tioned in one of the Reports. I happened to have an opportunity of visiting that school not long ago, and can confirm the Visitor's Report. I was exceedingly well pleased with the school and the system pursued, which were excellent. The season at which I visited it was one during which the attendance is usually small throughout the country, but I found a large number present, and among them some young men and women. I considered it as a good feature to see such a school established in the district.

Hon. Mr. DINGWELL: I do not wish to prevent the publication of these Reports, if they are really worth it to the country. I merely wished to take the opinion of the House on the matter.

Reports ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Palmer, the Bill to diminish delay in proceedings in the Court of Chancery was read a third time with the amendments and passed.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Haythorne, the Bill to continue and amend certain Acts therein named, was read a third time and passed.

House adjourned till eleven o'clock on Monday.

MONDAY, May 6th.

Hon. Mr. Lord presented a petition from Cornelius R. O'Leary, M. D., but not being regularly drawn the House could not entertain it.

Hon. Mr. Hensley from the House of Assembly, presented a Bill to amend the Land Assessment Act. Received and read.

House adjourned till eleven o'clock to-morrow.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

MONDAY AFTERNOON, April 22.

Debate on the Draft Address in answer to His Excellency's Speech (continued.)

Hon. Mr. LAIRD.—Mr. Chairman; being a young member, I did not wish to be too hasty in rising to address this hon. Committee. But I cannot any longer retain my seat, when I hear such a reason given for delaying the general Election. In fact, it is no reason at all. Sir, in my boyish days I was led to believe that law and lawyers were nearly synonous terms for roguery and deception; but I have lived that opinion down. Still, when I hear the hon and learned member for Charlottetown advancing such reason as he has done to-night, I am almost forced to the conclusion that my early impressions were correct. Now, if he was honest in voting for the "no terms" resolutions, it ought to be a matter of indifference to him how early in the summer the elections were held. If consistency had characterized the actions of the late Government, delay in the case was unnecessary. The attempt to justify putting off the Elections, on account of the general tenor of the resolutions on confederation passed last Session, is, I think, without force, when we consider that the "no terms" portion of them is their most prominent feature,—so much so, that they receive their designation from it, and will continue to do so while the Journals of this House remain in existence. The hon. member of Charlottetown has also twitted the members for the Government about the "composite" material of which it is formed. Be that as it may, I think their opinions are more in harmony with each other, and their actions characterized by greater unanimity, than were those of the late Government. One member of that "happy family"—the hon. member for Murray Harbor (Mr. Henderson)—was kicked (pardon the expression) out of that honorable body. And the operation appears to have had a beneficial effect upon him, judging from his present conduct, following, as he does, closely to, and firmly supporting, the present hon. Leader of the Opposition, who remained a member of the late Government after his (Mr. Henderson's) gentle dismissal.

Mr. BRECKEN.—To say that no terms could be offered that would induce us to enter into Confederation, was certainly going too far. The hon. member from Bedeque insinuates that I was prepared to enter into Confederation, if better terms were offered. This is an error. I did not say so, or deviate from my pledge to return the matter to the hustings.

Hon. Mr. HENDERSON.—Mr. Chairman; the hon. member who has just sat down (Mr. Laird), in his reply to the hon. and learned member on my right (Mr. Brecken) has alluded to me; but I would remind him that it is quite unnecessary to attack me over the shoulders of another, for, I believe, I can stand upon my own legs. He affirms that I was kicked out of the late Government; but I can assure him that I was neither kicked nor pushed out of the Government, as the correspondence on the subject, published several months ago, has sufficiently proved; and if the question were put to the vote of the intelligent people of the Island, I venture to say that they would pronounce my conduct as honorable as that of any member in this House. The illustration made use of by the hon. member, I did not distinctly hear, but its drift I can easily understand; and I believe that, if it may be taken as a true index to his forthcoming speeches, he may expect laurels, not a few, before the end of the Session. He has only bound on the state harness; let him not think too hastily that he would work his way through a difficulty like the one alluded to, with more credit than I have done. The hon. member (Mr. Davies) is muttering on his seat, while I am speaking; but I must tell that hon. member that it would be much more gentlemanly for him to stand up and reply to me himself, if able to do so, than to sit prompting another for that purpose.

Mr. McLENNAN.—This discursive debate, Mr. Chairman, is a perfect waste of time. I am one of those who approve of the action of the late Government in reference to the general Election. Hon. members have brought into this discussion matters not before this hon. Committee. In the paragraph under consideration there is not one word that has any reference to Confederation. It is a waste of time to be referring now to many of the subjects which have been dragged into this debate. There will be ample opportunity to do so when these questions come up, in proper form, before the House.

Mr. PROWSE.—Mr Chairman: I feel it to be my duty to tell the hon. member for Belfast (Mr. Davies) that, when he undertakes to charge this side of the House as being the Confederate side, he is stating what is incorrect. There are, Sir, on this side of the House, men as strongly anti-Confederate as can be found anywhere. Why, Sir, the conduct of the majority, with respect to the elections for the City of Charlottetown, cannot be defended. The hon. gentleman charges us with changing our opinions on Confederation, because we have a Confederate for our Leader; and yet he and his party were willing and anxious to put that same gentleman into the Speaker's Chair. I am sure, if a Confederate was placed in that honorable position by this House, it would be regarded by the public as a tendency towards Confederation, much more than the act of the Opposition in choosing him to be their Leader. I need not say one word with respect to the hon. member giving his own vote for a strong Confederate, after what has been said by others on that act of his. The Government side of this house is made up of old Liberals, Tenant Leaguers, Confederates, and Conservatives; and on this side, there are men who are strongly opposed to Confederation. With respect to the question, why the late Government did not cause the Elections to take place earlier, I may say that, if they felt that any danger was to come out of hasty steps, they were doing a good service in acting as they did. And, Sir, I believe, there was a time when a Legislature, only nine months old, was dissolved, and a new Election held. Had the dissolution of the late Assembly taken place at the usual time, there was reason to apprehend that the same would have again occurred. If that was the reason, I consider it a perfectly satisfactory one, for it probably saved the country the expense of a second Election. We know that the Home Authorities were more anxious that this Colony should go into Confederation, than they were, some time ago, that we should have six additional members in this House; therefore, it was quite probable that they might have instructed His Excellency to dissolve the Assembly, and test the question of Confederation at the polls.

Hon. Mr. DAVIES.—I wish to say a word in reply to the hon. member for Charlottetown (Mr. Brecken). The hon. member said we were carrying on the Government on principles different from those formerly adopted by the Liberal party.

Mr. PROWSE.—As defined by yourselves.

Hon. Mr. DAVIES.—Responsible Government has been so ably defined by my hon. friend, the Attorney General, it is quite unnecessary for me to go further into the matter, as I endorse his opinions on that subject. Responsible Government is supposed to be the well-understood wishes of the people, as expressed through their Representatives. This side of the House is not now composed of the old liberal party. There is a good deal of new blood infused into it. There are not so many of the old party on the floor of this House as formerly, but there are gentlemen on this side of the House who are prepared to serve their country faithfully. The hon. member for Charlottetown has said that the Hon. the Colonial Secretary is not here. I am happy to inform that hon. member that he soon will.

Hon. LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION.—The Hon. Attorney General has favored us with a definition of Responsible Government, it given from a Nova Scotian stand-point of view. I, however, am in favor of the home-manufactured article. In 1859, the Liberals were defeated at the polls, and the Conservatives came into power. Previous to that time there were only twenty-four members in this House, a large proportion of whom were office-holders. Some questions arose which showed that the principle of having six or seven office-holders on the floors of this House gave the Government of the day an undue influence, and the people declared in favor of excluding all officials from the Legislature. When the Conservatives came into power, they carried out their pledges by forming a Government, without any of its officers having seats in either branch of the Legislature; and for so doing they were told that they had mutilated Responsible Government—that they had crushed out its life's blood. During the first session which they were in power, a question of importance—the nature of which I do not now remember—came before the House, and an hon. gentleman—who was then a member of this branch of the Legislature, but who is now, like Mahomet's coffin with respect to heaven or earth, neither in or out of this House—expressed his views on this point in very strong terms. Then we heard quite a different definition of Responsible Government from that which we have received to-day. Under the first Administration formed by that hon. gentleman, the Colonial Secretary, Treasurer, Commissioner of Public Lands, Collector of Customs, and others, down to the Registrar of Deeds, were members of the Legislature; and because these officers were excluded by the Conservatives from holding seats either in this House or in the Legislative Council, I find by the *Parliamentary Reporter* of 1859, that he expressed himself as follows:

Hon. Mr. COLES.—Under the present mongrel system of Government, every member of it is as much bound to support it, as was any head of a department under the previous system, so that the argument about the greater freedom from improper influences fell to the ground. There should be three or four heads of departments in the House, and I regret that the leader of the Government has not accepted the office to which he was so fully entitled; and I believe, that sooner than have allowed him to retire as a representative, had he taken office, a majority of his friends would have returned him here as an official. I should like to see every member of the Executive holding office, and I would rather see their number reduced to five, with offices, than as at present. This Government is a disgrace to the Colony, and a laughing stock to our neighbors. I say not this in reference to the individuals composing it, but to the principle on which it is constituted. The people will not remain long satisfied with the system of dispensing the patronage among the relatives of members of the Executive. Such has not been the course pursued in the other Colonies; and in Nova Scotia, Mr. Johnston, to whom the hon. member has referred, did not adopt it when he succeeded to power, but carried out the constitutional system, which is as near an approximation to the British as the difference between Imperial and Colonial institutions will admit. At present, a person coming from the country, having business with the Government, may be unable to see members of the Council; while, until recently, if the Governor was in his office, a Council could be formed at once from the officers in the building; but now the Governor cannot hold confidential communication with his principal officers, because they are not his advisers. Now, Mr. Chairman, with a party in power, under the leadership of the same hon. gentleman who enunciated these views in 1859, we look around this house in vain to see either the Colonial Treasurer, the Commissioner of Public Lands, the Collector of Customs, or the Registrar of Deeds. A change, certainly, has come over the spirit of their dream. In this case, verily, the men of yesterday are not the men of to-day.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL.—It requires a good deal of political experience to arrive at correct conclusions. We have had sixteen years of experience of Responsible Government, and have been endeavoring to work it out according to the well-understood wishes of the people, as expressed through their Representatives in this House; and, Sir, the events of the past teach us that we must look for change of views with politicians, as with other men. What did we see in England last year? and what do we see this year? Look at Mr. Gladstone, last year, and his opponents. He was driven from office, not, Sir, because the Conservatives feared his Bill would increase the constituencies too much, for now they themselves have brought in a Bill making yet larger increase. I am not, however, going to say that Mr. D'Israeli and Lord Derby are doing what is wrong. They are merely bowing to the expressed will of the people. So we see Mr. D'Israeli now openly and zealously advocating measures to which he was formerly opposed, and advocating them, too, in his place in Parliament. Sir Robert Peel, also, carried the Repeal of the Corn Laws, although he, at one time, was opposed to that measure.

Hon LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION.—He was converted: you are not.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL.—I will ask the hon. member for Charlottetown if he was not a member of the Political Alliance. If the hon. member will say he was not, then I will bow to his statement.

Mr. BRECKEN.—I was.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL.—Then that Association advocated vote by ballot.

Mr. BRECKEN.—I did not say that I would support the ballot, although I was a member of the Alliance.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL.—The only question I ask is, was the hon. member connected with the Political Alliance? He says that he was, and it is no use for him now to say that his sentiments were, on any point, opposed to the charter of the association. We cannot accept of any personal declarations of differences of opinion in another way. If a person belongs to an association, and makes use of it, I say it is just to state that he assents to, and is responsible for the principles of that society; and, if my reading was correct, the Political Alliance was in favor of vote by ballot in 1858. But what have the Conservatives since done to carry out this measure? It has been allowed to remain out of sight. We may assume that they, too, have changed their views, at least on this point. I consider, Mr. Chairman, that a party which brings forward any measure, departs from its principles, if it does not carry that measure out. I have, as I have said, always been opposed to vote by ballot, because I think that an Englishman should not be ashamed to record his vote openly. When the Conservatives came into power in 1858, we were to have total exclusion of office-holders from the floor of the House. This was then their great policy, and this policy they departed from in 1863. Can they tell us, then, that we are not carrying out Responsible Government, because we depart from some of the principles which guided us when that form of Government was introduced here? If this be the case, they themselves did not carry out the principles of Responsible Government, when they changed their policy, in regard to the office-holders.

Hon. LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION.—The people saw the error of their ways.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL.—Yes; the people saw the error of their ways, and the Government and the Representatives of the people saw the error of *their* ways. But it was still a departure from their principles, though they may say it was only a different way of working those principles out. This is very well—very good; and I am sure that, although the then Opposition congratulated the Conservatives on having turned from the error of their ways, they never upbraided them for not bringing a regiment of officers into the House. But, Mr. Chairman, there was no desire, on the part of the present Government, to delay unnecessarily the summoning of the Legislature. As soon as possible after the late administration was broken up, the present Leader formed his Government; and I believe that, rather than leave the country in confusion, had the Leader of the Opposition been able to form a Government, our Leader would not have interfered with him. If the members on this side of the House had been grasping after offices, it would have been impossible to call the Assembly even now, and the Revenue Bill might have been lost, had we thus adhered to the former policy of the Liberal party,—for with more than two or three members out of the House, the Government would have been placed at the tender mercies of the Opposition; and, in that position, as you may imagine, we were not inclined to be placed. The gentlemen on that side of the House may be very pleasant and agreeable; but we cannot trust them, when they are able to obtain an adverse vote. Let the Opposition, then, not cry out too soon. Why are they in such a hurry to pounce down on us, driven, as it were, into the position which we hold? They would, Mr. Chairman, shew far more of the true patriotic spirit, if they refrained from doing so for a time, or, at least, until the Government has had an opportunity to develope its policy.

Hon. LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION.—I am, indeed, very much obliged to the Hon. Attorney General, for his able, lengthy, and statesmanlike lecture upon political morality. I was not present when this discussion commenced; but I understand it was began by members on his own side of the House. The hon. member for Belfast opened it with that speech of his, which included the Tenant League and the calling in of the Troops. Then the Hon. Attorney General gave us a definition of Responsible Government; and now he has gone into the Franchise, vote by ballot, and Lord Derby's policy.

Mr. BRECKEN.—I wish, Mr. Chairman, to say a few words upon the ingenious remarks of the Hon. Attorney General concerning the Political Alliance. I can say only this: The Political Alliance was an organization of the Conservative party. The principle of vote by ballot was not, I believe, part of the constitution of the Alliance. Though incorporated in the draft constitution, it never formed part of the policy of its members or of the Conservative party, and was never brought forward by that party, either at the hustings, or on the floor of the House. I find no fault with the Hon. Attorney General for having changed his opinions. The Conservatives saw their mistake in the total exclusion of office-holders from the floor of the House, and they acknowledged it. If the present Government see that they were wrong in carrying out Departmental Government, why do they not frankly avow it? I believe that they are pursuing a wise course; but let them say that they have found themselves in the wrong,—not that the necessities of the times have compelled them to act as they have done, and compromise their principles. No, Sir; nothing would justify that—not even the loss of the Revenue Bill.

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS IN THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

WEDNESDAY, May 8.

House in Committee on Roads, Bridges, and Wharfs. After some time spent in Committee, progress was reported.

House in Committe of Supply adopted several resolutions and reported progress.

Dr. Jenkins presented a petition from several merchants, traders and mechanics, of Charlottetown, setting forth the insufficiency of the present amount of the money circulation of this Island, and praying for a further issue of Treasury Notes, with the view of relieving the embarrassments of trade and commerce, consequent upon the want of a circulating medium.

Ordered, that the said petition be referred to a Committee of the whole House to-morrow.

A Bill to amend the law relating to Trustees of Estates was received and read.

Hon. Attorney General presented a Bill to amend the Act relating to the Prince of Wales College, which was received and read, and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

The amendments contemplated in said Act relate to the more efficient management of that institution, by giving the Principal, or Head Professor, a more direct superintendence and control over the different departments of learning in that College, including the Grammar School in connection therewith. The said Head Professor to be responsible to the Trustees or Governors of the Institution for the maintenance of order, the regularity of attendance on the part of the Teachers, and the efficient instructions imparted in the various departments of said College and Grammar School. The duty of said Principal or Head Professor shall be to examine, once a month, the scholars taught at the Grammar School, and quarterly, the students and scholars taught by the second Professor, and also to order the arrangement of classes in said College and Grammar School, subject to the approval of the Trustees of that Institution. The Bill also provides for two public examinations of the students and scholars in all the departments connected with said College; one of the said examinations to take place immediately before midsummer holidays, and the other at Christmas.

Hon. Attorney General then remarked that there were other and more general changes required in connection with the Prince of Wales College; but it was not intended for the present to enter into detail. It appeared that the discipline of the Institution was defective, hence the necessity of the Bill to amend the law relating thereto.

Hon. Leader of the Government said it was high time to regulate the system upon which the College, but more especially the Grammar School in connection with the College, was conducted. The Master of that School was unable to impart instruction to the whole School, numbering over seventy scholars. An assistant should therefore be provided for, in order to the more efficient working of the Institution. At present it appears Students from the Normal School are sent to assist in the Grammar School department; those Students, on receiving their license to teach, go to the country, and others unacquainted with the working of the School are again placed over a portion of the scholars. Such changes were not calculated to give satisfaction.

House again in Committee on Roads, Bridges and Wharfs.

Hon. Mr. Davies complained of the proportionate subdivision of the Road Scales relative to Queen's County, stating that the district which he had the honor to represent had not received a fair share of the appropriations.

He was supported by his colleague the Hon Mr. Duncan, who also contended that Belfast District had not been liberally dealt with.

Hon. Mr. Kelly said that when the Road Scales were being prepared was the proper time to offer any objections that hon. members had to make on that subject. The subdivision of said appropriations had been carefully considered and arranged by hon. members from different Districts of the country, and equitably adjusted previous to their being submitted to the House. It was therefore unfair to attempt any alteration at that stage of the proceedings.

Mr Brecken presented a petition from John Ings, Esq., and others, stating that petitioners, with several of others, have subscribed a large sum of money, and are about to form a Company for the purpose of erecting in Charlottetown a First Class Hotel, and praying for an Act of incorporation for the Charlottetown Hotel Company.

The Petition was received and read, and a Committee was appointed to bring in a Bill in conformity therewith.

Mr. Brecken also presented a Bill to amend the Act relating to the Incorporation of the City of Charlottetown.

Said Bill was received and read.

On motion of Mr. Brecken that the Bill be read a second time to-morrow,

Mr. Howatt moved, in amendment, that it be read that day three months.

Said amendment was then negatived on the following division, viz:—

Yeas—Messrs. Howatt, Kickham, McNeill, Cameron, McCormack, Ramsay, G. Sinclair, P. Sinclair, Bell, Arsenaux, Hons. Kelly and Laird—12.

Nays—Messrs. Brecken, Jenkins, Prowse, Green, McLennan, Reilly, Hons. Duncan, Henderson, Haviland, McAulay, Callbeck, Coles, Davies—13.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Haviland, the House went into Committee on the Bill relating to practice and pleading in the Supreme Court. Mr. G Sinclair in the chair.

Hon. Mr. Haviland again explained the leading principles involved in said Bill.

This Bill authorizes the taking of gold and silver coin, in execution, from a Debtor, and paying the same over to the Creditor as money collected; and also that Government Debentures Treasury, Warrants and Notes, Bank Notes, &c., may be taken in execution and paid to Creditor at par value, if he will accept them, if not, they shall be sold after giving two months notice of sale thereof in the *Royal Gazette* newspaper. It provides that the necessary wearing apparel and bedding of the Debtor and his family, and the tools and instruments of his trade or calling, and his last cow, shall be exempted from execution. All distinctions relative to suing and being sued, as an Attorney, are by this Bill abolished. It also regulates the order in which addresses to Juries shall be delivered upon the trial of any cause, civil or criminal, by allowing the party or counsel who begins, in the event of his opponent not announcing at the close of the case of his intention to adduce evidence, to address the Jury a second time at the close of such case, for the purpose of summing up the evidence; and the party or counsel on the opposite side shall be allowed to open the case and also to sum up the evidence, if any; the right to reply to be the same as at present.

Several clauses of the Bill were read and agreed to without amendment.

Hon. Mr. Davies submitted a Resolution, to the effect, that no person laying claim to the lands of any settler on this Island in possession of such land, should be allowed, on any pretence, to summon or take proceedings for the appearance of such settler a second time at Court, with the view of recovering rent or otherwise.

A long debate then ensued on the subject of said resolution.

Hon. Mr. Davies spoke of the hardships endured by parties who were dragged to Court by pretended owners of lands, and thus kept from one term of Court to another, and indeed for years in trouble and anxiety touching their lands, because of the neglect or indisposition of Plaintiffs in such cases to have cases pending brought to a final close. He instanced cases in point, showing that, after many years of anxiety, advantage had been taken of the absence of Defendants who were frequently thus deprived of their lands, not by the fair and equitable administration of justice, but because of the unjust manner in which judgments had been obtained against them in the Courts.

Mr. Howatt supported the Resolution submitted by the Hon. Mr Davies, and also remarked upon the great inconvenience and loss sustained by persons not learned in the law, and of limited means, in keeping up continuous lawsuits against parties with whom money was no object as long as they could ultimately succeed in securing their object, namely, the deprivation of their unfortunate victims of their lands, upon the cultivation of which they may have spent their best days, with the hope in their declining years of leaving to their children the enjoyment of their hard labor. Some law should be enacted to put a stop to such endless, unjust and vexatious lawsuits.

Hon. Mr. Laird—It was highly improper to continue any principle of law that enabled the crafty Plaintiff to summon over and over again the poor Defendant, until at last perchance he secures the judgment of the Court.

Mr. McNiell instanced the case of Winsloe against Durrant, and remarked upon the peculiar hardship endured by the Defendant in that case, in proof of the evil consequences resulting from the mode of postponing suits, from year to year, which in the case referred to, ended in the Defendant, though he obtained judgment, having to pay all the costs of the whole suit, amounting to over the value of the farm, and thus kept constantly harassed by being deprived, from time to time, of his hard earnings, to meet the payment of said costs the final liquidation of which he will never accomplish. He, Mr. McNiell, would like to know why the property of the Plaintiff, in that case, was not made available for the payment of said costs. The Agent for the Land Commission stated in his report that, out of six of the best Townships on the Island, 40 per cent only of the Tenants could raise supplies on their farms to support their families, without paying rent. Was it then to be wondered that attempts would be made to evade being served with writs for the payment of rents; when such writs were said to be served by being thrown at doors, and at night into houses through windows.

Hon. Mr. Howlan also referred to cases of cruel treatment from the continuous nature of cases appending in Court. In the Resolution submitted by the Hon. Mr. Davies was wanting in legal construction, it was the duty of Hon members, learned in the law, to point out such errors. He opposed the Bill in its first stage, and he would oppose it again.

It was urged by the Hon Mr Haviland, Hon. Attorney General, and Mr. Brecken, that the Resolution in question contained a principle which, if embodied in the bill, would peril its receiving the Royal assent. It foreshadowed a species of class legislation that would never admit of its becoming law. The same principle must apply to land as to other goods. The principles of the Resolution would operate just as fatal to the cause of the tenant, in many cases, as to that of the land owner, and in fact cases arise between tenants as well as between other members of the community, by which, if Plaintiffs were excluded from a second trial, would result in ruinous consequences to the poor as well as to the rich. It would be a hardship of the most fatal character, to prevent a meritorious case that might, for want of evidence, have at first failed, from being ever after tried, and thus deprive the poor unfortunate Plaintiff of his property. All parties, irrespective of their position or class, should be dealt with on the same principles of justice and equity. When actions were postponed, Plaintiffs generally had to pay the cost of one suit before instituting a second, and in fact without just ground, was precluded from a hearing after the first time.

Hon. Mr Henderson said, to come to the point, he would ask, was the hon. member, Mr. Davies, sincere? If so, why did he disregard the opinion of his honor the Attorney General, who disapproved of his Resolution, embracing his views as contained in that Resolution the proper course was open to him; if not, why retard the business of the session.

Hon. Mr. Duncan said, if his hon. colleague was sincere, he should have introduced a bill in the usual and proper manner, and test the House on the principles which he seemed to entertain on the subject of the land question generally, and not attempt any excuse hereafter on the ground that his efforts to benefit the tenantry had been thwarted.

Mr. Prowse said the business of the Law Courts should, if possible, be simplified. Small sums frequently cost double their amount in getting collected. Honorable members of the legal profession on both sides of the House should unitedly introduce some measure by which intricacy of law proceedings might be simplified. In reference to the views advanced by Hon. Mr. Davies, he would ask why had not that hon. member submitted a bill in a proper manner, and not attempt to hoodwink the people by impracticable measures.

Hon Mr Coles said that hon. members did not appear to comprehend the object of the Resolution in question. He felt confident that his hon. colleague in the Government, Mr. Davies, had no desire to deceive the people, nor detain the House unnecessarily, his sole object was to introduce a clause in the bill under consideration, that might, if possible, lessen the evils arising from cases of an extremely vexatious character, and thereby protect the poor man from the continual annoyance from which it appeared so many had suffered. He would, however, advise his hon. colleague to withdraw his Resolution, as it would conflict with the principles of the bill.

Mr. Reilly did not consider it likely that the adoption of a clause, in accordance with the Resolution in question, would confer any real benefit on the tenantry, nor was he in favor of the bill, as presented by the Hon. Leader of the Opposition, the provisions of which would confer no material benefit on the community.

The question was then put on the proposed amendment, which was negatived.

Progress was then reported, and the House adjourned.

A. MCNEILL, Reporter.

Blood's Rheumatic Compound now and for the next four months to be extensively used, is for sale in Charlottetown by all dealers in medicine. Merchants in the country should not fail to procure immediately a good supply.

Incalculable harm is inflicted on great numbers by the use of purgatives which contain mercury or mercurial matter. Parsons' Purgative Pills are free from all such injurious matter, and are the mildest in their operation of any known purgative.

CORRESPONDENCE.

INCIDENTS OF THE LATE AMERICAN WAR.

[*From our own Correspondent at Washington, U. S.*]

WASHINGTON, D. C.,
17th April, 1867.

Editor Examiner:—

Yesterday was a great gala day with the colored population of this City and District. It was the anniversary of their emancipation. Had not the forenoon been rainy, the concourse would have been immense. As it was, the procession filled Pennsylvania Avenue—the principal street in the city—for the distance of about a mile. There was a battalion of colored Zouaves from Baltimore—the finest-looking colored men I ever saw—commanded by officers of their own race. There were four brass bands, all composed of negroes, discoursing eloquent and triumphant music. A hundred banners were borne aloft, bearing appropriate inscriptions. While viewing the interesting and novel spectacle of a race rejoicing over their newly acquired freedom, the heart was filled with sad and tender memories of the great and good man who had been the instrument, in the hands of Providence, for their disenthrallment, and whose mild, benevolent countenance was conspicuously represented on nearly all their banners.

In a report of a public speech delivered by Dr. Jenkins of your city, I find some high compliments paid to the character of P. E. Islanders living abroad, for which I—in common, no doubt, with others of my countrymen who are wanderers in foreign lands—feel duly grateful. (Of course, I have the vanity to believe that I was included.) I will mention here a fact that will go far to prove that Dr. Jenkins' encomiums were not altogether unmerited. I am at present engaged in settling the accounts of deceased and discharged soldiers against the U. S. Government. I was astonished to discover the number of my fellow-Islanders that served in the Federal army—many of whom died gallantly on the battle-field. What surprised and pleased me more, however, was to find that *nearly every man of them* rose to the rank of commissioned or non commissioned officers, which speaks highly for their bravery and *intelligence*: for bare gallantry in the field, unsupported by other good qualities, is seldom rewarded with promotion. In this connection, I will relate the circumstances of an interesting interview that I had, while in the army, with our old school-fellow and playmate of my boyhood from New London, P. E. Island; and hope that the relation will prove as interesting to your readers as the meeting itself proved to me.

About sixteen years ago, a younglad of the name of Morrison—a pale-faced stripling of a boy—my constant companion, and the son of one of my father's oldest and dearest friends, left home to push his fortune in the States. After having endured incredible hardships, the inevitable result of youth and inexperience, his industry, trustiness, and the skill that he had acquired in all matters relating to machinery placed him on the high road to prosperity; and, were it not for his generous, free habits of life, he would have attained affluence.

In the spring of 1864, my regiment was ordered up from Matagorda Island, Texas, to take part in the disastrous expedition of Gen. Banks up the Red River. Ten days after we had struck tents in Texas, we found ourselves encamped four miles inland from Alexandria, immediately in front of the enemy, in a lovely country that bloomed like the garden of Eden. As I was sauntering up along the level from Alexandria one day, two mounted officers rode up behind us. On glancing around I discovered that one of them bore on his shoulder-straps the double bars of a captain on a black ground that indicated a staff officer, while the single bars of his companion indicated the rank of first lieutenant. At the time, my own commission was *in transitu*; and I bore only the chevrons of staff sergeant. The senior officer, the moment he saw my face, sprang off his horse, threw the bridle-rein to his lieutenant, and approached me hurriedly with the simple exclamation: "Sergeant Mc—." Although I had not seen him for fourteen years, I recognized at once the voice and features. Forgetting the salute due to a superior officer—oblivious of all military etiquette in the excitement of the moment—I exclaimed in reply: "Bill Morrison, by G—!" In a moment I was in his arms. He would alternately hold me out at arm's length to gaze into my face, and then again, embrace me in one of his bear-like hugs. Great, indeed, was the change that time had effected in the companion of my boyhood. The slim, pale stripling had ripened into a tall, broad shouldered, heavily-bearded man; and I was glad to perceive in the open, manly, genial countenance no traces of shame or sorrow. That night Capt. Morrison and I sat up together in his tent till three o'clock in the morning, with a demijohn of good "commissary" between us, calling up from the misty past the dear memories of boyhood, amid peals of laughter that at times almost verged on tears. Everything around us reminded us how far away we were from the theatre of our early sports. The groves of orange-trees in bloom, that loaded the air with their delicious fragrance—the tall cypress tree with its long pendants of Spanish moss—the myrtle with its pretty, red blossoms—the stately magnolia with its large, white, plate-like flowers—the alligator roaring from the distant bayou—the mocking-bird filling the air through the live-long night with his wild and ever-varying melody—all reminded us that our lot was cast, for the time, in a strange and distant country; whilst the demoniac scream of an occasional shell over our head—to which we made involuntary obeisance, as they would pass nearer to us than was consistent with safety—reminded us of the terrible scenes in which we were actors. Yet, in spirit, we were far away from those scenes of death and beauty, running bare-footed again through the "Big Woods" of New London, chasing our fathers' sheep over the "big clearing," or, like true countrymen of Wallace, organizing our forces at Harding's Creek, in the smelting season, to encounter our insolent English foe.

How the enemy afterwards blocked the river below us, thus cutting off our supplies, and necessitating an early retreat, and how Colonel, afterwards General, Bailey, a Wisconsin lumberman, succeeded in saving Admiral Porter's fleet by constructing an immense dam across the Rapids at Alexandria, after the most skillful army engineers had declared the thing impracticable, have become a part of the history of the country. History does not record the fact, however, that a great portion of the credit for that splendid achievement of engineering skill is due to a native of P. E. Island. Yet, I speak of what I know to be the truth when I state that Capt. Morrison had considerable difficulty in convincing Gen. Bailey of the possibility of constructing such a dam, enforcing his arguments by reminding him of the many strong and rapid streams they had succeeded in damming when engaged in the lumbering business in Wisconsin. Besides, the work was carried on under his immediate supervision. During the ten days that the dam was in progress of construction, at any hour of the night or day you might visit the works, you would see his stalwart form moving around amongst the workmen, animating them by his example: and you would hear his powerful voice above the roar of the waters, issuing his commands to his subordinates. My friend had a frame of iron; but how he managed to get along without rest during that time was always a mystery to me. The eventful day finally arrived which was to crown his labor with a glorious success. As one huge leviathan after another darted through the outlet prepared for her, amid the cheers of thirty thousand men, a glow of pride suffused the countenance of the Captain as he contemplated the result of his toil. Well might he feel proud, indeed, when reflecting on the untold millions that his skill and energy had been so instrumental in saving to the Government. My friend was as modest as he was brave. He had not the art, in which Americans excell, of blowing his own trumpet. The consequence was that his superior officer, as is usual in such cases, received the substantial reward of promotion, while he only received an honorable mention in the Army and Navy Gazette.

On my return from the glorious expedition which resulted in the fall of Forts Powell, Gaines and Morgan, guarding the entrance to Mobile Bay, I found the Captain in charge of the fortifications at Morganza, on the Mississippi. As he had quite a corps of Negro servants, he had comfortable quarters erected for himself. His *cuisine* was always excellent, his wines and brandies were of the best quality, being selected by himself in the New Orleans market. You may depend upon it that, during my stay at that post, I was a frequent and welcome guest at his bountiful table.

I am informed now that the gallant Captain is quietly cultivating a plantation down South. His friend, Gen. Bailey—one of the finest-looking officers I met in the Federal army—after having passed safely through the war, was, but a few days ago, miserably butchered by Missouri bandits.

As I am on the subject of army incidents, I will give you an account of a narrow escape that I had, from a tragic death on the memorable retreat referred to above. Although the enemy had captured nearly five hundred wagons from us, our train still extended about sixteen miles; and had to be heavily guarded, as our vigilant foe hung constantly, like a threatening cloud, on our flanks and rear; and we were skirmishing with them every day for two weeks. In the neighborhood of a little town called Mansfield, one day, the column was brought to a halt to await the repairing of a pontoon bridge by our pioneer corps, across one of the numerous bayous that intersect that country, and debouch into the Atchafalaya River. I had just dismounted, unbridled and fed my horse, tied the halter rein around my leg, and thrown myself on the ground to steal a few moments' rest, which I sorely needed, when a Quartermaster-sergeant of an Ohio regiment, whose acquaintance I had formed, rode up to me and requested me to go with him on a foraging expedition to a little house about half a mile to the left of the column, where the boys had discovered a large corn-bin well filled. As our forage was running low, I readily assented to the proposal. I ordered out two of our regimental wagons, buckled on my trusty navy revolver, and had my foot in the stirrup ready to mount when an orderly came up from Gen. Clark, commanding our brigade, requesting me to report immediately at his head-quarters for duty. I had to obey the order of my superior, and the Sergeant started his command without me. They had reached their destination, and were busily engaged in loading their wagons, when a band of mounted guerillas made a sudden detour from a heavy body of timber that closely flanked the house on each side, and surrounded them before they were aware of the proximity of danger. Knowing the fate that awaited them, when caught in such business as they were engaged in, the devoted little band made a gallant resistance; but they were soon overpowered by numbers, and every man of them shot excepting the sergeant, for whom a harder fate was in reserve. A noose was slipped around his neck, and he was rapidly strung up to the limb of an adjoining tree. The whole tragic scene was so suddenly enacted before our eyes that our cavalry had barely time to mount for the rescue when the guerillas, having completed their bloody job, were seen galloping off into the timber, where pursuit would have been hopeless. Had it not been for the providential intervention of Gen. Clark in my plans, I should have been—to use an army synonyme for a violent death—"flung into Abraham's bosom," dangling from a rope's end—a mode of exit from this life which is peculiarly distasteful to a soldier. When I think on my escape from this and many other dangers into which I was frequently led by a native love of adventure, as well as by that spirit of recklessness that distinguishes the man whose misfortunes or follies have left him nothing in life to hope for, I feel just as certain to-day that there was an invisible Power protecting my life, as if that power had been a visible Presence—whether because that there was some good purpose of my life unaccomplished, or that the measure of my iniquity was not yet full, time will determine.

M.

The Examiner.

Charlottetown, May 20, 1867.

PROROGATION OF THE LEGISLATURE.

On Friday last, at 5 o'clock, p. m., the Legislature was prorogued, after being just one month in Session. His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor was received, on his arrival at the Colonial Building, by a Guard of Honor of the Fourth Regiment, (King's Own,) and by a detachment of the Volunteers with the Volunteer Band. The Council Chamber was well filled with the fashionable audience usually seen there at the opening and closing of Parliament. We give below His Excellency's Speech, which will be found to possess three excellent qualities; viz: brevity, terseness and modesty. As the Speech from the throne, is, according to constitutional practice, considered to be the Speech of the Ministers, we must say that Her Majesty's advisers in this Colony have been uncommonly sparing in their praise of their own legislation "for the benefit of the country," during the laborious, though not protracted, Session which was closed on Friday last:—

HIS EXCELLENCY'S SPEECH.

Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

The promptitude with which you have despatched the more urgent business of the Colony enables me to release you from further attendance upon your Legislative duties.

At the commencement of the Session I commended to your special consideration the desire evinced by the Tenantry to obtain the Fee Simple of their land by the purchase of their farms. I earnestly hope that the measure which you have devised in order to provide funds for the purpose of buying out the interest of the remaining Proprietors may realize the object for which it is intended, and that with its aid the benefits of the Land Purchase Act may be extended to all parts of this Island.

I trust, therefore, that all classes interested in the settlement of the land tenures will appreciate and will place entire confidence in the desire you have shown to carry out their wishes, and will cordially unite in effecting that settlement by the instrumentality of the various laws in force for that object.

You have, by your legislation on the subject of education, improved the position of the School Teachers, by deciding to pay the whole of their salaries from the public treasury. I trust, however, that at your next meeting you will take under your consideration a more comprehensive measure, calculated to impart to your system of education a degree of efficiency and practical benefit more commensurate with your liberal provision for this service.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

I thank you, in Her Majesty's name, for the supplies which you have granted for the public service.

Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

*Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Ass