

Christian man or woman, who could esteem a trifling act of self-denial—of mere bodily privation—as too great a sacrifice to be made on such an occasion!

"Oh, but!" the indignant exclamation is, "we do not meet with persons of this kind in respectable society. We do not sit down with such at table. The haunts of vice are where they resort. We can have nothing to do with their excesses." From whence then has come that degraded figure, with his tattered garments, yet with the air of gentility still about him? From whence has come that wretched female, shrinking from the public gaze, as if the remembrance of her childhood, and the honoured roof beneath which her girlish footsteps trod, was yet too strong for that burning fire to consume, or that fatal flood to drown? Amongst the six hundred thousand victims of intemperance now in existence, are there not many such as these?—many who have known what it was to be respectably brought up, who had better thoughts and purer feelings in their youth, and who shrunk, as we do now, with horror and disgust, from the contemplation of a figure presenting such a wreck of humanity as theirs?

But acknowledging that these six hundred thousand persons are already lost—that their doom is sealed—that they are beyond the reach of our influence, and beneath even our charity to pity them as we pass them by—acknowledging what is a well authenticated fact, that sixty thousand of these die annually—what shall we say of the sixty thousand who will, during the course of this year, come forward to supply their place in the ranks of intemperance? Let us pause a moment to contemplate the awful fact, that unless rescued from destruction by some extraordinary interposition of Divine Providence, there will be sixty thousand persons entered upon the list of intemperance during the present year, and that an equal number, before twelve months have passed, will have died the death of those of whom it is so clearly stated, that none can enter the kingdom of heaven!

Yet, after all, the actual death of these persons, violent, and distressing, and hopeless, as such deaths generally are—their actual death must not be considered as by any means the extent of the evil of intemperance in any single case. I have already stated, that although intemperance often begins with unconsciousness of evil, in connexion with social feeling and benevolence of heart, and often, too, with high intellectual advantages, it almost invariably ends in every species of degradation to which human nature is liable—in falsehood, meanness, profanity, and every description of vice. Thus there is a bad atmosphere surrounding each one of these individuals, which taints, and often poisons, the moral feelings of those who breathe within it. Besides which, every one who feels himself to have outstepped what the world considers as the bounds of propriety, feels an interest in drawing others down along with him into the same gulf. His influence is consequently exerted over the unwary, the trusting, and the weak, and often exerted in such a manner, that his death awful, as that might be, would still be a blessing, by comparison, to those he would leave behind.

And what shall we say, in addition to all this, of the sum of misery by which our land is deluged, of the thousands of widows, and tens of thousands of orphans, the broken-hearted women, and the destitute children, the household happiness destroyed, and the golden promises blighted, for which we have to blame the drinking habits of our country, habits which are still sanctioned, in the commencement, by the respectable, and even the religious part of the community? What shall we say of the waste of precious hours, which has been computed at the rate of "Fifty millions per annum, lost to this country merely from the waste of time, and consequent loss of labour, owing to habits of intemperance?" What shall we say to the "loss of useful lives and valuable property, from the same cause, on the land by fires, and other casualties, and on the sea by shipwrecks?" What shall we say to all these facts, for they are such—and British women, however high their station, or refined their sensibilities, ought to know that they are so—facts written on the page of eternity, for which time, the very time in which we live, will have to render its long and fearful account.

But let us not be discouraged by dwelling too long upon some of the dark pictures which this view of human life presents. Even this melancholy page has its bright side, to which we turn with gratitude and hope; for is it not our privilege to live in a state of society amongst which has sprung up an association of love, whose banner is a refuge for the destitute, under which all may unite—the rich and the poor, the strong and the weak—for the purpose of arresting the fearful progress of intemperance, and encouraging those who, under bodily suffering and mental depression, are struggling to escape from the fatal grasp of this gigantic and tyrant foe? Yes, it is an unspeakable privilege to live at the same time that such an association is gaining ground on every hand, enlisting numbers, and gathering strength, as we fervently believe, under the blessing of Divine Providence, from the same source as that which inspired the Apostle, when he pledged himself to act upon the principle which has become the basis of this association for the removal of intemperance—"Wherefore, said he, if meat cause my brother to offend, I will eat no flesh while the world standeth, lest I make my brother to offend."

Occasions for displaying the same generous disregard of selfish considerations, for the benefit of others, frequently occur; and instances of such disinterestedness are not so rare in the Christian world as to be matters of wonder. But perhaps never, until the present age, has this principle been made the motto of a great action of philanthropy; never before did thousands unite together for the moral benefit of their fellow-men, by means of an express abridgement of their own liberty of indulgence. And, after all that has been pointed out as distinguishing this remarkable period, perhaps nothing is more worthy of being regarded as its distinction, in a moral point of view, than this—that multitudes have adandoned, not for a time, but for life, a customary, innocent, moderate gratification, which did them personally no harm, on the single ground that others abused it to harm—that 'this liberty of theirs was a stumbling block to the weak.' In this way an attempt has been made to begin the removal of a great mass of crime and wretchedness; the removal of which once seemed so hopeless, that the boldest enthusiast hardly dared to dream of it—which has so entrenched itself in the passions of men, in their habits, in their laws, in their interests, that it laughed defiance at all opposition. Against that evil, this principle of disinterestedness has been brought to bear; and the evil has begun to give way. An illustrious exemplification of the strength there is in Christian affection!

QUEEN ANNE'S FARTHING.—Only one of this coin was ever issued, on account, as is currently stated, of the wrinkles of Her Majesty being too faithfully delineated—the same has also been stated of the single shilling in the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Monday, 12th February, 1844.

EXTENSION OF OUR STEAM NAVIGATION INTERCOURSE.

His Honor the President, by leave, presented a Petition from Mr. Whitney of New Brunswick, relative to a proposal of his to connect his Steamer (which is to run between Halifax, N. S., and St. John's Newfoundland,) with one from this Island.—Leave being given, the Petition was presented, and read by the Clerk. It states that the Memorialist having entered into arrangements with Her Majesty's Government to run a Steamer between Halifax N. S. and St. John's Newfoundland, and to carry the Mail twice a month between those places, with liberty to touch at Cape Breton, should he wish to do so, for eight months, in the year; and being aware of what vast importance it would be to P. E. Island and Newfoundland, to be connected by Steam, he proposes; for a moderate remuneration, to send his Steam Vessel into the Gut of Canso, at some convenient place, there to meet any Steamer from P. E. Island sent thither, by arrangement of the Legislature of P. E. Island, for that purpose, and there to exchange with said Steamer all Mails, Passengers, and Freight, destined between this Colony and Newfoundland, or Halifax. The Petition was read, and ordered to be laid upon the Table.

Hon. Mr. Young rose and stated that he had received a letter from Mr. Whitney explaining the object contemplated in his Petition. Mr. Young said he intended to propose that a Committee of the House should be appointed to take into consideration the proposal of Mr. Whitney, as developed in his Letter to himself (Mr. Y.) and explaining the Petition to the House; and to communicate with the Steam Navigation Company of Prince Edward Island, with a view to ascertain how far they might be disposed to unite their enterprise with that of Mr. Whitney, and if disposed thereto—what preliminary steps they might deem necessary towards the effecting of the junction proposed. Mr. Young was proceeding further to explain the proposal of Mr. Whitney, when he was interrupted by the admission of the Hon. J. S. Macdonald, with a Message from the House of Assembly.

By the Message their Honors were informed that, in the House of Assembly, a Committee, consisting of the Hon. J. S. Macdonald, and Messrs. Longworth, Aitken, Yeo, and Wightman, had been appointed to keep up a good correspondence between the two Houses of Legislature, &c. By this Message also, the concurrence of their Honors was desired in the passage of the following Bills:

A Bill, intitled An Act to regulate the manner of proceeding upon Controverted Elections of Members to serve in the General Assembly.

A Bill, intitled An Act to establish a Reward for the destruction of Bears and Loupcerviers.

A Bill, intitled An Act for the protection of Sheep against vicious dogs.

The said Bills were read a first time.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. Young, it was then Resolved, That a Committee of this House be appointed to join the Committee of the House of Assembly to keep a good correspondence between the two Houses of the Legislature, &c.

Ordered, That Mr. Hall, Mr. Young, and Mr. Irving do compose the said Committee.

Ordered, That the said Resolution be communicated by Message to the House of Assembly.

Read a second time the Bills just above named.

Hon. Mr. Young resumed the subject of Mr. Whitney's proposal. Mr. Whitney's plan, the Hon. Gentleman said, seemed to be, that his Steamer, on the passage from Halifax to Newfoundland, should stop at some convenient place in the Gut of Canso, about Ship Harbour, as all the roads concentrate near there from both sides, where they could meet the Steamer St. George, of P. E. Island, and there exchange passengers, mails, and freight, and the same again on their return from Newfoundland to Halifax, which would open at once a travelling communication between P. E. Island and Cape Breton, Newfoundland and Halifax; the Steamer St. George making a trip from Charlottetown via Pictou, to meet them from Halifax, and another trip to meet them from Newfoundland. It was a consideration of Mr. Whitney's that the St. George would take a great number of Cattle and Sheep for Newfoundland; also Butter, Cheese, Oats in Bags, Poultry, &c. &c., and probably the same for Halifax, when the P. E. Island Traders and Merchants could be supplied with any return articles of merchandise they might require, either from Newfoundland or Halifax; and he had no doubt that, when once fairly established, one Trip to Canso would be worth three to Miramichi. Oysters also Mr. Whitney considered might be shipped in Barrels from Newfoundland and Halifax.—Cattle and Sheep surely in great numbers—all which, with the passengers and a moderate amount for carrying the Mails, would yield the St. George a fair business. Mr. Whitney said he had thought of Arichat, but as he should expect a good number of Cattle to be shipped for Newfoundland from Cape Breton, and also from the Nova Scotia side, he thought Ship Harbour would be the best spot for his Boat, and any Passengers between P. E. Island and Arichat, they could land or take in on their route to or from in passing, as they would always send a boat on shore there. With respect to Mr. Whitney's application, Mr. Young thought the best plan would be to appoint a Committee to consider Mr. Whitney's proposal, and to communicate thereon with the Steam Navigation Company of this Island. To that Company, during the last year, the trips of the St. George to Miramichi had been a losing concern: it had been, in fact, a complete sinking of the whole capital employed therein; and for the interests of the Company, there could be no question that the withdrawing of the St. George from that route, and appointing her to some other of better promise, would appear to the Company an advisable and desirable course. The trips lately performed to Miramichi by the St. George, if beneficial at all, had been so only to New Brunswick; a Province which certainly, considering the conduct of their Legislature with respect to the Grant promised by them for the encouragement of Steam Navigation between that Province and this Colony—was entitled to no favour either from the Steam Navigation Company of Prince Edward Island or its Legislature. On our part, both as respects the Steam Navigation Company and the Legislature, the contract had been punctually and minutely performed; our Steam Navigation Company had especially studied to meet the views of the merchants and traders of Miramichi—as these views were explained by themselves in one of their public meetings—and what was their reward? On the part of the Province of New Brunswick, their Legislature had basely violated their engagement, and by withholding their promised Grant, had entailed disgrace upon that Province. Their breach of faith in that particular, was calculated to excite our just indignation, and could scarcely be spoken of in terms of too strong reprobation. Our Steam Navigation Company had not been benefited one farthing by the trips of the St. George to Miramichi; and it could not be doubted that they would readily relinquish that route to establish another which gave very reasonable promise of a fair profit, as did that proposed by Mr. Whitney to Cape Breton. For any benefit which had arisen from the trips to Miramichi, the money which had been appropriated to the defraying of the expenses thereof, might as well have been thrown over our Wharf. The almost total abandonment of the Timber and Lumber Trade at Miramichi, on which the inhabitants had been wholly dependent, plainly showed that there the spirit of commercial enterprise, if not completely extinguished, must lie dormant for a time. The Timber and Lumber trade might indeed revive again; but for another year, nay, perhaps, for the next two or three years, the people there would have to depend upon other, more natural, though less beneficial resources in a commercial or pecuniary point of view; and consequently, there would be but small hopes of any profits accruing to our Steam Association Company, by their continuance of a peculiar intercourse with Miramichi. The Hon. Mr. Young was proceeding to say that he would, therefore, move for a Committee as above stated, when it was observed by

His Honor the President thought they (the Council) were travelling beyond their powers. They could not originate any money Bill, and the Petition before them prayed for a Grant of Money in aid of the projected enterprise. All that they could do in such a case was, if a Bill, intended to legalize such a Grant, were sent up to them by the other House—to give it effect by their concurrence.

The Hon. Mr. BRECKEN suggested, that it might be well enough to appoint a Committee to obtain information, to be communicated to the House, for their future guidance, with reference to any further consideration of the question which might arise out of any Bill or proceedings, founded on the Petition, that might be brought before them.

His Honor the President observed, that any one of their Honors, a member of the Steam Navigation Company, might communicate with the Directors of the Company on the subject

of Mr. Whitney's proposition, with a view to communicating the information which might be so elicited to their Honors. Such a course, would obviate all necessity for the appointing of a Committee for the purpose.

After a few words from the Hon. Mr. Brecken, to the effect that all that could be done by their Honors, in reference to the Petition, would be to concur with the House of Assembly in any measure they might originate on the subject, it was recommended by His Honor the President, that the Hon. Mr. Young, as a member of the Steam Navigation Company, should, in that character, communicate with the Directors of the Company on the subject of Mr. Whitney's Petition; and, as a member of the Council, afterwards state to their Honors, for their information, the result of his communication with the Directors.

His Honor's recommendation was acquiesced in, and further consideration of the subject postponed.

FISHERY RESERVES.

The Hon. Mr. Young, agreeably to notice, rose to move a Resolution relative to the Fishery Reserves of this Island. He commenced by adverting to the state of the Fishery Reserve question in the Legislative Council, the year before last, when a Bill for the regulation of the Fishery Reserves was sent up to them for their concurrence by the House of Assembly. The Bill was read a first time; but, on the day appointed for its second reading, it was moved, as an amendment to the Order of the Day, that the Order of the Day be discharged, and that the bill be read a second time that day six months. On this motion the House was equally divided; there being five in favour of it, and five against it; the consequence of which was, that the proposed enactment has ever since been in a state of suspension. In their Session of 1840, the House of Assembly addressed Her Majesty on the subject of the Fishery Reserves; but to that address no answer had been, as yet, received; at least none had been as yet communicated to their Honors, and, in consequence of the absence of any instruction, all legislation on the subject had been kept in abeyance. What he wished, at present, was to be informed whether any answer had been received by His Excellency from the Secretary of State for the Colonies to the Address of the Assembly of Prince Edward Island, on the subject of the Fishery Reserves, that he (Mr. Young) might take action thereon accordingly. He (Mr. Young) was aware that the Fishery Reserves in this Colony were of two kinds. "By the one, there was a Reservation in the Grants merely of "a liberty to Her Majesty's subjects to carry on a free fishery." By the other, the soil is reserved; and in every such case he was of opinion that the lands so reserved should be unreservedly thrown open for the purposes of the Fishery. If this were done, there could be no doubt it would greatly tend to the improvement of the Colony, by allowing many who wished to speculate extensively in that line to embark in the business at once. The removal of the present restriction would afford encouragement to private gentlemen to prosecute the Fishery in conjunction with Agriculture, which, surely, would be for the benefit of the Colony. When the question was mooted last year, they were told not to meddle with it, but to wait for instructions. He hoped their Honors would allow his motion to pass, as the object was merely to obtain information on the subject. It did not touch upon Escheat, neither was it calculated to pledge any member to any particular course, in reference to the main question. He moved merely for information. He was aware that, last year, a number of names had been recorded against such a Resolution as he sought; and that it had been said it would be better to let the subject rest—that it was not worth their while to moot it—and that the House of Assembly should be left to take up the business and introduce it to the notice of their Honors. This did not satisfy him then; and although now told that the House of Assembly had taken up the subject, it did not satisfy him yet. He sought to bind no member; all he sought was information. Instructions had been received, but the House knew nothing about them; they had not been officially communicated. In the time of Sir Charles Fitz Roy, Licenses had been granted to several persons to carry on fisheries within the Reserves. He had not, however, heard that Sir Henry had granted any, and he wished to know whether he had been authorized to do so or not. If information were not voluntarily sent to them, the only way to procure it was by an Address. If they wished to know whether an answer to their Address had been received by the House of Assembly, they might indeed search their Journals; but he certainly thought the most respectful course they could pursue, would be to apply, by Address, to His Excellency. Mr. Young concluded by begging leave to move, that an humble Address be presented to His Excellency, asking if His Excellency had received any Instructions from the Imperial Government relative to the Fishery Reserves in this Island; and if so, to request that His Excellency will be pleased to lay the same before this House.

The motion was seconded by the Hon. Mr. Dalrymple.

The Hon. Mr. BRECKEN observed, that he was not fond of fishing in troubled waters; and that he thought it would be time enough for their Honors to enter upon the subject when it should be brought before them by a Bill from the other House.

The motion was finally agreed to; and it was then ordered that Mr. Dalrymple and Mr. Young be a Committee to prepare the said Address.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

TUESDAY, February 6.

Mr. Dalziel, from the Committee appointed to prepare and bring in a Bill to protect Sheep from vicious Dogs, presented to the House a Bill, as prepared by the Committee; and the same was read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

The Bill for establishing a reward for the destruction of Bears and Loupcerviers, was read a second time, committed, and reported agreed to, without amendment.

The Bill establishing regulations relative to Georgetown Wharf, was, according to order, read a second time, committed, and reported agreed to, without any amendment.

Ten Petitions were presented to the House, and the same were received and read, viz:

By Mr. Coles—A Petition of divers Inhabitants of Township Twenty-two, praying a grant of Forty Pounds, in aid of individual subscription, towards building a Bridge over Hope River Narrows.

By Mr. D. Maclean—A Petition of divers Inhabitants of Park Corner and vicinity, praying an aid to repair several Bridges therein mentioned.

A Petition of divers Inhabitants of Campbellton and Mill River Settlements, praying an aid of Fifteen Pounds towards improving a road within the Settlement of Campbellton.

By Mr. A. Maclean—A Petition of divers Inhabitants of the Settlements of Point Prim, Pinette, and Belfast, praying an aid towards extending the Wharf at Lion's Point.

A Petition of divers Inhabitants of Townships Fifty, Fifty-seven, and Fifty-eight, praying an aid towards extending the Wharf at Orwell Ferry Point.

A Petition of divers Settlers on the Road commonly called Douse's Road, leading from the Murray Harbour Road to Three Rivers, praying an aid to repair said Road.

A Petition of divers Inhabitants of Townships Fifty and Fifty-eight, praying an aid to improve the Road between the Murray Harbour Road and Brown's Creek Settlement.

same was read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time on Thursday next.

Ordered, That Charles Binns, sen., Esq., be appointed Law Clerk to this House, for the present Session.

WEDNESDAY, February 7.

The House resolved itself into a Committee of the whole, on the further consideration of the Bill for regulating the mode of proceeding upon controverted Elections; and after some time spent therein, the Chairman (Mr. Bearsto) reported, that the Committee had gone through the Bill, without making any amendment thereto.

The Bill relating to Treasury Warrants, was, according to order, read a second time. To be committed to a Committee of the whole House on Monday next.

A Petition of Donald Morrison, of Grand River, was presented to the House by Mr. Dingwell, praying remuneration for building a Block and an arch of a Bridge over Grand River, on a new line of Road from Dingwell's Mills towards Cardigan River.—Referred to a Committee of three Members, to examine the same, and report thereon—with power to send for persons, papers and records.

Ordered, That Mr. Dingwell, Mr. Thornton and Mr. Cooper do compose the said Committee.

A Petition of John Arbuckle, Master of the Grammar School, Georgetown, was presented to the House by Mr. Thornton, praying for a reasonable remuneration for Mrs. Arbuckle's services in the said School. Referred to the Committee appointed to prepare and bring in a Bill to consolidate and amend the Acts for the encouragement of Schools and Education.

Mr. Speaker laid before the House a paper containing certain Resolutions passed by the Ladies' Benevolent Society, laid on the Table.

Sixteen Petitions were presented to the House, and the same were received and read, viz:

By Mr. Montgomery—A Petition of divers inhabitants of Princetown and Royalty, praying an aid to bridge a Creek near Niel Macgougan's.

By Mr. D. Maclean—A Petition of divers Inhabitants of Rustico, and others, praying a grant, in aid of individual subscription, towards the construction of a Wharf at Wheatly River.

A Petition of divers Inhabitants of Townships Twenty-one and Sixty-seven, praying an aid to improve the Road from Grenville Mills to the Main Western Road, at Haslem's.

By Mr. Hudson—A Petition of divers Inhabitants of Township Twenty-seven, praying an aid to complete a road from the main road to the South Shore of Seven-mile Bay.

By Mr. Aitken—A Petition of the Proprietors of certain Pasture Lots in the Royalty of Georgetown, praying for an alteration in the line of the main road through the said Royalty.

By Mr. Dingwell—A Petition of divers Inhabitants of Townships Forty-five and Forty-six, praying a grant to John Douglas, to remunerate him for making a road at his own expense.

By Mr. D. Macdonald—A Petition of divers settlers on the South end of Lot Forty-six, for aid to complete a road.

By Mr. Thornton—A Petition of divers Inhabitants of Georgetown, praying for a grant to open a road to the reserved Lands.

A Petition of Hugh Logan, Jailer of Georgetown Jail, setting forth—that owing to the insufficient state of the fence around the Jail-yard, two of the prisoners made their escape, in consequence of which he was made liable for the debt for which one of them had been imprisoned, amounting to the sum of £38 10s., and praying to be released from the payment thereof.

By Mr. A. Maclean—A Petition of Murdoch Macneil, of the head of Vernon River, Farmer, praying for an alteration in the line of a road running through his farm.

A Petition of divers Inhabitants of Pownal Bay, and places adjacent, praying a grant, in aid of individual subscription, towards the construction of a Wharf at Pownal Bay.

A Petition of divers Inhabitants of the Wood Islands' Settlement, praying an aid to improve a road.

A Petition of divers Inhabitants of Belle Creek and vicinity, praying an aid to bridge two swamps.

A Petition of divers Inhabitants of Lots Forty-eight and Forty-nine, praying an aid of Seventy Pounds to make a road and build a bridge.

A Petition of divers Inhabitants of Lots 57 and 58, praying an aid to make a road.

By Mr. Coles—A Petition of divers Settlers on the Brackley Point and Winsloe Roads, praying an aid to improve the road between Dugald M-Callum's and Thomas Macnutt's.

Mr. A. Maclean read in his place, a Petition of Malcolm Stewart, of Belle Creek, praying to be released from the payment of a fine of Fifty Pounds, or a portion thereof, imposed upon him for a breach of the Revenue Laws.

And then Mr. Maclean moved, that the said Petition be received and read; which being seconded and put, passed in the negative.

The Bill for the protection of Sheep against vicious Dogs, was, according to order, read a second time, committed, and reported agreed to, with several amendments—to be engrossed.

Resolved, That a Committee of five members be appointed, to inquire into the expediency of rendering less expensive and more secure, the course of procedure under the Land Assessment Act, to report thereon by Bill or otherwise—with power to send for persons, papers and records.

Ordered, That Mr. Coles, Mr. Longworth, Mr. A. Maclean, Hon. Mr. Palmer and Mr. Aitken do compose the said Committee.

Then the House adjourned.

THURSDAY, February 8.

This being the last day for the presentation of private Petitions, it was almost exclusively devoted to the reception of Petitions from all parts of the Island, praying pecuniary aid towards the construction of wharves and bridges, the repair of roads, &c.

Among the miscellaneous Petitions presented, was one from Malcolm Stewart, of Belle Creek, praying to be relieved from the payment of a Fine of Fifty Pounds, or a portion thereof, imposed upon him for a breach of the Revenue Laws.—Rejected.

Also, Petitions for Post Offices from Covehead and Fort Augustus.—Referred to the Post Office Committee.

A Petition of William Macneil, of Cavendish, late Commissioner of Roads for District No. 4, was presented to the House by Mr. Montgomery, setting forth—that he has been subjected to the payment of a bill of Costs in an Action instituted against him at the suit of the Crown, for having, in his capacity of Commissioner, shut up an old road, although the Jury returned a verdict in his favour—and praying relief.

Referred to Mr. Montgomery, Mr. Thornton, Hon. J. S. Macdonald, Mr. Coles, and Mr. Cooper.

By Mr. Macintosh—A Petition of divers Inhabitants of Townships Forty-five, Forty-six, and Forty-seven, praying for a grant, in aid of individual subscription, towards the construction of a Breakwater at Surveyor's Inlet, and removing the existing impediments at the entrance.

Several Bills were forwarded a stage, and the House adjourned at a late hour.

FRIDAY, February 9.

Mr. Bearsto presented a Petition from the Inhabitants of Princetown and Royalty, praying for an Act to regulate the gathering of Sea-weed.—Referred to Messrs Bearsto, Cooper and Wightman.

Mr. Hudson reported a Bill to repeal the two old Acts relating to Insolvent Debtors, and to consolidate and amend the Acts more recently passed for that purpose.

REMISSION OF DUTY ON IMPORTED MACHINERY.

Mr. Rae presented a Petition from James Wright, of Bedeque, setting forth his having paid Colonial Duty upon some Machinery of a particular kind imported by him to the amount of £19 11 0, and, for certain reasons therein stated, praying the House to relieve him from this impost.

Mr. Cooper did not think the House should receive this Petition; it was not shown that any loss had been sustained by the Petitioner; on the contrary, the probability was that benefit would accrue to him; and those who receive benefits should not seek to withdraw support from the Country, particularly in this instance, the Mills being eligibly situated, and Bedeque enjoying many advantages, such as good Roads