon. member, the price fixed be ten shillings per acre, and the time given to the tenants be ten years, then for every one hundred acres the interest be two pounds ten, would not every exertion be made to accomplish this by the interested parties; the British Government possibly would become guarantee for the payment; that they would, or would not, I cannot, said the hon. member, pretend to say.

Mr. Douse called upon the hon. member (Mr. Montgomery) to name whose agents they were that stirred up strife, and caused agitation; this, sir, would be the way to do business, *name them*, let the House *name them*, said the hon. member. I defy them to do it; in this House last session the same assertion was brought forth against the proprietors, but could those who then moved the point state one, though a list of the whole was by me submitted to their inspection? no, sir, they could not then, nor can they now, I again repeat, I challenge them to the proof!

Mr. Rae commenced by quoting some lines of an old Scotch song, which appeared to amuse some hon. members, but whether from the celebrated author Burns, or whose it was, or what it was, the Reporter cannot say, and he pleads ignorance of the language as his excuse; the hon. member proceeded to remark that those who demand what cannot be paid, and then proceed to distrain, must be the agitators. That which the hon. member for King's County (Mr. Cooper) causes is as nothing compared to that caused by the Bailiff, and what he does is caused by the the agent, thus then we get to the root of the evil; and plainly shew who are the grand agitators of this Island. Much has been said by the hon. the Speaker relative to the conduct of the hon. member (Mr. Cooper,) when delegated to the home government; he (Mr. Rae) thought this triumph was rather out of place, a little unjust, inasmuch as Lord John Russell said he had nothing to do with it, and would send an answer through the proper channel; how then can the hon. member be so much to blame? the hon. the Speaker, in no measured terms, attempts to throw all the odium he is master of upon the Escheat question and those who support it, but he (Mr. Rae) seemed to have some recollection of by-gone days, and thought the hon Speaker was at one time an Escheator, (I do not deny it, ejaculated the hon Speaker,) why then attempt to cry down those who see no reason to change? (the lands are settled, said the hon. Speaker, and that is the reason of my changing.) Oh! that is it, replied the hon member, how then does it happen that the whole is not yet settled; the hon. the Speaker cannot for one moment put up with any remark about his Excellency or any one composing the Executive of this Colony; but, said the hon. member, there is something very dark and mysterious in that composition; he need go no farther than just put a simple unanswerable question, which was this, should we ever have known that private correspondence had been practised by his Excellency, had it not been derived from documents and despatches laid before us? was it not the truth that his Excellency had communicated to the home government that the tenants would soon be enabled to pay their arrears of rent, yet the very next year, this House had declared and agreed to an address to her Majesty, to the effect that they could not pay. Although he (Mr. Rae) disagreed with the hon. the Speaker in some of his opinions, yet he must say, he fully agreed with him that it would be very difficult to buy up the lands, that difficulty being how, and by what means it is possible that money can be raised to carry out the scheme lately introduced to our notice; the hon. member then again expressed his dislike of the original motion, as being too extensive, and would rather have seen it confined to a single point.

Mr. A. M'Lean approved of a purchase as being the best means calculated to settle the colony, and was of opinion that means could be found to carry it into effect, but the hon. member's calculation was much lower than any other hon. member's, even down to seven shillings and six pence per acre; the hon member was unsparing in his condemnation of the resolutions, and although he had seconded one, he would not vote for either one or the other; something must be done, or peace and quietness will not prevail throughout the Colony.

Mr. Cooper said, there was only one way of settling the lands of this colony, and that was in accordance with the constitution; no other means would be proper or just, nor would any thing short of this satisfy those who have every right to such a settlement. It is very well in hon. members to ridicule the escheat question, but he (Mr. Cooper,) had yet to learn why an Escheat Court was not as lawful as any other; many of the causes that at one period existed against escheat are not now in existence; had the proprietors settled one half of the land agreeably to the express conditions of the original grants, the residue then remaining would have amply repaid them for any such outlay caused thereby. My delegation to England, said the hon. member, is a great hobby of the hon. Speaker; he is for ever harping upon it; but had not those who were deputed from Nova Scotia met with a similar reception? the doors were found closed at the Colonial Office, as in my case. He (Mr. Cooper) could enlarge upon this subject, was it not that he did not wish to see it obtain publicity through the public papers; suffice it to say, that they were not more successful in their delegation than he had been.

Mr. Mackintosh said, there was yet reason to hope, that something would be done to settle the country in some degree approaching the original grants. The proprietors must not slip from the noose without rendering compensation; let hon. members look to those places where escheat has taken place, there peace and satisfaction is established. He (Mr. Mackintosh) would never give way to despair of seeing the country settled, till it be said, we are not entitled to the benefits of the constitution; until then, would he be found clamorous for escheat. Little, very little doubt exists in my mind, said the hon. member, that if correct information was transmitted to the home government, but that they would comply with the wish of the people by putting escheat into practice. But that erroneous representations are practised none can deny; are not the actions of the proprietors most grasping in every way? look at the fishery reserves? have they not leased and sold that which the highest legal authorities at home now declare is not and never was theirs? are not those hon. members who have upheld and supported them in all their doings now in a degraded situation?

Hon. J. S. Macdonald expressed himself of opinion, that the motion of the hon. member for King's county (Mr. Cooper) should have been met by a direct negative in the first onset; then the time of the house would not have been thrown away on this useless discussion; what avail can it be to pray for that which has, over and over again, been refused by her Majesty's government. The hon. member, by the mystified combination of his resolution, seemed ashamed to call it by the name of escheat; if this famous court of jurisdiction could but be brought into operation, continued the hon. member, ironically, it would be a capital thing even to myself, with the assistance of my family, who could sue separately for a couple of hundred acres each, I might manage to get a couple of thousand. He (Mr. Macdonald) was fully persuaded that if an Escheat Court was established, there would be nothing to be escheated; nor would it be any benefit to the tenantry,. It is indisputable that they are in very distressed circumstances, and in any good measure to relieve them, none should be found more strenuous than was he who was now addressing the house to carry it into effect. But I will not, said the hon. member, for the sake of popularity, give my support to that which can be of no benefit to them.

Mr. D. Macdonald thought the proposition, as contained in the amendment of the hon. member (Mr. D. Maclean), very desirable, if it could be accomplished; yet when we see that a single individual (I allude, said the hon. member, to Mr. Cunard) can set aside an act of parliament, passed by the three branches of the Legislature, relative to the road compensation, and knowing the decided opinion of the Executive to be against any change in the leasehold tenure of the lands in this Island, which way the influence of that body would be directed, his (Mr. Macdonald's) hopes were small indeed; delegation, it seems, said the hon. member, is now the source from which all our blessings are to flow. But supposing that even if the hon. member for Georgetown (Mr Thornton) was chosen as one by this house, great indeed must be his persuasive powers ere he would be able to effect any good for the people.

Mr. Coles said so many and various were the opinions entertained by hon. members, that it seemed nothing could be determined on, he would therefore move, that the Speaker take the chair.

The Hon. the Speaker said, he was prepared to record his vote, and he hoped the hon. member who had just moved, would not shy from giving his; by the course he was now pursuing, in wishing the house to rise without coming to a division, it had such an appearance.

Mr. Coles hoped the hon. the Speaker did not think he was going to flinch from the question. He (Mr. Coles) did not scruple to say, that he came into this house as independent as any hon. member, be he who he may. His (Mr. Coles) reason for the proposition of the hon. Speaker taking the chair, was in consequence of the appearance being, that hon members were undecided, and thinking it would again come on in a committee of the whole house on the state of the colony. The hon. member then, on motion of Mr. Montgomery, withdrew his. The house then divided.

The Resolutions and division appeared in a former paper.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, Thursday, 7th March, 1844.

NATURALIZATION OF MR. J. B. TYBRING.

The Hon. Mr. Young introduced a bill for naturalization of J. B. Tybring. The bill was read a first, second and third time, and passed.

PUBLISHING PUBLIC NOTICES.

On motion of the hon. Mr. Brecken, a bill for the regulating the publishing of Public Notices, which by the other house had been sent up to their honors for their concurrence, was read a first time.

The bill provided that, "whereas by some of the Acts of Assembly of this Island, it was required that notices, or advertisements of proceedings thereunder connected with the public service, shall be inserted or published in *all* the newspapers printed within the colony; and, by other Acts, that they shall be published in more than one of such newspapers; and it is deemed an unnecessary expenditure of the public money that such publications or any other advertisements or notices relating in any manner to the public service of the Island should be made in more than one such newspaper, except in extraordinary cases; for remedy whereof, be it enacted, that all such notices or advertisements shall be inserted or published *only in the Gazette*, or newspaper printed in the Island by the Queen's Printer, *except in particular and extraordinary cases, &c. &c.*"

The Hon. Mr. Young thought the bill would leave the matter much as it was, for every case might be deemed "extraordinary."

The Hon. Mr. Peters was decidedly of opinion that it would be best to confine the publication of all public notices to one newspaper; and that it ought to be left to the government to select the newspaper. Every government was entitled to such a right of patronage. It was absolutely necessary that it should be so; and it would be a most unwarrantable interference with that constitutional privilege of government to direct that it should be otherwise.

The Hon. Mr. Brecken commented upon the enormous expense to which the country had been subjected, in the last Charlottetown election. The Sheriff, to put his having complied with the law beyond question, had, very properly, in the circumstances in which he was placed, caused his notice of the election, to be inserted in all the papers published in the Island. The expenses of advertising alone had consequently amounted to a very large sum. (Taking up the Morning News which lay before the hon. gentleman) the expense, said he, of publishing in this paper alone, which is issued twice a week, has been considerable. It was certainly very wrong to subject the country to the enormous expense which fell upon it by publishing, according to the present system, in all the newspapers. All public notices, he thought, might very well be confined to one paper, and that paper in his opinion, ought to be the Royal Gazette. If the privilege were to be exclusive, he conceived the Queen's Printer was the most proper person to enjoy it.

The Hon. Mr. Peters thought quite otherwise. The newspaper ought to be one of those which had the greatest circulation. The Gazette, from the dry nature of its contents or other reasons, might have the least.

His Honor the President checked the discussion as irregular, and the house resolved itself into a committee of the whole upon the bill, Hon. Mr. Anderson in the chair.

The Hon. Mr. Swabey said, the bill was quite new to him. It seemed to be a direct attempt to interfere with and abridge the privileges of the Executive, by depriving it of the power to patronize such newspaper or newspapers as the Executive might think best entitled to the support of government. He did not mean to say that such was the intention of the other house, far from it. No, he believed their object was nothing but economy. No doubt they wished merely to lessen the public expenditure on this head, by directing that all public notices should be inserted in the Gazette only. And for the sake of economy, he certainly thought it would be well that all such public notices as the bill spoke of should be published in one newspaper only; but then the Executive ought to have the uncontrolled choice of that newspaper, or it would be deprived of a privilege which might, in some sort, be said to be necessary to the support of government. A right to interfere with and limit the patronage of the Executive in this, or any other way, was what, he trusted, he should never see recognised by their honors.

The Hon. Mr. Young said, his honor who had last spoken had stated that his object was retrenchment, and every one knew how necessary it was to study it. Most of the acts of the Legislature direct that all advertisements relating to the public service shall be inserted in all the Newspapers published in the Island. At the time of the passing of such Acts there were only two newspapers published in the Island, the Gazette and the Herald; but now with increased population, (and said the hon. Mr. Peters, with an increase of knowledge and increasing prosperity); very well, with an increase of population, an extension of education, and an increase of prosperity, there are now five newspapers published in the Island. At the last election, in consequence of this increase, the newspaper publication had been almost six times as great as it would formerly have been. The Sheriff had thought proper to comply with the exact spirit of the law, and he had caused his notices to be published in all the papers. Now, to avoid all like unnecessary expenditure of public money in future, the Bill very properly provides that all public advertisements or notices connected with the public service shall be published in the Royal Gazette only. This was quite right; it was a proper restriction; the Royal Gazette was known to be the official organ of Government, and certainly therefore it should contain all Government or official notices. The Bill however, also further provided that in *extraordinay* cases, the head of the Administration should have it in his power to insert public notices in some other newspaper besides the Gazette. As he had before said, every case might be deemed *extraordinary*, and thus the country might be saddled with two official organs of the government, instead of one: indeed this was already partly the case, for he had not unfrequently, of late, observed notices under the Royal Arms in *The Islander*. The hon. and learned gentleman then proceeded to say, that if their honors would refer to New Brunswick, they would find that the Gazette contained all official notices. (The Hon. Mr. Peters observed, that it was not so in Sir John Harvey's time; during his administration of the government of New Brunswick, the government notices appeared in the *Sentinel*, and it was very well known, how much the Nova Scotian had been indebted to government patronage. Mr. Young said, it had never contained any government notices. Mr. Peters replied, they all knew a newspaper might have government support, without containing any government notices). Mr. Young then resumed: It was the same in Canada, the Royal Gazette there contained all government and official notices; and he contended that the Royal Gazette here, as in other Colonies, should be the sole official organ of government; and to make it so was, he thought, very far from an invasion of any privilege of the Executive. The hon. and learned gentleman concluded, by moving that the words "except in extraordinary cases" be struck out in the preamble of the Bill, and that the words "except in particular and extraordinary cases" be struck out in the enacting clause; his object, he said, was to confine all notices relating to the public service to the Royal Gazette, which, he thought, could be the only proper official organ of Government; he also wished to assimilate our expenses to our income: it ought not to be forgotten that the Colony was already burthened with a debt of £7000.

The hon. Mr. Peters admitted, that it was their duty to retrench; to this end, he would propose that all advertisements or notices relating to the public service should be confined to one newspaper; but he did not think that paper ought to be the Gazette. The head of the administration ought to be at liberty to choose the paper; perhaps one paper might be found to do the work cheaper than another; at any rate the head of the admin-