

it possible that such a scheme of Government can be advantageously established."

The scheme therein alluded to was that propounded in the Address to the Queen, carried by a majority of the late House in their last Session; but the majority of the present House were decidedly opposed to it. In that Address, it was insisted as essential to the peace, welfare, and good government of this Colony, that at least four members of the Executive Council be selected from the majority in the lower branch of the Legislature. Such an arrangement, with respect to the composition of the Executive Council, would certainly be very far from meeting the views of the true Responsible Party; because the four members so placed in the Executive Council, might frequently, as a minority therein, find themselves unable to give effect, by their votes, to the measures recommended to the Executive by their political party in the House of Assembly. Upon the fifteenth paragraph of the Despatch, the hon. member observed that it was scarcely necessary for him to make any remarks; as the noble Secretary therein merely observed that "it appears to him that previously to Her Majesty's pledging herself to the establishment of Responsible Government, according to the scheme set forth in the Address of the late House of Assembly to Her Majesty, of the 17th March last, it is essential that the necessary arrangements for the due consideration of the case of those officers whose position would be affected by it, should be determined by the Colonial Legislature." He would, therefore, merely observe that the noble Secretary had concluded that paragraph by the expressions of a very obvious truth, in saying: "For with all the confidence in the intentions of the present Assembly, it is impossible to anticipate, on such subjects, the views which may influence a new one."—The assertion was certainly indisputable; and, had the noble Secretary thought otherwise, the character and opinions of the majority of the present House would soon have undeceived him. The hon. member then read the sixteenth and seventeenth paragraphs of the Despatch, which are as follows:

"On this point indeed the language of the Address is not perfectly clear to me. It states (in the terms of the Address of 1847) that owing to the limited resources of the Colony, and its inability to bear the expense of Pensions, the prayer of the House is, 'That such a system of Departmental Government as would involve the resignation of the offices of Treasurer, Colonial Secretary, Attorney General, and Surveyor General, on their being left in a minority in the Executive Council, should not be extended to us, but that it should at all times be the duty of such public officers, if forming part of the Provincial Administration, to give constitutional support to the measures of Government.'"

"But the officers in question cannot be compelled to take part, as Councillors, in measures of which they and the party to which they may have hitherto attached themselves, disapprove. Such compulsion, besides its injustice, would be the certain way of impeding and neutralizing the measures themselves. I conclude therefore that it is meant they should retain their offices, but cease to be members of the Executive Council. This, on the other hand, would deprive that body of much of its efficiency, its utility to the Governor, and its title to public respect."

He (the hon. member) observed that he was not at all surprised that the noble Secretary should complain of the want of clearness in the Address. The quotation which he had made from it was undoubtedly sufficiently obscure. Of one thing, however, he (the hon. member) was quite satisfied that notwithstanding the obscurity of the language with which the gentlemen who had carried the Address had clouded their meaning, they had no desire for the retirement of the Officers alluded to from the Executive Council. The hon. member then read the eighteenth section of the Despatch, in which the noble Secretary thus expresses himself:

"I would repeat what I stated to the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, at the outset of the arrangement for the change of Government in that Colony: 'It cannot be too distinctly acknowledged that it is neither possible nor desirable to carry on the Government of any of the British Provinces in North America, in opposition to the opinion of the inhabitants.' The people of Prince Edward Island are entitled to this acknowledgment, as much as those of the other Provinces."

Now, said the hon. member, he would ask, why had the noble Secretary repeated what he had stated to the Governor of Nova Scotia; and why had he made so full an acknowledgment in favor of the people of Prince Edward Island, unless he meant that the Lieutenant Governor should carry out the acknowledgments, by at once preparing the way for the practical introduction of the principles of Responsible Government. The hon. member then read the nineteenth paragraph of the Despatch, as follows:

"The Lieutenant Governor is assisted also in the performance of his duties by gentlemen selected from those of the inhabitants of the Colony who were considered to be the most capable of performing with advantage to the public, the duties of their several offices, as they fall vacant, on Members of the Assembly, though it seems desirable, in the present state of society, that those to whom a share in the Executive Government is thus entrusted, should cease to hold seats in the Legislature."

Surely, said the hon. member, nothing could be much

more self-contradictory than the paragraph which he had just read. In the first place, it is stated "there is no objection in conferring the public offices, as they fell vacant, on Members of the Assembly;" and immediately after, in the very same sentence, it was added, "though it seems desirable, in the present state of society, that those to whom a share of the Executive Government is thus entrusted, should cease to hold seats in the Legislature." If any thing positive could be inferred from such a piece of contradiction, he thought it could only be by what was provided for by a certain clause in the Election Law of the Colony, which provided that the seat of any Member of the House of Assembly should be declared vacant on his accepting an appointment to any office of emolument. But, should it be taken in another sense, and be held to mean that, as in the Republic of the United States, none of the Government Officers should have seats in the Legislature; and that it was the intention of Her Majesty's Government to introduce, into this Colony, a system of Responsible Government similar to that of the United States; it would be necessary to adopt the principle of popular election of all Officers—of the lowest as well as the highest, even up to that of the Governor. For if the Colony were to have a part of the United States Republican system of Government, it ought to have the whole. The hon. member then read the twentieth paragraph (the concluding one,) of the Despatch, as follows:

"This system of Administration, honestly and faithfully carried into effect, must give to the Colony all the practical advantages of self-government, as completely as if it were required that the principal offices of the Executive Government should be held by Members of the Legislature possessing the confidence of the majority of the Assembly. Indeed I must observe, in passing, that the union of the Executive duties with the character of a Member of the Legislature, is not only not required, but is generally prohibited by the Constitutions of the States of the American Union, in which the principle of self-government is supposed to be carried to the utmost; and if the people of the Island require security for the future, they could not find a stronger one than in the total absence of interest, as well as of any other motive, on the part of the Imperial Government to render the administration of their affairs otherwise than acceptable to themselves. The connection between the Colony and the Parent State, is one which is among the highest objects of Her Majesty's Government to maintain, but so far only as it is conducive to the mutual interest and mutual satisfaction of both. In the present state of political society, and with the free Institutions which now prevail in the Mother Country and Colony alike, mutual good-will can constitute the only real tie between them."

[To be continued.]

#### REPORTER'S SUMMARY.

WEDNESDAY, March 13, 1850.

**BLUE BOOKS, &c.**—MR. COLES—from the Committee appointed to wait upon the Lieutenant Governor with an Address, praying that His Excellency would be pleased to cause to be laid before the House copies of the Blue Books for years 1838, 1839, 1840, 1841, 1842, 1843, 1844, 1845, 1848, and 1849; also a detailed account of all fees received by the Colonial Secretary, as Private Secretary's fees, and retained by him, since his appointment to the office of Colonial Secretary; and also copies of the different Commissions from the Lieut. Governor to the person acting as Private Secretary, since his appointment to that office;—Reported, That His Excellency had been pleased to return a written answer, of which the following is a copy:—

"The Lt. Governor will endeavour to comply with the desire of the House of Assembly respecting the Blue Books for the years 1838 and 1844, in so far as may be practicable. He wishes it to be understood that he cannot, as general rule, undertake to furnish copies of documents extending over a series of years prior to his assumption of the Government, and which the Assemblies of the day should have procured at the proper time. A copy of the annual Blue Book will, as a matter of course, be regularly presented to the House.—The same observations apply to accounts of fees received by Private Secretaries, which shall be furnished."

"The Lt. Governor knows nothing of Commissions from his predecessors to their Private Secretaries. In his own case, he begs to decline compliance with the request of the Assembly."

D. C.

THURSDAY, March 14, 1850.

**F. LONGWORTH**, Esquire, who arrived in Town last evening from England, took his seat and oaths, as member for the Town and Royalty of Charlottetown.

**ELECTIVE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**.—The following notice was, this day, inserted in the Order Book:—"Mr Thornton will, at a future day, move the House into a Committee of the whole on the subject of making the Legislative Council of this Colony an elective Body."

FRIDAY, March 15th.

#### MORNING SITTING.

**HOUSE IN COMMITTEE UPON HIS EXCELLENCY'S SPEECH.**

**SMALL DEBTS COURTS.**—After the Committee had spent a considerable time in deliberation upon several motions submitted by different members with a view to the amendment of the Small Debts Act, they rose and

the Chairman reported progress, after they had agreed to the two following Resolutions:

"Resolved, That it is expedient to amend the Acts relating to the recovery of Small Debts."

"Resolved, That it is expedient to reduce the scale of fees authorized to be paid to the Commissioners and Clerks of the Small Debts Courts of this Island."

**TREASURER'S ACCOUNTS.**—Hon. J. S. Smith, Treasurer, presented his Accounts for the past year to the House.

#### AFTERNOON SITTING.

**SMALL DEBTS COURTS' FEES.** Mr. Fraser presented a Petition from certain inhabitants of Lots 14, 15, 16, 17, complaining that the Fees authorized by the Small Debts Act were too high, and praying that the same may be diminished in amount.

**BILL TO AMEND THE BARRISTER'S LAW.**—Mr. Whelan presented the draft of a Bill to alter and amend the Law relating to the admission to the Supreme Courts of this Island of Barristers and attorneys from the other Provinces, by repealing the clause which requires them to be apprenticed to attorneys in this Island, previous to their admission. Bill read a first time,—second reading ordered for to-morrow.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

FOR THE EXAMINER.

#### SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

CHAPTER I.

Now Donald was chief ruler among the people of the Island of the Gulf, but he was not beloved because he was not wise.

And it came to pass in the days of the reign of Donald, that he said unto himself, I will scatter my peoples' people and gather unto me another people from among them.

So Donald raised his arm of power and swept them out from the Chamber of the land, and they were naught.

Now the chief ruler cried aloud in the land, and commanded the inhabitants thereof to arise, and choose from among them twenty and four persons, who should be after their own heart.

And it came to pass when Donald, the chief ruler, was heard, the people of the land arose, and gathered from the four corners of the Isle twenty and four persons who had found favour in their sight.

Thus was the command of Donald, the chief ruler, obeyed, and the people's people again lived, and were girt with power and terrible as a lion to do battle.

Now there were many who had striven to enter in among the assembly of the people's people, but were held in derision and could not.

And there was among those a certain man who was named Duncan, and he dwelt in the land of New London, and had been a steward of the people; and he said, I will not serve this people again, but he repented of his saying, for Duncan was a poor man, and the money of the people was unto him both for food and raiment.

So Duncan the dweller in New London, arose and put upon his under person gray raiment, and heavy shoes upon his feet, and buttoned himself up in an ancient coat, which he had turned; the waist of which was short and the skirts thereof even to the ground; and the buttons whereof in the hinder part were high up even unto the shoulder blades.

And he put upon his hands mits of wool, and tied about his neck a red comforter; and he covered his head with a cap of fur, which had been the skin of a cat, and he looked at himself in a glass.

Now Duncan, being ready, called for his horse and his sled and put upon it bags of meal; and he sat thereon; and went forth on a journey for the chief city of the Island of the Gulf; and it came to pass that Duncan appeared in the metropolis without money on the great day of nomination, his horse and his bags of meal.

Now Duncan, having arrived, he went up to the public place of nomination, but the officer said unto him, you shall in no wise stand upon the boards of the forum unless you pay unto me the three pounds. Then Duncan said unto the officer, money I have none, but I will pay thee with meal; but the officer said unto him, it is against the law.

So Duncan turned way with his horse and his bags of meal, and he went down into the city and sold his meal unto a dealer, whose name is James, and returned unto the officer with coin, and presented himself to the public from the forum.

Now there was a multitude of people gathered, and when Duncan appeared at the forum, they cast contumely at him, and laughed, for he was a lean man and unseemly in his person; a man of inferior countenance, and no advocate for the common weal.

Now, among the multitude there was a man named Sim Son whom Duncan had deceived, and he said unto Duncan in a loud voice, thou hast prevaricated and hast instituted falsehoods against me in the face of the inhabitants of New London, to thy dishonour.

Then Duncan answered and said unto Sim Son, the things whereof thou accusest me I have not done, and thou art a liar.

And Duncan was sore because of the sayings of Sim Son; and he answered in bitterness of spirit, and flapped his arms like wings of a bird flying, and waxed strong in wrath, yea, even unto frothing at the mouth.