

to a dissolution? The hon. member desires to impose on the better judgment of his party, by raising the cry of, "keep down the minority."

Hon. COL. SECRETARY.—The hon. member and Mr. D use signed petitions against the Bills, not that they might gratify the people of the Island, but to aid and comfort the minority. It is the duty of a Government to consider the probable effect of a Despatch. The majority represent the people; the minority do not; and the members of the Government said from the first of the discussion that they would not produce the entire document. The hon. member, Mr. Douse, had expressed his regret that the Government should have an adviser so ignorant as I am of the mode of transacting business at the Colonial Office. He said that he could get Despatches from its records.

Mr. DOUSE.—So I can. Hon. COL. SECRETARY.—Well, Mr. Speaker, we all know that the influence of the proprietors is very great at the Colonial Office—so great, indeed, that it is a difficult matter to carry any measures through it, which in any way affect their interests. I am sometimes astonished when I consider what has been done. Take, for instance, the One-ninth Bill. The proprietors raised heaven and earth against it. The royal sanction was withheld, it was reconsidered, and carried at last by a stratagem. The minority, Sir, must not claim to suppose terms on the majority, and threaten them by saying, "if you don't do as we wish we will address the Lieutenant Governor."

Hon. Mr. MONTGOMERY.—Mr. Speaker, I did not expect so protracted a discussion on this motion. I infer from what has fallen from the Hon. Col. Secretary, that there may be one or two expressions in the Despatch that he does not like. But if so, why not produce it? I am no friend to the proprietors, but if there is anything in the Despatch justifying their opposition to the Bills, it should be furnished; but I can see no reason why we should not have the entire Despatch here. Perhaps, Sir, the extracts alone are more calculated for the manufacture of political capital than would be the whole Despatch. Considering the antecedents of some hon. members, I have listened to strange doctrines to-night. While I never would press for the production of private Despatches, I must support the motion before the House, as Sir George Grey's Despatch is a public one.

Mr. McINTOSH.—Mr. Speaker, I am in favour of the motion. I never could, if I knew myself, become a party to the withholding a public Despatch from the public. I consider such conduct would be tyrannical. I may, Mr. Speaker, be charged with a desire to upset the Government, but I have no such desire. I have supported and will support it as long as it carries measures that are just and beneficial to the people. I will never be a party to prevent a minority or majority obtaining a public document.

Hon. COL. SECRETARY.—As so tyrannical, the present was an attempt of the minority to tyrannize over the majority, by compelling them to do as they (the minority) pleased.

Mr. McINTOSH.—A minority cannot tyrannize. Mr. LAIRD would support the motion. The Lieutenant Governor had stated that he would lay the papers before the House.

Hon. Mr. WHELAN charged Messrs. Cooper, Laird and McIntosh with co-operating with the minority against the party they were returned to support. This gave rise to a great deal of confusion and personal recrimination, which the Reporter did not take down. The hon. member went on to say, that the Governor having said that he would communicate to the House the reasons assigned for the disallowance of the Bills, they were bound to believe that those reasons were embodied in the extract sent down. Of course the minority must feel gratified at the accession to their ranks of the hon. members, Messrs. Cooper, Laird and McIntosh, and he wished the two sections of the Opposition mutual joy of their new association.

Hon. Mr. MOONEY.—The country will see with surprise the new coalition, Messrs. Douse, Yeo and Palmer supporting the rights of the people! We must be near the end of the world!

Mr. HAVILAND.—The hon. member hardly ever votes without reference to private motives, yet is constantly imputing this to others.

Hon. Mr. PALMER condemned the unhandsome and unparliamentary manner adopted by the loud voiced member of the Government towards the Opposition. When my hon. friend, Mr. Haviland, made the motion, he confined his observations within legitimate bounds, but he was met by the Hon. Mr. Whelan with the imputation, that his only motive was the gratification of private pique and personal malice. Sir, I might retaliate by saying that the Government is influenced by sinister motives. I might suggest to the hon. member himself the effect of the present discussion with regard to the continuance of his salary, about £1000 a year.

Hon. Mr. WHELAN.—That is not correct.

Hon. Mr. PALMER.—I ask, Mr. Speaker, are our mouths to be shut? When the Government wish to oppose any measure emanating from this side of the House, the hon. member from Flinty Glen gets up and tries to frighten members with the cry that the Government is in danger. What a fall it would be! The sword of Damocles, the hon. member feels, is suspended over his head by a hair, and may at any moment descend. Sir, I agree with the hon. member, Mr. McIntosh, that no man should be abused because he indignantly spurs a state of abject servility to any man or any body of men. It is fortunate for the country that there are members in this House who are not bound down by regard to their salaries to vote as they are bidden. I, for one, am not dissatisfied to hear hon. members declare that they are not bound to vote against their convictions. The present question, Mr. Speaker, is a most important one. Here we have a motion for the production of a public Despatch, and as the reasons therein assigned for the course pursued would exert a great influence on the opinions of the people one way or another, the public should be made acquainted with those reasons. What better indication of the intentions of Her Majesty's Government could we have than the Despatch? If it should, in addition to the extract before us, contain suggestions as to modes of developing the resources of the Colony, and advancing its material interests, we should have it here for the general good; if adverse to the rights or legitimate influence of the people, more satisfaction would be given by its general publication than can ever arise from the circulation of a mere extract. As to private or confidential Despatches, we have nothing to induce the belief that this is one of that class. It is a public document, and the question is, have the public a right to its production? The Government say, "We are responsible." Then let the people judge after getting the Despatch. It will not do for the Government to say, "It will not do for us to publish it, such a course might peril our situations." I do say, Sir, that so long as a Despatch is not marked "Private" or "Confidential," it is the right and duty of the minority to rise and ask for it. In concluding those remarks, Mr. Speaker, I must do the hon. Col. Secretary the justice to say that he has throughout this discussion manifested perfectly good temper. I wish, Sir, that I could say as much of some of his supporters, and that they were not so much addicted to personal and unparliamentary remarks, in attributing the conduct of hon. members to private pique and personal malice. It occurs to me to state that the Despatches withheld from the present Government, when in opposition, to which allusion has been made, were marked "Private," and therefore could not with propriety be submitted.

The House then divided, when there appeared for the motion—Hons. Messrs. Palmer, Longworth and Montgomery, Messrs. Haviland, Douse, Yeo, Cooper, Laird and McIntosh.

Against it—Hons. Col. Secretary, Col. Treasurer, Messrs. Wightman, Mooney and Whelan, Messrs. Clark, Perry, Munro, McDonald, McGill.—10.

FRIDAY, February 29.

PETITIONS.

The following road petitions were presented to the House, read, and referred to the members of the several districts:—

By Mr. Yeo, from inhabitants of Cross River, Lot 14; by Mr. Munro, from inhabitants of Uigg, back Settlement and others; by same, from inhabitants of rear settlement of Uigg, Lot 50; by Mr. McIntosh, from inhabitants of back settlements of Norrie's Pond; by same, from inhabitants of North Lake, Lot 47; by Hon. Mr. Wightman, from inhabitants of Sparrow's road and surrounding settlements; by same, from inhabitants of Lots 51 and 31; by Hon. Mr. Mooney, from inhabitants of Colville road, northern end of Lot 31; by same, from inhabitants of Lots 30 and 65; by same, from inhabitants of Dog River Settlement; by the Hon. Colonial Secretary, from inhabitants of Irishtown and its vicinity; by same, from James Ferguson and others, Lot 34; by the Hon. Col. Treasurer, from inhabitants of Horshead settlement and others; by same, from inhabitants of Black Pond and its vicinity.

Mr. McIntosh presented a petition from inhabitants of East Point, praying compensation to Alex. McDonald, for a road running through a part of his farm.

Hon. Mr. Whelan presented a petition from Henry Mooney, praying remuneration for repairing road leading from Pisquid road to Peake's road.—Both Petitions laid on table.

Mr. Yeo presented a petition from Mary Ann Murphy, an unlicensed teacher at Lot 14, praying remuneration for her services as such for six months. Referred to Committee on Teachers' Petitions. Mr. Yeo also presented a petition from Louis Arsenau, praying relief on account of his farm, on Lot 13, having been sold at Sheriff's sale for land tax, when he had paid the tax, but owing to an error of the receiver, he had not been credited with the amount. Referred to a Special Committee to report thereon.

The following petitions, praying for the opening of new lines of roads, were received and referred to the Committee appointed therefor:—By Mr. Munro, from inhabitants of Lots 49 and 66. By Hon. Mr. Wightman, from inhabitants of Lots 51 and 38. By same, from inhabitants of Lots 51 and 66.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary presented the Warrant Book for the financial year ending 17th January, 1856. The Hon. Secretary also laid before the House a letter from D. Reddin, Esq., proposing to lease to the Government his wharf at the end of Great George Street for a Ferry landing, with a subscription list in aid of building a landing slip in connection with the wharf.

The Hon. Col. Treasurer also laid before the House a subscription list in aid of building a Ferry wharf at the end of Prince Street. Documents laid on table.

The Legislative Council sent down, as agreed to, the Act to protect Justices of the Peace from vexatious actions.

The Bill to continue the Act relating to Buoy and Beacons was read a third time and passed. Then the House adjourned.

In the afternoon sitting the House went into Committee of the whole on the further consideration of the Bill to facilitate the performance of the duties of Justices of the Peace with respect to persons charged with indictable offences. Bill agreed to in Committee with some amendments, and ordered to be engrossed.

The House again went into Committee on Supply, and passed several votes, which will be particularized in next day's proceedings. Committee to sit again.

The Hon. Col. Secretary presented the Road Correspondent's Account of the expenditure on roads, bridges and wharfs in the past year, also the report of the Commissioner for the 12th District of Queen's County, embracing his expenditure in the road service during the past year. The House then adjourned.

SATURDAY, March 1.

PETITIONS.

The following petitions were presented, read, and laid on table:—

By Mr. Yeo, from Lauchlan McKinnon, Lot 14, praying remuneration for repairing a Scow, and for ferrying Mail Carrier semi-weekly.

By Mr. Perry, from John McIntosh, Mail carrier, praying remuneration for extra services as such in Prince County.

Mr. Clark, from Wm. Chappell, Bay Verte praying aid towards running a packet between that port and Charlottetown.

Mr. McGill presented a petition from certain inhabitants of Lots 28 and 29, chiefly aged people, complaining of the assessment for education, as they have no families to participate in its benefits, and praying relief.—Mr. McGill also presented a petition from certain inhabitants of Lot 30, setting forth their belief that a large portion of that Township does not belong to Mr. Stewart—having been granted to American Loyalists by former proprietors, and praying the House to enable the petitioners to purchase their farms under the Land Purchase Act.—Petitions laid on table.

The following road petitions were presented, and referred to the members of the districts:—

By Mr. Clark, from John McGregor and others, Lot 16; by same, from inhabitants of Lots 15 and 17; by same, from inhabitants of Lots 18 and 20. By Mr. Douse, from inhabitants of Lots 48 and 49; by same from inhabitants of Murray Harbor road and Douse's road. By Hon. Mr. Mooney, from inhabitants of Lot 37.

Mr. Clark presented a petition from inhabitants of Summerside, praying for a law against the running at large of swine; and also a petition from inhabitants of St. Eleanor's, for a similar object. Both petitions referred to a special Committee to report thereon.

Mr. Douse presented a petition from inhabitants of Southern district of Queen's County, praying that the Mails be transmitted semi-weekly to their respective districts. Referred to Post Office Committee.

Mr. Douse also presented a petition from inhabitants of Village Green, Lot 49, praying for aid to open a new road. Referred to the special committee for opening new roads.

The Hon. Col. Secretary introduced a Bill to facilitate the performance of the duties of Justices of the Peace, with respect to summary convictions and orders, which was read a first time.

The Hon. Col. Treasurer presented a Bill to consolidate and amend the several Acts regulating the sale of spirituous liquors, which was read a first time.—House adjourned.

When the House met again in the afternoon, the Hon. Col. Treasurer, as Chairman of Committee of Supply, reported thirty four resolutions, which were severally read to the House, and agreed to therein. They provide for the following salaries and services:—

Table with 2 columns: Position and Salary. Chief Justice, £600; Master of the Rolls and Assistant Judge, 500; Attorney and Advocate General, 350; Solicitor General, 300; Clerk of the Crown and Prothonotary, 160; Colonial Secretary, 300; Colonial Treasurer, 300; Commissioner of Public Lands, 300.

Table with 2 columns: Position and Salary. Controller of Customs and Navigation Laws and Collector of Impost, 300; Registrar of Deeds and Keeper of Plans, 150; Road Correspondent, and Assistant Clerk of the Executive and Legislative Councils, 100; Clerk of the Executive and Legislative Councils, 120; Assistant Colonial Secretary, 150; Assistant Colonial Treasurer, 150; Assistant Controller of Navigation Laws and Collector of Impost, 100; Assistant Registrar of Deeds and Keeper of Plans, 100; Postmaster General, 100; Assistant Postmaster General, 80; Country Postmasters, 80; Controllers of Navigation Laws, and Collectors of Impost for the Outports, 210; School Visitor, 300; Three Masters Central Academy, 25; Adjutant General of Militia, 345; Thirty-three Road Commissioners, 40; Librarian, Legislative Library, £200; Pension to the Hon. Thomas Heath Haviland, late Colonial Secretary, 350; Lunatic Asylum and House of Industry, 400; A sum sufficient for Education, 8000; Royal Agricultural Society, 150; Roads, Bridges and Wharfs, Summer and Winter Mails, 700; Inland Mails, 160; Public Postage, 100; Packet between Georgetown and Pictou, 300; Landwaiters and Preventive Officers, 60; Auditors of Public Accounts, 15; Commissioners for issuing Treasury Notes, 30; Packet between Beedque and Shediac, 75; Superintendent of Public Works, 100; Assayer of Weights and Measures, Queen's County, 10; Medical Attendant of Queen's County Jail, 4; Do. do. of Prince County Jail, 4; Do. do. of King's County Jail, 4; Keeper of Queen's County Jail, 15; Matron of Queen's County Jail, 30; Keeper of Prince County Jail, 20; Do. of King's County Jail, 700; Expenses of three County Jails, 60; Keeper of Colonial building, 800; Repairing and painting Colonial Building, 40; Expenses of Legislative Council and House of Assembly—a sum sufficient, 20; For the relief of Indians, 20; Messenger of Executive Council, 5; Market Clerk, Georgetown, 650; For the relief of Paupers, 140; Buoy and Beacons, 50; Boards of Health, 25; Protection of Fisheries, 1000; Interest on Debentures, 400; Interest on Warrants, 800; Incidental and contingent expenses of the Lunatic Asylum, 100; Public Printing and Stationery, 16; Public Surveys, 14; For Pews in Churches—Episcopal Church, 7; Catholic Church, 17; Presbyterian Church, 7; Free Church, 7; Wesleyan Church, 7; Baptist Church, 7.

Balance for repairs to Government House, and a balance due for gas-light fittings—a sum sufficient, 20; Messenger to Public Offices, 200; Guard at Government House and Signal station, 70; Block-house light and attendant, 100; Fuel for the public offices and the Legislature, 400; Contingent expenses of the Government, 30; Premium for killing Louperviers and Bears, 60; Salaries of three High Sheriffs, 350; Crown Prosecutions and Crown Officers' Fees for miscellaneous services, and for Jurors, 20; Crier of the Court, 30; Coroners' Inquests, 150; For repairs to Government House, 200; Expenses under Compensation Act, 200; Incidental expenses for roads, bridges and wharfs, 800; Expenses of Light-houses and Lights at Point Prim, Three Rivers, Richmond Bay, Cascumpee and Summerside, and Light-house Tower at the Blockhouse, 600; St. Paul's and Scattarie Light-houses, 36.

Hon. Mr. Montgomery moved to reduce the vote for the Visitor of Schools from £300 to £200. The motion was lost on the following division:—

Ayes—Hons. Messrs. Montgomery, Longworth, Palmer, Messrs. Yeo, McDonald, McIntosh, Laird, Munro, H. Haviland—9.

Nays—Hons. Col. Secretary, Col. Treasurer, Wightman, Whelan, Mooney, Messrs. Dingwell, McGill, Clark, Perry, Cooper—10.

A motion being made to strike out the vote of £100 to the Private Secretary, the appropriation was agreed to on the following division:—

For the vote—Hons. Col. Treasurer, Col. Secretary, Messrs. Whelan, Wightman, Palmer, H. Haviland, Perry, Munro, McGill, Dingwell, Clark—11.

Against it—Hon. Mr. Montgomery, Messrs. McDonald, Yeo, Cooper, Laird, McIntosh—6.

The other resolutions from Supply were agreed to without division.

The Hon. Col. Secretary presented to the House a report of the Superintendent of Public Works, relative to repairs for the Jails in Prince and Queen's Counties; and also repairs for Colonial Building. Referred to Committee of Supply.—House then adjourned.

MONDAY, March 3.

PETITIONS.

The Hon. Col. Treasurer presented a petition from inhabitants of the western portion of Prince County, and others, praying for a division of Prince County, and the establishment of necessary Courts of Law and officers at Cascumpee, as being the most eligible place for such institutions in that section of the County. The Hon. Col. Treasurer also presented a petition from inhabitants of Tignish, praying aid towards the funds of a Circulating Library, for the purchase of French books.

By Mr. McDonald, a petition from John Holland, Ferryman, Cardigan River, praying compensation for loss sustained on his contract as Ferryman.

By Mr. McGill, from inhabitants of 2nd District of Queen's County, praying compensation may be granted to the contractors who built two blocks at the wharf at McConnell's Ferry, for alleged loss on their contract.

By Hon. Mr. Mooney, from inhabitants of Lots 31 and 65, praying aid to build a wharf at McEachern's Point, north side of Elliot River; also, a petition of Daniel Lacy, Tryon, offering to give the public a right of way through his farm, and praying compensation.

By Mr. H. Haviland, from John Mackieson, Chairman of P. E. Island Medical Association, praying for an enactment which will place the medical profession in this Island in as

advantageous a position as in other countries, with the view of suppressing ignorant pretenders to medical knowledge.

By Mr. Dingwell, from Roderick McDonald, Lot 52, praying payment of balance due him on his contract for repairing a road.

The following road petitions were presented and laid on table:—

By Mr. Speaker, from inhabitants of Montague Brook settlement, 66, praying remuneration for work performed; from inhabitants of same locality, praying aid for roads.

By the Hon. Treasurer, from inhabitants of Lots 8 and 9, By Mr. Perry, from inhabitants of Abraham's Village, Lot 15; from inhabitants of Fifteen Point and its vicinity; from inhabitants of Lot 15.

By the Hon. Treasurer, from inhabitants of Lots 13, 14 and 15.

By Mr. McGill, from inhabitants of north side of Banockburn road settlement; from inhabitants of south side of the Hillsborough.

By Hon. Mr. Mooney, from settlers on New Wiltshire Road, Lot 31; from inhabitants of Tracadie and others; from inhabitants of South Wiltshire Road, Lot 31, Peter's Road, Lot 65, and part of Lot 30; from inhabitants of Grand Tracadie; from inhabitants of Millocke, Lot 25, and Suffolk, Lot 34; from inhabitants of Scotch Fort and Lot 36, north side of the Hillsborough.

By Mr. Munro, from inhabitants of Pisquid road, Lot 49, Head of Vernon River, and others; from inhabitants of Lots 50 and 57; from inhabitants of Orwell head and Murray Harbor road.

By Hon. Mr. Whelan, from inhabitants of Lots 54 and 55; from inhabitants of Marsh road, Lot 40; from inhabitants of Morrell, Lot 39.

By Hon. Col. Secretary, from inhabitants of St. Peter's Road, Lot 34; from other inhabitants of Lot 34; from inhabitants of Little York and Suffolk Settlements, Lot 34; from inhabitants of Friston road and its vicinity; from inhabitants of Lot 22; from inhabitants of Suffolk settlement.

By Mr. McGill, from inhabitants of 2nd electoral district of Queen's County, praying a grant to extend the wharf at McConnell's ferry; from inhabitants of Elliot River and others, praying aid towards the erection of a wharf at Patterson's Point, north side of Elliot river.

By the Hon. Col. Secretary, from inhabitants of Rustico, praying grant to complete the wharf near the Oyster Bed at Wheately River; from Andrew Dickieson, praying payment of a balance due him on his contract in building Hope River Bridge.

By Hon. Mr. Whelan, from John Cahill, Bay Fortune Road, praying compensation for making a road.

By Mr. Laird, from inhabitants of Lots 23, 24 and adjacent Lots, praying for the establishment of a Post Office at Wheately River Bridge.

By Mr. Perry, from inhabitants of Fifteen Point, praying for establishment of a Post Office.

By Mr. Munro, from inhabitants of Belfast, praying for the semi-weekly transmission of the mails to that district. The last three petitions were referred to the Post Office Committee.

By Hon. Col. Treasurer, from the trustees of the Union School, Cascumpee, praying an allowance to Henry Leekey, an unlicensed teacher, for his services as such for six months. Referred to Committee on Teachers' petitions.

By Hon. Col. Treasurer, from inhabitants of Prince County, praying grant for the erection of a Light House at North Cape. Referred to Light House Committee.

By Mr. Perry, from inhabitants of Lots 17 and 19, praying aid to open a road from the wharf at Summerside to the high road leading from St. Eleanor's to Traveller's Rest.

By Mr. Laird, from inhabitants of Lot 24 and others, praying for the opening of a new line of road from Wheately River Bridge to the vicinity of Johnston's, Princetown Road.

By Hon. Mr. Whelan, from inhabitants of Grand River, Lot 55, praying for the opening of a new road to the Grand River Ferry, on the south side of the said Ferry. Referred to Committee on opening new roads.

By Mr. H. Haviland, from the President and Directors of the Gas-light Company, praying an amendment of their Act of Incorporation. Petition referred to a special Committee to report by Bill or otherwise.

The Petition from certain inhabitants of Lot 30, relating to the claims of American Loyalists to a portion of that Lot, was again taken up, and referred to a Special Committee to report thereon.

The Bill to facilitate the performance of the duties of Justices of the Peace, with respect to summary convictions and orders, was read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole House. Progress reported.—House adjourned.

In the afternoon sitting, Mr. Speaker laid before the House a communication of the Dorcas Wesleyan Society, embracing a report of their expenditure in the past year, and praying a grant in aid of their funds. Laid on table.

The Hon. Mr. Mooney presented the following road petitions:—From inhabitants of Banockburn settlement; from inhabitants of Monaghan Settlement; from inhabitants of Lots 36 and 48; and from inhabitants of Lots 48 and 49.

Mr. Laird presented a petition from inhabitants of Rustico and New Glasgow, praying for a grant to place Buoy and Beacons at Rustico Harbour. Laid on table.

The House again went into Committee on the further consideration of the Bill to facilitate the performance of the duties of Justices of the Peace, with respect to summary convictions and orders. Progress reported.

The Hon. Col. Secretary presented a report and plans of a Survey and probable expenditure for the making of a new line of road to be substituted for the present route between Charlottetown and Haslam's, Princetown road. Papers laid on table.

The Hon. Col. Secretary, from the Committee appointed last session to report on the practicability of building a bridge over the Oyster bed at Rustico, presented the following report:—

"Your Committee, to whom was referred the Petition of the inhabitants of Rustico, praying for the erection of a bridge over the Oyster bed near the residence of Mr. Hughes, have to report—that they consider the desired bridge would be of great benefit to a large portion of the inhabitants of Lots 33 and 24, and therefore beg to recommend the erection of said bridge, with a provision for the passage of new vessels.

"Mr. Hughes agrees to give a right of way through his farm to the intended site of the said bridge, on the west side of the river. Mr. Blatch offers also to give a right of way through his farm, on the east side, for ten pounds—all of which is respectfully submitted."

The above report was referred to the members of the district to provide the necessary amount for the erection of the bridge.

The Hon. Mr. Longworth presented a petition from John McKinnon, late Preventive officer, praying compensation for services performed and expenses incurred in placing a watch on board the Schr. "Dragonet," seized by petitioner and the late N. LePage. Petition referred to a special committee to report thereon.

The Hon. Mr. Mooney presented a petition from inhabitants of Lots 35, 36 and 37, south side of the Hillsborough river, praying a grant towards building a bridge over Pisquid river. Petition referred to a special committee.

The following road petitions were then presented and read:—By Mr. Laird, from inhabitants of Lot 33. By the Hon.