

House, an amendment was moved, to strike out the word "Sterling," and insert "Currency," which was carried by a large majority; and if CURTIS would take the trouble to refer to the Journals, page 112, he would see that an amendment was proposed to be made to the said Bill, by the Hon. Mr. Palmer, in Clause 2, by leaving out the word "Currency," when Mr. Fraser moved, "that the word proposed to be left out, do stand part of the question," upon which the House divided as follows:—Yeas, Messrs. Fraser, Macaulay, Wightman, D. Maclean, Macintosh, A. Maclean, Cooper, Thornton, Montgomery, Hudson, Rae, D. Macdonald, Dalziel, Dingwell, Nays, Messrs. Palmer, Yeo, Douse, J. S. Macdonald, Coles, Longworth, Cambridge. In conclusion, I have only to say, that I wish all those who profess to be the friends of the people would state truths only, because anything else will hurt the cause they intend to promote. Your publication of this will oblige, Your obedient servant,

A FRIEND OF THE PEOPLE. Murray Harbour, 4th December, 1843.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE COLONIAL HERALD.

Sir; In forwarding the enclosed letters for publication, they are to show the constituency that the laws for declaring and filling up vacancies in the House of Assembly will bear more than one interpretation, and in that case were made to suit party views and interests.

In the year 1835, being the first Session of a new House of Assembly, they passed an Act for vacating the seat of any Member who accepted of any office of emolument under the Crown, and provided that any two Members might declare such vacancy to the Speaker, who was to apply to the Governor for a Writ to issue for a new Election.

In the year 1836, being the second year of the same House, an Act was passed to consolidate and amend the Election Laws, which Act provided for any two Members to declare a vacancy to be filled up in like manner, the word otherwise including a vacancy by the acceptance of office.

But in the year 1837, being the third year of the same House, it may be recollected that the House of Assembly confided three of the Members for King's County, and then repealed the Act for vacating the seats of Members for accepting of any office of emolument under the Crown, and passed another Act, wherein the House of Assembly (instead of any two Members) is to declare the vacancy.

In the year 1838, the three Members for King's County were again committed to confinement, and the Election Laws were altogether changed, and the rights of the people frittered away more and more; but the 24th section of the consolidated Election Law (by some mistake, I suppose) remained un repealed, and is now part and parcel of the Law for vacating the seats of Members, and the filling up such vacancies—as much so as the late substituted Act—and it is highly necessary for the constituency to be informed, to enable them to watch over the proceedings of their representatives in the Legislature.

You will, therefore, have the goodness to print the Act now in force, for vacating the seats of Members for the acceptance of office of emolument, and also the 24th section of the late consolidated Election Law, and the public may then judge for themselves whether the Hon. Mr. Pope or my colleague and me have given the Acts in question their true construction, for the rights of the people, according to the spirit of the British constitution.

The spirit and intention of the Laws for vacating the seats of Members, for the acceptance of office, are to prevent the bribery and corruption of Members of the House of Assembly, by the Executive appointing them to offices of emolument; and the only persons who are considered to be capable of judging how far the acceptance of such office might affect their integrity as representatives of the people are their constituents, and a new Election is the only tribunal to ascertain their opinions.

Should any two Members forget or neglect to declare a vacancy, and apply for a new Election in time, then it would be highly proper for the House of Assembly to declare the vacancy; but if the House of Assembly only are to declare a vacancy in every instance that may occur, and to decide as to what office, or what amount of emolument will affect the integrity of any such member as may have accepted office, then, instead of preventing bribery and corruption, it would, in all probability, have a contrary effect. For instance, nearly a majority of the present House of Assembly have accepted office, and they may, according to the Hon. Mr. Pope's construction of the Laws, re-elect each other in the House of Assembly, and set the opinions and wishes of their constituents at defiance; and the evil would not end with a general Election, but would operate as a bribe, always held out for any Members to turn traitors to their constituents when a majority in the House of Assembly would allow them to hold their seats.

Yours, &c. WILLIAM COOPER.

Sailor's Hope, Decr. 4th, 1843.

(Copy.) Second Electoral District, King's County, November 5th, 1843.

Dear Sir; It appears by an Act of 7 William 4, Cap. 13, intitled An Act for vacating the seats of Members, in certain cases therein mentioned, and to repeal a certain Act heretofore passed for that purpose, that Roderick Macaulay, Esquire, Member for Georgetown, has vacated his seat, by the acceptance of an office of emolument under the Crown, namely, that of Commissioner for the Recovery of Small Debts, under the Act, 6 Victoria, Cap. 24, intitled An Act to provide for the summary trial of Small Debts, and to regulate the proceedings in cases of Summary Capias; and it appears from the 24th Section of an Act, 6 William 4, Cap. 24, intitled An Act to consolidate and amend the Election Laws, that where a Member resigns his seat during the recess, by his removal from the Island or otherwise, any two Members may inform the Speaker of such vacancy; therefore we, the undersigned Members, representing the Second District of King's County, have hereby informed you of the vacancy, as above, in order that a Writ for a new Election may issue accordingly.

And have the honor to be, Sir, Your obedient servants, (Signed) WILLIAM COOPER, WILLIAM DINGWELL.

The Hon. Joseph Pope, Speaker, &c. &c. &c.

(Copy.) Bedeque, Nov. 18th, 1843.

Gentlemen; I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication, dated 5th inst., notifying me that Roderick Macaulay, Esq., one of the Members for Georgetown, has vacated his seat, by his acceptance of an office of emolument under the Crown, and calling my attention to the 24th Section of the Act of 6th William 4, Cap. 24, intitled An Act to consolidate and amend the Election Laws, with a view to the issuing of a Writ for a new Election.

I am aware that the clause in question points out the course pursued by you, in the case of a vacancy arising from any of the causes therein enumerated; but as no mention whatever is made in said clause of the acceptance of an office of emolument under the Crown being a disqualification, it cannot by possibility apply. But even supposing (as I perceive you do) that the acceptance of an office is included in the words "or otherwise," I take it, even in that case, it would be virtually repealed by the subsequent Act of 7 W. 4, Cap. 13, which creates the disqualification, and then provides, that when the House of Assembly shall declare that any Member thereof hath accepted an office of emolument under the Crown, the Speaker shall then notify the administrator of the Government, in order that a new Writ may be issued; consequently, any interference, on the part of the Speaker, until the requisition of the said last mentioned Act shall have been complied with, would be illegal.

I have the honor to be, Gentlemen, Your most obedient Humble servant, JOSEPH POPE.

William Cooper, Esq. M. P. P. Wm. Dingwell, Esq. M. P. P.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE COLONIAL HERALD.

Sir; "William Swabey's" volunteer "disclaimer" is somewhat premature, as it is his affidavit on the 11th proximo that I want, if the Judge see fit to allow it. That up to the time of the trial, that gentleman "never knew the substance or terms of the Resolution" which made so much noise in the world, is so very extraordinary, considering his well-known intimacy with the Governor, and that it had previously become no secret in Charlottetown, and being an utter stranger to "W. Swabey," perhaps he will not object, if I weigh his statement in the balance of probability, and find it to be rather light.

But it is with your editorial business lies. I would bring to your recollection, that I am not bandying compliments, nor discussing points of honour, either with you or the jailer, but using means to relieve myself from a prosecution which no man will now say ever should have been; and I merely avail myself of Mr. Hutchinson, as I would of a fencing-pole, were it beside me when I happened to fall through the ice. That he should have denied the imputation—right or wrong—was to be expected; but even were he the very phoenix of honourable jailers—which you seem to imagine—I do not recognise his right to demand the name of any individual whom I might or might not allude to as an evidence. Since you know so well what Mr. H. said after Court, why not tell all? Must every official about Charlottetown be screened, no matter what his grade? The jailer further stated, that he would make affidavit he had never used words to the purport ascribed to him. To which I replied, "As you like, but you had better recollect yourself;" and after a pause he said that perhaps he had been talking to some person endeavouring to entrap him into an expression of his sentiments. I place extremely small confidence in the evidence afforded by affidavits, when interest leans in the same direction; still, no affidavit has appeared, but, instead, without a public document of any kind for your warrant—even so much as a published letter from the jailer—you at once denounce my statement to be an aspersion resting upon my own authority, or, in plain English, invented by myself. Pray how do you know it to be an "aspersion?" You certainly come it pretty strong, considering that you, privately, knew my authority, ever since the day of Court!

You (Mr. Cooper) surely cannot have forgotten that you entered the parlour of the Wellington Hotel, where I was, immediately after Court, and that you remained there until I left the house in your company. You may also remember that three or four gentlemen were there, to whom I then frankly, but privately, of course, named my authority; but perhaps you will plead, like Falstaff, "the disease of not listening, the malady of not marking." That your knowledge did not tie up your hands from making the preceding insinuation, is one of those anomalies which, I presume, I shall never rightly understand until I be an Editor myself. Should I ever be under Mr. Hutchinson's keys, I daresay we shall understand each other very well; and, in the meantime, would hint the wisdom of silence to him and other small functionaries about town. "Every dog has his day," and this being the last proprietary Assembly that will ever sit in this Island, a change is inevitable.

I omitted in my last to say, that not being an admirer of general and vague assertions, perhaps you will be kind enough to state in what particulars counsel could have availed me, or I shall, most likely, pursue the very same course in future, should I ever need to do so. That the jury did not understand what I said, is sheer humbug, howsoever much they may wish it to be believed. I have a sort of notion that had I thrown my case unreservedly upon the management of any barrister, that in the heat of party-spirit, a judgment would have been recorded on the day of trial that might have been—what?—inconvenient.

Your obt. Servant, D. MACLEAN. New London, 6th Dec., 1843.

[With reference to the above communication from Mr. Maclean, we feel called upon to remark, that we have a perfect recollection of the circumstances connected with our interview with him at the Wellington Hotel, to which he has alluded, and the principal part—if not the whole—of what transpired on that occasion. Among other things, we remember stating, that we had just met Mr. Hutchinson, the Jailer, in the Street, and that he appeared much annoyed at the statements which had just been made by Mr. Maclean, in open Court, with reference to himself—that Mr. Hutchinson had assured us that those statements were utterly false—that he (Mr. H.) had demanded his (Mr. M.'s) authority for making them—a compliance with which, we conceived, most unjustifiably refused, and by which he felt himself both insulted and aggrieved. We also remarked, that, in our opinion, Mr. Hutchinson was, in strict justice, entitled to the name of the individual from whom Mr. Maclean derived his information; but to the assertion put forth by the latter gentleman, in the above communication, to the effect, that we "privately knew his authority ever since the day of Court," and that he, in the presence of "three or four gentlemen," and that he, in the parlour of the Wellington Hotel, or in any other place whatever, "frankly, but privately, name his authority," we are reluctantly compelled to give the most positive and unqualified denial. And since nothing less than "affidavits" will satisfy Mr. Maclean—though he more than intimates his want of "confidence" even in these—we may further state our readiness, when called upon, to corroborate this statement upon oath. But even supposing, for a moment, that Mr. Maclean did reveal the mighty secret, as stated by himself, we should like that hon. gentleman to inform us what satisfaction such a revelation could afford to Mr. Hutchinson, whence the reports in question emanated would be likely to convey to the minds of the "three or four gentlemen" to whom he has alluded? We hesitate not, therefore, to repeat, that—as Mr. Maclean has thought fit to withhold the name of his informant from the party aggrieved—"the aspersion"—allowing Mr. H. the same privilege as Mr. Maclean would undoubtedly claim for himself, if placed in similar circumstances, of being accounted innocent until proved guilty—must consequently rest upon his own authority.

Mr. Maclean expresses his aversion to "general and vague assertions." He also appears extremely anxious that we should descend to "particulars," (as to the employment of counsel,) and intimates that unless we do so, he may possibly be induced, by pursuing "the very same course," to commit a similar blunder on some future occasion. We can assure Mr. Maclean, that we have very weighty and cogent reasons for adhering to the opinion we have already expressed on this subject, which, however, we do not feel bound at present to explain. However, in order to relieve Mr. Maclean's mind from any undue anxiety on the subject, we may state, briefly, that the "evident disadvantage" under which he appeared to us to labour, not so much from the matter of his defence, &c.,—though we are far from thinking that altogether faultless—as from the manner of his delivery, his own assertion to the contrary notwithstanding—and hence our opinion of the necessity, in Mr. Maclean's case, for the employment of counsel. However much he may affect to despise such forensic aid, we cannot help thinking it would have been of very essential service on the occasions adverted to. For ourselves, we candidly confess, that although we attempted to take notes of what passed, Mr. Maclean's tone of voice, manner, gestures, &c., completely baffled us; and we have good reason for knowing that the Jury were not the only persons in Court who found it extremely difficult, at times, to comprehend his meaning. Of this we are quite satisfied, that how well soever Mr. Maclean's speeches, &c., may read, when printed in a fine clear type—as delivered by himself, they are anything but pleasing or effective; and if Mr. Maclean is not satisfied with our naked assertion on this head, we confidently appeal, in corroboration of our views, to all who have ever had an opportunity of witnessing his abortive attempts at public speaking, whether on the hustings, in the halls of legislation, or in the Supreme Court. To say anything further on this subject we consider a work of supererogation. Before we conclude, however, we have one observation to make, and that is, that in thus alluding to Mr. Maclean's defence, &c., we have spoken of him as we found him on the occasions referred to, without any political bias or feeling whatever, and the advice we have before given, we would again, if necessary, repeat, in perfect good faith, and with a view solely to his own advantage and the success of the cause he may have in hand. We are bold to say—whatever Mr. Maclean's mental qualifications may be—and whatever the slightest disposition to underrate them—that Mr. Maclean will never effect anything great by the exercise of his vocal powers, or occupy a very distinguished place among the orators of the day.]

It is a curious fact, that Prussia levies neither duty nor excise upon the consumption of tobacco—a singular exception, we imagine, in Europe.

ROYAL BURGH OF DINGWALL.

(From the London Sun, November 10.)

The following highly complimentary resolutions, conferring the freedom of that ancient burgh upon the undermentioned nobleman and gentleman have recently been passed at the Town Council:—

Extract from the minutes of a meeting of the Magistrates and Council of the Royal Burgh of Dingwall, held burgh of the shire of Ross, holden the 27th day of October, 1843, Hugh Innes Cameron, Esq., Provost, in the chair.

On the motion of Provost Cameron, it was unanimously "Resolved, That the respectful and best thanks of the magistrates, council and community of this burgh, be tendered to the Right Hon. the Earl of Dalhousie, for his friendly and efficient aid in facilitating the progress through Parliament of the Act of last session, appointing Dingwall to be the head burgh of the shire; and that his Lordship be requested, in testimony of the obligation which the magistrates and council owe to his Lordship, and of their respect for his public and private character, to accept the freedom of the burgh, and be its first Burgess after its appointment to the head burghship of the shire; and that the same, and an extract of this resolution, be transmitted to his Lordship by the Provost, be entered on the records of the burgh, and be published.

"Resolved, That the cordial thanks of the magistrates, council, and community of this burgh, be tendered to John McGregor, Esq., Secretary of the Board of Trade, for his friendly assistance, which he rendered in carrying through Parliament the Act of last session, appointing Dingwall to be the head burgh of the shire of Ross—a shire of which the magistrates and council have a pride as well as a pleasure, in thus recording that one who has rendered such eminent services to his country, and to the cause of truth, by the exposition and promulgation of the only sound principles on which trade can be founded and government regulated, as Mr. McGregor has done, is a native. That Mr. McGregor be requested to accept, in testimony of the respect which the magistrates and council bear to his public and private character, the freedom of the burgh; and that the same, with an extract of this resolution, be transmitted to him by the Provost; that the resolution be entered upon the records of the burgh, and be published."

Extracted from the principal minutes, by MURDO CAMERON, Town Clerk.

ANECDOTE OF LORD CHANCELLOR ELDON.—Lord Eldon used to tell with pleasure the difficulties with which, in his early days, he was surrounded, and over which he triumphed. We give an account of his early success, as he related it himself at table to a friend:—"Yes," says the Lord Chancellor, "and I borrowed thirty pounds to go to the northern circuit, but I got no briefs. And, sir, I borrowed another thirty, but met with no return. After some time at this game I had determined to borrow no more; when I was prevailed on by a friend to try again, and did so. At York I had a junior brief, and Davenport, then a leading counsel of the circuit, was to state the case to the jury. The cause was called on in the morning, and Davenport was engaged in the Crown court. "I," says the Chancellor, "begged the judge to postpone it, but he replied, 'You must lead, Mr. Scott.'" And I did so; it was for an assault; two ladies had quarrelled at cards, a scuffle ensued, and one of them was turned off her chair on the ground: this was the nature of the assault. "It happened," proceeds the Chancellor, "that I set the court in a roar of laughter, and succeeded for my client; retainers began to flow in, and the prospect brightened. On proceeding to Carlisle, a fortunate circumstance occurred. I had retired early to bed the night before the assizes, when I was aroused by a knock at my door; on getting up I found Mr. —, the solicitor, with a large brief in his hand; he observed that a cause was coming on in the morning; and the leading counsel were all too much engaged to read so large a brief. "You must take it, Mr. Scott." I hesitated, as Davenport and others had declined it, and expressed my doubt of being able to accomplish the task. He pressed me, and by the little light, as the attorney put the brief (it was a thick brief) into my hand, I saw written on it, "Mr. Scott, twenty guineas." This was not to be refused, and I said, "Well, I'll promise to read your brief, and state its substance." "That's all we want," replied the solicitor; so I dressed myself and read it; the next day I succeeded in the cause, and never wanted briefs again."

THE BUTCHER AND HIS CALF.—A butcher who had purchased a calf, sat with it on a horse at an inn door, which a shoemaker, remarkable for drollery, observing, and knowing the butcher had to pass through a wood, offered to the landlord to steal the calf for a glass of grog; the landlord agreed, and the shoemaker set off and dropped one new shoe in the path near the middle of the wood, and another a quarter of a mile from it. The butcher saw the first shoe, but did not think it worth getting down for; however, when he discovered the second, he thought the pair would be an acquisition, and accordingly dismounted, tied his horse to the hedge, and walked back to where he had seen the first shoe. The shoemaker in the meantime unstrapped the calf, and carried it across the fields to the landlord, who put it into his barn. The butcher, missing his calf, went back to the inn, and told his misfortune, at the same time observing he must have another calf, cost what it would, as the veal was bespoken. The landlord told him he had a calf in the barn, which he would sell him; the butcher looked at it, and asked the price; the landlord replied, "Give me the same price as you did for the calf you lost, as I think this is full as large." The butcher would not allow it by any means to be so good, but gave him within six shillings of what the other cost, and accordingly put the calf a second time across his horse. Crispin, elated with his success, undertook to steal the calf again for another glass of grog, which, being agreed upon, he posted to the wood and hid himself, where, observing the butcher come along, he bellowed so like a calf, that the butcher, conceiving it to be the one he had lost, cried with joy, "Ah! are you there? Have I found you at last?" and immediately dismounted and ran into the wood. Crispin, taking advantage of the butcher's absence, unstrapped the calf, and actually got back with it to the publican before the butcher arrived to tell his mournful tale, who attributed the whole to witchcraft. The publican unravelled the mystery, and the butcher, after paying for, and partaking of, a crown's worth of punch, laughed heartily at the joke, and the shoemaker got greatly applauded for his ingenuity.

The historian Gibbon and the Abbe Raynal were remarkable for their loquacity. The tongue of each was a perpetual alarm. For such encroachments on the colloquial rights and privileges of others, the following is a very ingenious apology. A Gascon gentleman was reproached by one of his friends for monopolising conversation, and never listening to any one. "Do you think," said he, in his vindication, "that I am not attentive to what you and others think? Undeceive yourself; while I am speaking with my tongue I am listening with my eyes. I can see persuasion in the looks better than it can be expressed by words—to save you trouble and breath, I give you beforehand a reply to every meditated objection. I enjoy the anticipation of eloquence as much as I do the taste of fruits ripe before the usual season."

MYSTERIOUS PROFESSION.—"Now, Tom," said the printer of a country newspaper, in giving directions to his apprentice, "put the foreign leaders into the galley and lock 'em up—let 'Napoleon's remains' have a larger head—distribute the 'army in the East'—take up a line and finish the 'British Ministers'—make 'the young Princess' to run on with 'the Duchess of Kent'—move 'the Kerry hunt' out of the chase—get your stick, and conclude 'the horrid murder' which Joe began last night—wash your hands and come to dinner, and then see that all 'the pi' is cleared up." Some printers are devils and no mistake.

THE MONSTER TELESCOPE.—The Rev. Dr. Robinson, the celebrated astronomer of Armagh, in a letter, describing the gigantic telescope now constructing by the Earl of Rosse, as nearly complete, says:—"The speculum, which weighs three tons, has been ground to figure and can be polished in a day. The tube, partly a cubic chamber where the mirror is fixed, and partly a cylinder of inch deal, strongly hooped, and eight feet diameter at its centre, is complete. The massive centres on which the telescope is to turn are in their

place, and the apparatus which supports the speculum, which is of wire, and of great weight, is also complete. The telescope is not to be turned to any part of the sky, but limited to a range of half an hour on each side of the meridian, through which its motion will be given by powerful clock-work, independent of the observer. For this purpose it stands between two pieces of masonry of Gothic architecture, which harmonises well with the castle. One of these pillars will sustain the galleries for the observer, and the other the clock-work and other machinery, one of which is finished and the other being nearly completed. An extremely elegant arrangement of counterpoises is intended to balance the enormous mass, so that a comparatively slight force only will be required to elevate or depress it, much of which is also completed, and Lord Rosse considers that a couple of months will be sufficient to have the instrument fit for trial. The arrangements will not permit the examination of an object at any time, but only when near the meridian, when objects are best seen. So large a telescope will always require the most favourable circumstances of air, &c., and there will always be enough of objects at any given time to employ it fully. The aperture is six feet, and the focal length fifty-two feet."

BAZED OF POULTRY.—Since 1824, in eggs, there have been exported from Dublin alone to the value of £273,000, distributable among the poorer classes. This is principally to be attributed to the taste of Mr. J. J. Nolan, of Bachelor's Walk, who has for many years past, at great expense, imported and distributed extensively the finest of all foreign breeds. He has sent for exhibition to our agricultural show, five crops of the most extraordinary for size and beauty, from the spangled Poles to the gigantic Malays, some of the male birds standing upwards of two feet high.—Belfast Chronicle.

PARSNIES—A FIELD CROP.—The labor and mode of cultivating the parsnip are about the same as those of the carrot. The parsnip produces a large crop, its average product being rated at 24 tons the acre, and that of the carrot at 12 tons. The parsnip also contains a far greater proportion of saccharine matter than does the carrot, is grateful to the palate of farm stock, and is greatly conducive to their fattening. It possesses another advantage over the carrot, in its hardness—it may be left in the ground till spring and not be injured by the frost. In the Island of Jersey it forms a regular part of the field system. The roots are fed in a raw state to the hogs and horned cattle; the flesh of the former they are said to render delicately white, and the benefit derived from the latter is, in the opinion of many growers, nearly equal to that obtained from oil cake, in point of the weight of flesh, and so superior in flavor that in the Island it always commands the highest price. Cows fed upon them during the winter months are said to produce butter of a color and flavor equal to that of the most luxuriant grasses. In Jersey, 25 pounds are given daily to the cows with hay, and the cream is more abundant than from an equal quantity of milk and the cows differently fed—seven quarts producing as much as 17 ounces of butter.—Yankee Farmer.

THE COLONIAL HERALD is regularly filed in London by Mr. P. L. SIMMONS, Agent for the American and Canadian Newspapers, British and Foreign Newspaper and Advertising Agency Office, 18 Cornhill (opposite the Royal Exchange), where advertisements will be received.

The Colonial Herald.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1843.

The Steamer St. GEORGE having ceased plying for the present season, the Mails were dispatched for Pictou, via the Wood Islands, on Tuesday last. The boat, we understand, did not succeed in crossing the Strait until yesterday. A gentleman connected with the Commissariat Department at Halifax, having arrived in town this morning, in charge of specie for the payment of the troops in this garrison, we have been put in possession of the Halifax Times of the 12th inst. The only paragraphs it contains worth extracting are the two following:—

RESIGNATION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF CANADA.—The news furnished by Captain Stairs, which we published last week, relative to the resignation of the Executive Council of Canada, turns out to be correct in every particular. In the Assembly, on Monday the 27th ult., Mr. Lafontaine rose and addressed the Chair, for the purpose of informing the House, that he and his colleagues, with the exception of Mr. Secretary Daly, had felt it to be their duty to tender their resignations to the Governor General, which had been accepted, and they held office only till their successors were appointed. A similar explanation took place the same afternoon, in the Legislative Council, by Mr. Sullivan. The causes which led to this step, on the part of the Canadian Ministry, were to be explained to the Legislature on Wednesday the 29th. The next arrivals from Canada will bring us all the news. The Governor General, it is stated, has sought the assistance of Mr. Draper and Mr. Morris, who, it is supposed, will be entrusted with the formation of the new Cabinet.

The Royal Mail Steamships will leave Halifax, during the winter months, as follows:—3rd of January—3rd of February—3rd of March—3rd of April—and 3rd of May.

In another part of this day's paper our readers will find a Correspondence which has lately passed between the Representatives of the Second Electoral District of King's County and the Speaker of the House of Assembly. This Correspondence reached us too late for insertion in last Saturday's paper. It was, however, published in our Country Edition of Tuesday last, a copy of which having fallen into the hands of the editor of the Islander, he has transferred it to his columns. This circumstance accounts for its appearance in that paper of yesterday.

The unrepealed Section of the Act, 6 Will. 4, cap. 24, under which Messrs. Cooper and Dingwell have acted, in the present instance, is as follows:—

XXIV. And be it further enacted, That in case of a vacancy happening in the Assembly, by the death of any Member thereof, or by his being called to His Majesty's Council, or by resigning his seat on his removal from the Island, or otherwise, on information thereof being given to the Speaker by any Member rising in his place—or if such vacancy happen during any recess of the Assembly, by Prorogation or Adjournment, on information thereof being given to the Speaker for the time being, under the hands of any two members of the Assembly, it shall be the duty of the Speaker to report the same forthwith to the Lieutenant Governor, or other Administrator of the Government for the time being, who is hereby empowered and required, within seven days after such Report, to issue a new Writ for the Election of a Member or Members of Assembly to fill up such vacancy; and in case of the death or absence from the Island of the Speaker, upon the representation of any two of the Members of the Assembly, under their hands, to the Lieutenant Governor or other Administrator of the Government for the time being, he shall proceed thereon in the same manner as if the same had been preceded by the Speaker.

The Act, 7 Will 4, cap. 13, "for vacating the seats of Members, in certain cases," the operation of which it is supposed the House of Assembly intended to suspend when passing the Small Debt and Statute Labor Acts of last Session, as far as regards the re-appointment to office under those Acts—is as follows:—

CAP. XIII. WHEREAS it is deemed expedient to repeal the said Act, and to make other provisions in lieu thereof: Be it therefore enacted, by the Lieutenant Governor, Council and Assembly, That an Act made and passed in the Fifth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intitled An Act for vacating the Seats of Members of the Assembly, in certain cases therein mentioned, shall be, and the same is hereby repealed; and that from and after the passing of this Act, any Member of the House of Assembly who shall accept an Office of Emolument under the Crown, shall be incapable of taking or holding his seat in the General Assembly of this Island while in such office, unless re-elected after his acceptance thereof.

[April 20th, 1837.]