tioning our complaints and applying for justice before the only tribunal where we may hope for redress?

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND—The case occurred, then, on the estate of the proprietor of Fort Augustus, the Rev. John McDonald.

Hon. Mr. KELLY—Mr. Burke is the agent; I do not think the proprietor knew anything about the proceeding.

A motion then having been made that the progress be reported, and the House do adjourn, it was, after a short discussion, agreed to.

FRIDAY, Feb. 28.

Committee on the address resumed.

Paragraph relating to the Land Commission, and Hon. Mr. Coles's amendment thereto, again read.

Hon. Mr. PERRY—Mr. Chairman, the difference between the amendment and the paragraph would not, I think, warrant any person to vote against the latter; but I consider that every hon. member should express his opinion on the report of the Commissioners as explained by Hon. Mr. Howe. I think, however, that that gentleman ought to have obtained for the Government a copy of the Award. Certainly there were three parties interested, the Crown, the proprietors, and the tenantry; and I think it was the duty of the Commissioners to furnish each of these three with a copy. Had this been done we would have been able to discuss the Award on its own merits. Though it were to come now, as it is said to be a voluminous document, it would perhaps take two or three months to read it and understand it thoroughly. I repeat that I think our referee ought to have furnished us with a copy of the Award; this is the least that we ought to have had, as the whole affair has cost the country nearly £1000. But, Sir, if Mr. Howe's report is a fair synopsis of the Award, I think we have very little for our expense and trouble. It is said that arbitration is easily understood; and that this clause of the Award will be productive of great benefit to the tenantry. I do not anticipate it will effect much good, particularly as the appointment of the third party cannot be interfered with by this House. Such legislation would not be sanctioned at Home. It is well known that back lands are let at nearly as high rent as front farms, consequently arbitrators would be likely to say that as those lands are rented at the same rate, why should not the purchase price be also the same amount? 20 years' purchase does not mean 20s. an acre, as appears to be taken for granted by some hon. members; the amount which will have to be paid under this clause altogether depends on the rate of rent. This being the case, the clause will be of no benefit, for, as has been very well observed, it will be better to continue paying rent. It is said that the Governor was offered a copy of the Award, and would not accept of it; however this may be, I think the Government should satisfy this House that they asked for a copy and were refused it. It was important that the Award should be here months ago, because if it is received now, the country may perhaps be saddled with a law to render it binding before they are aware of its nature. Now, Sir, with respect to the Spy, I believe there was such a person here; but I do not blame the Government in the matter, or say that they assisted him. That person was in my neighbourhood, still I am not aware that any one in that part understood the object of his mission, as he spoke of building railways and the like. Had he come here and simply stated to the people that he wished to know the price of lands in their wilderness state, there would not have been so much dissatisfaction. But with all the information which was before the Commissioners, I do not consider that there was any necessity for them to send this person here to check the evidence. The Award now cannot become binding before 1863, consequently there will be 5 years' arrears of rent to pay. Owing to this the remission of arrears up to 1858 cannot be looked upon as a very great boon; however, if the Award be the means of wiping off some arrears it will effect good. But, Sir, when we consider that a number of the townships are liable to forfeiture, I do not think this remission of arrears is an equivalent for what they owe the Colony. When the Award becomes the law of the land the proprietors' titles will be confirmed, and they will then, no doubt, ask a higher price for their properties than at present, which will be an injury should the Government think of purchasing any more estates. I must say that I think Mr. Howe has not behaved in a very gentlemanly manner to his colleagues, nor to the people of this Colony. If he could give nothing better than a mere exposition not worth 2½d., he would have acted more wisely to have given nothing at all. (Hear, hear, from Hon. Col. Gray.) It has been stated that the Spy was paid by the Government. This was not right. If the Commissioners employed him on their own responsibility they should have paid him themselves.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND—Pay for it themselves.

Hon. Mr. PERRY—Yes; and I think the Commissioners themselves should not have been paid until they furnished a copy of the Award. We know this is the case with a common arbitration. I think we are not warranted in expressing an opinion on the Award, but only on the report given by Mr. Howe. I do not understand what his exposition was given for.

Hon. Mr. McAULAY—Mr. Howe said himself it was to correct certain false statements given in the *Examiner*.

Hon. Mr. PERRY—I was not aware that Mr. Howe made such a statement. If the Award is likely to be any benefit to the people of the Colony, I will give it my support. I cannot but help thinking that it must be better than we were led to believe by Mr. Howe's report. It is said that his effigy was burned in some part of the country. If this was the case it must have been because he did not bring a copy of the Award with him. This deed is said to have been done by the people of New London.

Mr. MONTGOMERY—It appears to have been done by a Frenchman.

Hon. Mr. PERRY—It would rather seem that the Frenchman was the only liberal-minded man there, for when he could not save the body, he tried to save the coat. In my opinion, before the Award is confirmed, the people should be made acquainted with its nature. I believe they would be willing to pay a little to have it printed, though it might never be any benefit.

Hon. the SPEAKER—The hon. member has stated that Mr. Howe should have furnished the Government with a copy of the Award. I am of opinion, however, that he should have taken no action in the case, not even to give an exposition of its contents, but allowed it to come to this Colony through the proper channel. Mr. Howe was no doubt nominated by this House, still he received his commission from the Crown as well as the others, and it was therefore a part of his duty along with his colleagues to lay their report at the foot of the Throne, and let it come through the Colonial Office to the Government here. As to the nomination of Mr. Howe, I think I may take as much credit to myself in the matter as any member of this House. I had thought of his suitableness for the appointment, and I heard the opinion of an hon. member of the opposite side, who said that if Mr. Howe was named there would be no opposition to him.

Hon. Mr. COLES—Name him.

Hon. the SPEAKER—The hon. member for East Point, Mr. Cooper. So that if Mr. Howe has not done all that was expected of him by the people of this Colony, I do not think any blame can be attached to the Government.

Hon. Mr. COLES—I cannot admit the propriety of hon. members bringing charges against Mr. Howe, for it was stated by the hon. leader of the Government the other day that the Award was better than he expected. He also stated that he put in a private note to the Counsel for the tenantry.

Hon. Col. GRAY—The hon. member must have misunderstood me; I put in no *private* note. All that I did was as clear as noonday. What I handed in was a paper setting forth that it was a great hardship that tenants had to pay it might be 20 years' arrears of rent, when by the Statute of Limitations ordinary debts could be collected for only 6 years back. This hardship in the case of tenants was what I desired should be brought before the notice of the Commissioners.

Hon. Mr. COLES—Well, then as the Award remits all arrears up to 1858, more has been granted than what he asked for; and this being the case wherein is Mr. Howe to blame. Then again the arbitration clause, which I believe was suggested by Mr. Howe himself, when he found that the other Commissioners were in favor of 20 years' purchase, and finally they agreed to the suggestion,—that clause was more than was asked for in the resolutions proposed by the hon. leader of the Government. With respect to the 40 year lease clause, that is according to his own resolutions. I believe 100 years was the term first named by him, but it was brought down to 40 years at the suggestion of my hon. friend Mr. Thornton. Now, I would like to know what the Government intend to do for the tenantry. Before the Award can be confirmed, those who have paid no rent since 1858, will have 5 or 6 years arrears to pay, and this sum would be more than is paid for land on the Worrell and Selkirk estates. As I said before I cannot sit here and listen to hon. members accusing Mr. Howe, when the hon. leader of the Government says that the Award is more than he expected.

Hon. Mr. POPE—The strongest language which I have heard against the Commissioner for the tenantry, was that made use of this morning by one of the hon. member's own friends; still he tries to make us believe that it is members of the Government, who are bringing charges against Mr. Howe. Which of them said anything of the kind?

Hon. Mr. COLES—I will tell who; when the hon. member Mr. Perry was speaking this morning, the hon. leader of the Government said, hear, hear! (laughter) and the direction of the straws shows how the wind blows. The hon. member for Georgetown says that the reason Mr. Howe gave his explanation was to correct what was stated in the *Examiner*. All the difference between the statement in that paper and the explanation given by Mr. Howe was not worth mentioning. The error in the statement was, that Mr. Swabey—as it is known to have been he who wrote from Halifax—said he understood the Government were to appoint the arbitrators. Mr. Howe gave his report at the suggestion of Mr. Whelan and myself, and that no party might be dissatisfied he mentioned his intention to the Government. He gave the explanation in his own room at the Terrace House, and I believe it will prove to be substantially correct. Mr. Swabey wrote from Halifax that the Award ought then to be here, and so also said Mr. Howe when he came to the Island. But it appears that His Excellency the Lieut. Governor intimated to the Commissioners that it was better to forward it through the Colonial Office, and perhaps this was the proper channel which it should come; still that need not have prevented the Government from obtaining a copy, and having it published for the information of the people of the County. The hon. member for Georgetown finds fault with the Council for the tenantry because they did not make better speeches, and still all the members of the Government are taking credit to themselves for having retained such able men. He seems to think that if such a speech as he made here yesterday, had been given before the Commission, all would have been right. But, Sir, I think I did more to awaken the sympathies of the Commissioners then he would have done with his cow-and-calf story. I drove one of the Commissioners from Georgetown to Charlottetown round by the Head of St. Peter's Bay; and I thought as I had an opportunity I would show him some of the effects of the tenant system. As we were passing through a certain settlement, I hailed up opposite a hut, and said it was about tea time. We saw a woman, and I asked her if tea was nearly ready. She answered that they had no tea in the house, and nothing except a few potatoes. The Commissioner being amazed began to ask questions, and thus elicited information. The hon. member, Mr. Longworth, says that I have advised the people to reject all the Award except the Loan clause. Now, I deny this *in toto*. I never advised them to reject any of it. All I said was that without that clause it would not be worth having.

Hon. Mr. LONGWORTH—You said more; you voted against the Award.

Hon. Mr. COLES—I never did.

Hon. Mr. LONGWORTH—Where is the resolution passed at your own meeting.

Hon. Mr. COLES—I did not vote for that; it was passed by my constituents.

[The resolution was here read by Hon. Mr. Longworth.]

Hon. Mr. COLES—That does not prove that I am against the Award; nor am I under any pledge by the resolution. I have been very cautious in expressing myself about the Award, for many of my constituents, who are in large arrears of rent, might be greatly benefitted by it, were they not bound down by bonds and warrants. It was a strange statement also made by the hon. member that I had admitted that my policy for settling the Land Question had failed. I never made any such admission. What do the Commissioners say—those gentlemen who are allowed to be as competent as could be found in the Colonies to decide the question? They say that the Loan Bill was the best scheme ever devised to relieve the tenantry; therefore they recommend a Loan in the first part of their award, and if this cannot be obtained, they then recommend 20 years' purchase and arbitration. Under the Loan clause, they think land may be purchased at 2s. or 3s. sterling an acre.

Hon. Mr. LONGWORTH—You know that is a mistake.

Hon. Mr. COLES—Well, I do not know that it is; it is their opinion. Then, again, the Worrell estate is being continually referred to here. One on the Government side commences, and all the others follow like a pack of hounds; one says bow-wow-wow, and away they go. (Laughter.) Then what about that dreadful estate? When I go up there, what do the people say? They say you are the best friend we ever had. The members of the Government are continually making comparisons between the Worrell and Selkirk estates; now, what is the difference between them? The late Government introduced the Purchase Bill, and the Worrell estate happened to be the first bought under it. Had it not been that we passed that Bill, the Selkirk estate could never have been purchased by the present Government. No thanks to them though it should prove more self-sustaining than the other, as they had the machinery for working the scheme all ready to their hand, and our experience as a guide. The Earl of Selkirk was even induced to sell his estate, owing to correspondence entered into by the late Administration, though it has been stated here that it was His Excellency the present Lieut. Governor who prevailed upon him to dispose of his property to the Government. It has been brought up in this debate that I said to the Hon. Col. Gray I would not give £8000 for the Worrell estate. "I admit that I said so; but I said it to him as a private gentleman, because I did not know but he might be desirous to purchase the estate. It would be folly to hold a Government responsible for the opinions of a person given outside. I said I would not give £8000 for it; no more I would. I would not hold a large estate on almost any terms. The hon. member, Mr. Longworth, says that it the Loan Bill had been assented to, it would have been the ruin of the country. Sir, how could this be the case, for the money was not to be drawn unless there was land about to be purchased. He also says that it was circulated by our party that if the loan was granted the money would not require to be paid back. I believe the hon. member, Mr. Cooper, said that if the money was handed over to the Colony, the British Government *ought not* to demand it back; but I deny that the members of the Liberal party circulated such a report.

Mr. HOWAT—I have one question to ask the hon. member. Would the Colony, under the Loan Bill, have had to pay the interest of more money than was required?

Hon. Mr. COLES—I am glad the hon. member has asked the question. I have explained before that £5000 or so might have been drawn at a time, and interest would have to be paid only on what was drawn. The hon. member, Mr. Longworth, seems to be quite pleased, because there is, as he says, some little desertion from the Liberal ranks. He states that I opposed Mr. Davies in regard to quit rents. I did not oppose him, but when he came in with his statement that there were £200,000 due, I laughed, not because I believed it incorrect, but at the black looks of the Tory members of the House. Where I differed with Mr. Davies was, that he wished to send an address to the Governor inquiring how much was paid, whereas I said that the address ought to be sent to Her Majesty. But, Sir, if the members of the Government believe that that gentleman is so honest that he would do nothing wrong, they must admit the truth of his statement before the Land Commission. [The hon. member here read from the report of the Land Commission resolutions passed at a meeting of delegates, complaining that the Government had not presented the claims of the Colony before the Commission, which resolutions Mr. Benjamin Davies and Mr. Howat were appointed to lay before the Court.] Certainly, then, if this gentleman's opinion holds good with respect to the late Government, it is of equal force in regard to the present Government. The hon. member from Tryon says he heard Mr. Davies state in the Debating Club that the late Government did more to confirm the titles than any other. That may be his opinion, and certainly the purchase of the Worrell estate was confirming the titles so far, as the title of that estate was then made secure.

Hon. Mr. LONGWORTH—I do not rise to make a speech, but to clear up a certain matter. What I said with regard to Mr. Davies was that I believed he did not receive that support from the hon. leader of the late Government to carry out his views respecting quit rents which he expected. The hon. member says he did not oppose Mr. Davies; but here is an extract from his speech in the debate on the quit rent question in 1852, which shows that he did oppose him:—

"Hon. Mr. COLES said he would be happy to have it in his power to think that there was the least chance that any good would arise from Mr. Davies' motion, but as he could see no probability of any, he felt bound to vote against it. He even thought that evil might arise from it, and that the tenantry might be again subjected, on account of it, to such losses and vexations as they had formerly undergone from its exaction."

Hon. Mr. COLES—I opposed the address to the Governor, because I considered that the proper course was to address the Queen.

Hon. Mr. LONGWORTH—The proposition before the House was to address His Excellency first; and even Mr. Mooney found fault with the hon. leader of the late Government for his conduct.

Hon. Mr. COLES—I knew that the Lieut. Governor had no means within his power to grant the prayer of the address, as absentee proprietors were permitted to pay their quit rents in England. But it appears that Mr. Davies carried his address, and the reply given by His Excellency was that the information could not be afforded here. An Address to Her Majesty was then passed, according to my suggestion, praying that the information might be afforded from the records of the Colonial Office.

Hon. Mr. WHELAN said—Mr. Chairman; some statements made in the course of this debate, in connection with which my name has been freely used, require a few observations from me. I attempted to do this at an earlier stage of the discussion, but did not succeed in attracting your attention. I was not, however, disposed to trespass on the time or patience of the House, and would be quite willing even now to forego the small gratification of making a speech, if I thought my silence would be the means of expediting the business of the Colony. Besides, there is nothing peculiarly attractive or novel in the discussion after members on both sides of the House have consumed more than four days in elaborating their views on the several questions which have been brought to our notice. Members on the Government side have been particularly pertinacious in advancing their opinions,—or, arguments, as they may please to call them; for, on a moderate computation, no less than five speeches have been made by each of the principal debaters on that side of the House; and I am quite sure that impartial listeners will agree with me—(if there were listeners who had patience sufficient for the test)—that one speech from each honorable gentleman would have answered all the purposes of this debate, because the succeeding speeches from the same lips were merely repetitions of their predecessors. I may be told that some members on this side—and particularly my friend the Leader of the Opposition—have been afflicted with the diarhœa of words as well as the gentlemen opposite. My friend the Leader of the Opposition requires no defence from me; but a sense of justice compels me to say that he would have had more than human patience if he did not address you so frequently, when he was so frequently assailed by gentlemen on the other side; and it must be a source of consolation to him, as it is to his friends, that on all occasions he has been more than a match for his political opponents. Members and supporters of the Government pretend to regret the delay which has occurred in bringing this debate to a close, as they profess to be anxious to adopt an address of condolence to the Queen on the death of the Prince Consort, in time to send it by the Mail which will leave here to-morrow evening; but which address cannot be adopted until the Governor's Speech be disposed of. They cannot, however, censure me for having delayed them, for I have shown no disposition to obstruct the business of the House. I would have been most happy to have offered any aid to the Government, which it might be in my power to afford, with the view of giving a full expression to the feeling of regret that pervades the minds of Her Majesty's subjects in this Colony on the melancholy bereavement which has cast a gloomy shadow upon the royal house of Great Britain; and I am sorry that a subject of such painful interest—affecting, as it does, the minds of many millions of people—has been deemed worthy of only a very trite and common-place remark in the speech with which the Queen's Representative opened the present session. At the commencement of the discussion a charge of encouraging agitation in the public mind, in reference to the Land Commission, was made against certain members of the minority, who, it was said, were occupied in preparing resolutions in Charlottetown to be passed at public meetings in the country. This charge is altogether unfounded. The public meetings were, for the most part, confined to Prince County, and were convened at the request of the Hon. Mr. Warburton, without previous consultation with his friends in town. Neither Mr. Coles nor myself attended those meetings, although we were invited to them. Such was not the case, however, with members and officers of the Government, who, with or without an invitation, manifested much eagerness to influence public opinion at those meetings. If we were desirous of creating or keeping alive excitement, we had another opportunity for doing so at the New London meeting, to which Mr. Coles and myself were invited by a numerously signed requisition; but it was the settled opinion of my honourable friend and myself that we should keep aloof from all those meetings, as we were well aware that the charge of arousing public discontent would be made against us. Our absence from the meetings has not, however, prevented the charge from being made. The Montague meeting, to which Mr. Coles and myself were also specially invited, deserves something more than a passing notice. If ever unreasoning and insensate phrenzy disgraced any occasion—if ever the freedom of speech was grossly and infamously outraged, it was at that meeting; and the individuals who committed the outrage, and carried for themselves the disgrace, were not Liberals, but the adherents of the party in power—a wild and ignorant rabble, drummed out of Queen's County to overawe peaceable and well disposed people in another County. I understood that those rowdies were determined to offer personal outrage to Mr. Coles and myself, as it was supposed we would attend the meeting; and they were sadly disappointed when they found themselves baulked in their humane intentions by our absence. I make no objection to the circumstance of persons going from one County to attend public meetings in another, if they do so without any improper designs on individual or general liberty, and conduct themselves as rational men and good members of society; but I cannot too strongly condemn—and I am sure every right thinking man will join with me in the condemnation—the conduct of those who would send an ignorant multitude—who have no knowledge of public affairs, no honourable motive to inspire them—governed solely by their own criminal and brutal passions—to prevent free discussion in a part of the country where they have no landed or local interests.

Sir, I will now notice a few remarks which fell from the honorable and learned member from Queen's County, (Mr. Longworth), to whom I have always listened with much attention, and often with pleasure. He has accused me of attempting to make political capital out of the Land Commissioners' Award. But I think I have fully met this accusation by what I have already said respecting the public meetings held in various parts of the country. If any party are open to the charge of attempting to make "political capital" out of the Commission, they are certainly those who constitute and support the Government. It is a theme of which they never weary. Every member on that side asseverates in the most solemn manner that vast benefits will be conferred on the tenantry by the Award,—yet that charmed instrument is not here; and its admirers—affecting to discredit Mr. Howe's explanation of it—profess the most profound ignorance of the principles embodied in the original document. Now, then, in the absence of the Award, will the advocates of the Government inform us what has been done, during their three years' possession of office, to advance the interests of the tenantry, for whom they profess so much sympathy? The Commission itself, if it should ever come to any good, is not so much the result of their exercise of power as of the agitation which was kept up by their predecessors against the evil working of the leasehold tenure. The appointment of the Royal Commission was merely a concession to the long agitated claims of the tenantry—claims which have been strenuously and uniformly resisted by the party in power; it was an acknowledgment by the Crown that the tenantry had grievances to redress; and those grievances would never have been pressed upon the notice of the Sovereign if it were not for the exertions of the Liberal party. I may be told that the present Government have purchased the Selkirk estate, and have thereby done much to promote the welfare of a large body of tenantry; but the merit of that measure is not due to them, but to their predecessors who passed the Bill under which the purchase was effected; and if they could, they would have prevented the Purchase Bill from holding a place on the Statute Book. Hon. members on the Government side have charged us with inconsistency in regard to the expression of our views on the Escheat question, and have attempted to shew that the opinions we held in 1855 differed very materially from those advanced by us in 1859. I challenge our opponents to prove that there was any irreconcilable discrepancy in our views at the periods mentioned. In 1855 we had a well defined policy to pursue. We believed at that time—and we believe so still—that the most speedy and effectual method for settling the Land Question was to purchase out the claims of the proprietors on moderate terms. The experiment had been tried with the Worrell estate, and afforded reasonable hopes of success. The Government at that time were anxious to conduct their operations on a larger scale, and passed the Loan Bill as a supplementary measure to the Purchase Bill. While the Liberal Government had these measures in contemplation, they knew it would be worse than useless to agitate the old question of escheat. Would they not have made themselves eternally ridiculous by going to the Imperial authorities with the Loan Bill in one hand, asking for money to buy out the claims of the landlords; holding forth in the other hand the original grants, and contending that the proprietors had no just claims to sell? But in 1855, neither myself nor my political friends wholly repudiated the doctrine of escheat. We merely regarded it as a measure that should be left in abeyance until the purchase scheme was fairly tested. In 1859, when our hopes with regard to the Loan Bill were entirely frustrated through the machinations of the proprietary clique and the party now in power—we saw no alternative but to go back to first principles. We advocated then the right of the Colony to the establishment of a Court of Escheat,—we had never denied that right,—the Land Commissioners and the Counsel for the tenantry declared in open Court in Charlottetown, that such a right was inherent in the Colony; and we considered that by strenuously urging it, if we did not get escheat itself, we might wring some concessions from the British Government and the Proprietors. But is it graceful or prudent for members opposite to charge our party with inconsistency in reference to this matter? They themselves supported the establishment of a Court of Escheat—or "Enquiry," as they called it—in 1855. If they were sincere in their advocacy of it then, surely they should have taken some steps towards establishing it when they came into power in 1859.

Hon. Mr. LONGWORTH—The hon. member should not make such a statement; many of the members of the present Government were not in the House in 1855.

Hon. Mr. WHELAN—I am aware of that; but the principal men of the honourable gentleman's party were in the House then. His own colleague, now a member of the Government, the Hon. Alexander Laird, was in the House in 1855, and was a strenuous advocate of Escheat—the Hon. Francis Longworth, now holding one of the first offices in the Colony, was also in the House in 1855, and warmly advocated the Court of Enquiry. Even the Leader of the present Government, Mr. Palmer, gave it his support.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND—Mr. Palmer was not in favour of the resolution moved on that question.

Hon. Mr. WHELAN—No, he certainly did not vote for the resolution, but he spoke strongly in favour of it—declaring that the Colony had a perfect right to a Court of Escheat, and that no ministerial despatches should deter him from advocating it if he thought the Colony required its establishment.

[The hon. member made a few further observations in reply to some remarks from the hon. member from Georgetown, Mr. Haviland, and from the hon. member from Queen's County, Mr. Longworth—when, at the desire of the Committee, the debate was adjourned, with the understanding that Mr. Whelan would continue his speech in the afternoon. Progress was then reported, and the House adjourned.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THURSDAY, March 6, 1862.

Hon. Mr. Palmer, a member of the Executive Council, by command of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, presented a Despatch from His Grace the Duke of Newcastle dated "Downing Street, 4th Feb., 1862," containing certain suggestions relative to the Bill passed last Session, "to change the constitution of the Legislative Council by rendering the same elective."

Hon. Mr. Palmer also presented the Public Accounts, and the Accounts of the Public Lands Office for the year ending 31st January, 1862.

Ordered; That the above named Accounts do lie on the table.

The House then resolved itself into a Committee of the whole on the Bill to establish a Savings Bank. Hon. Mr. Simpson in the chair.

On the first clause being read—

His Honor the PRESIDENT observed that some of the Bills which were formerly introduced into this House on this subject enacted that five individuals should be nominated by the Government to organize a Savings Bank; but the Committee who drew up this Bill thought it would be better to have it engrafted on the Treasury, and therefore framed this Bill with that view.

Hon. Dr. JOHNSON—When I look at the the record of passing events, I think the Committee has acted wisely in framing this Bill so as to place the management of it in the hands of the Government. If your Honors will look into the public papers you will see that men who are entrusted with the management of Banks are very often delinquent. Only last week I saw an account of a Bank being robbed to the amount of several thousand pounds by an English Clergyman to whose management it was entrusted. At present it is undergoing an investigation to see if the Trustees of the institution are responsible. I highly approve of placing the management of this institution in the hands of the Government. As long as I have a seat in this Council Board, I shall be found giving my support to institutions which have for their object the good of the country; and I do not think there is any measure which can be brought forward, better calculated to benefit the people at large, or to produce more lasting benefits than the one at present before this Honorable Committee.

Hon. Mr. HUTCHINSON—I am of opinion that it is better to place the management of this institution in the hands of the Government. It is a very common occurrence for institutions of this nature to be robbed by persons to whose management they are entrusted; but I do not see why His Honor Dr. Johnson, should point out an "English Clergyman" rather than any other person.

Hon. Dr. JOHNSON—I merely mentioned it to show that such institutions were not safe when entrusted to the management of private individuals, even though those individuals were Clergymen; and that therefore it was better to place it in the hands of the Government.

Hon. Mr. PALMER—I have no objection to that clause, taking it for granted that the Treasurer will receive some remuneration for his services. It will probably be some time before the institution will be self-sustaining, because people will not very readily avail themselves of the benefits which it is calculated to afford, and therefore, I think some provision should be made to compensate the Officer who has charge of it, for, as I said before, Public Officers in this Colony are not over paid for their services. I will therefore give my sanction to the Bill in confidence that the other branch of the Legislature will introduce such a clause as will obviate this objection. I have not consulted any of my colleagues in the Government on the subject, but I have no reason to think that they will not do so.

Hon. Dr. JOHNSON—I think the people of this country may now look confidently forward to something which will excite their industry: I mean the settlement of the Land Question, and they will find a Savings' Bank a safe place to deposit their money when they are preparing to purchase their farms.

Hon. Mr. RAMSAY—I agree with his honor Mr. Palmer. To ask any officer to take the management of the institution without any remuneration would certainly be unfair. After a few years it is likely that the institution will be self-sustaining.

Hon. the PRESIDENT—I know that objections will exist; but they are not so great that we cannot deal with them. I am not for imposing additional work on any officer without giving him extra pay. Our public officers in this Colony are most miserably paid. In the other Colonies the public officers are paid at least three times as much for the same amount of work. The Treasurer, who has to give bonds to the amount of £20,000, and also to find sureties for a very large amount, should certainly be better paid. There is scarcely a third rate Clerk in London who does not receive a higher salary, and on whom does not rest a tithe of the responsibility which rests on our public officers. But if this Act go into operation, the amount of work to be performed by the officer, who has charge of the institution, will probably be very small during the first year or two, and therefore, I would not be for granting him a large sum of money. As only four per cent. interest will be paid to the depositors, and as the Government now borrow money at six per cent., there would be a saving to them of two per cent. By this means the institution would soon be self-sustaining. We want to make a beginning; for if the poor man once begins to save a little, he then begins to be industrious and provident, and he feels a desire to increase what he has saved. I knew an instance in Nova Scotia of a poor man who began by saving one shilling and in the course of two or three years he had saved £30.

A few remarks were made on the clause which limits the amounts to be deposited by one individual to £50, after which the House was resumed, and the chairman reported the Bill agreed to without any amendment.

A message was brought from the House of Assembly by Hon. Mr. Haviland with a Bill intituled, "An Act for the naturalization of Aliens."

Hon. Mr. Simpson obtained leave of absence till Tuesday next, and Hon. Mr. Ramsay till Tuesday, the 18th inst.

Adjourned till to-morrow at 11 o'clock.

FRIDAY, March 7th.

The following special Committee were appointed—

Committee on Education—Hons. Messrs. Johnson, Walker and Hazard.

On Agriculture—Hons. Messrs. Simpson, Hazzard and Hutchinson.

On Paupers—Hons. Messrs. McLaren, Ramsay and Anderson.

On Miscellaneous subjects—Hons. Messrs. Hutchinson, Johnson and Palmer.

Hon. Mr. Hutchinson presented a petition of Samuel William Mitchell, late Keeper of the Lunatic Asylum, praying for remuneration for repairs, &c., about the Assylum. Referred to the special Committee on Miscellaneous subjects.

The House then resolved itself into a Committee of the whole on the Bill intituled, "An Act for the naturalization of Aliens." Hon. Mr. Walker in the chair.

On the first clause being read—

Hon. the PRESIDENT said he could not understand why the oath prescribed by this Act, and to be taken before the Supreme Court, should only be administered during certain hours of the day.

On motion of his honor (the President) the clause was amended by striking out the words "between 9 o'clock a. m. and 2 o'clock p. m.," and substituting the words "during the term or terms thereof."

On the clause which provides that an Alien must reside on the Island seven years before he can be naturalized, being read—

Hon. Mr. Hutchinson moved that the word "seven" be struck out, and the word "five" substituted. I think it is a hard case, said his honor, that a man must serve seven years before he can be naturalized.

Hon. the PRESIDENT—I think a period of seven years is quite short enough. The object of the Bill is to enable Aliens resident here to hold property; and suppose two or three thousand Americans came here and became naturalized, they might posses a large amount of property, and the Island might become disloyal. Of course the same objection will apply to a period of seven years, but not to the same extent.

Hon. Dr. JOHNSON—It is merely a question of time. What is the time required in the United States? I believe it is only three years.

Hon. the PRESIDENT—In the United States the time varies. In some States it is three years, in some two, and in others seven.

Hon. Mr. FORGAN—I think it is a matter of very little consequence, for Aliens can now hold 200 acres of land. If they had the capital they might come and buy up the whole of Charlottetown.

The question was then put on Hon. Mr. Hutchinson's motion and it passed in the negative.

On motion the House was resumed, and the Chairman reported the Bill agreed to with a certain amendment.

On motion of Hon. Dr. Johnson the Bill to establish a Savings' Bank was read the third time and passed.

A Message was brought from the House of Assembly by the Hon. Mr. Haviland with a Bill, intituled, "An Act to amend an Act to provide for the organization of a Volunteer Force for the defence of this Island."

Adjourned till Monday next at eleven o'clock.

On the 10th, 11th and 12th of March, the Council adjourned for want of a quorum.

THURSDAY, March 13th.

Hon. Mr. Forgan, from the Committee appointed to examine and report on what Laws have expired or are near expiring, submitted the following report:—

The Act 7th, William 4th, cap 22, intituled, "An Act for establishing the standard weight of grain and pulse, and for the appointment of officers for measuring and weighing the same." (continued by 11th Vic., cap 24) expired at the end of the session of the year 1855.

The Act of the 2d Vic., cap 12, intituled "An Act to regulate the floating of logs, scantling, deals, and other kinds of wood down the rivers and lesser streams of this Island," (which was continued by the Act 15th Vic., cap. 2) will expire at the end of the present session.

The Act 15th Vic., cap. 37, intituled, "An Act to incorporate the Grand Division and Subordinate Divisions of the order of the Sons of Temperance in Prince Edward Island," will expire on the 3d day of April next.

The Act 19th Vic., cap. 1, intituled, "An Act for raising a Revenue," (continued, with certain exceptions, by 24th Vic. cap. 6) will expire on the 1st day of May next.

And an Act, 14th, Vic., cap. 6, intituled "An Act for raising a Revenue," will also expire on 1st day of May next.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Walker, the Bill intituled, "An Act for the naturalization of Aliens," was read the third time and passed.

The House then resolved itself into a Committee of the whole on the Bill intituled "An Act to amend the Act to provide for the Organization of a Volunteer force for the defence of this Island. Hon. Dr. Johnson in the chair.

His Honor the President explained that the object of the Bill was merely to amend the Act passed last session, in accordance with the suggestions of His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, in his Despatch, dated, "Downing Street, August 29th, 1861."

The Committee having gone through the Bill, the House was resumed and the Chairman reported the Bill agreed to without any amendment.

PETITIONS,

Hon. the President presented a petition of the Grand and Subordinate Divisions of the Sons of Temperance, praying that the Act to incorporate the same may be continued for the space of 10 years further. Referred to the special Committee on miscellaneous subjects.

Hon. Mr. Hutchinson presented a petition of Mary Kelly, of the city of Charlottetown, widow, in indigent circumstances, praying relief.

Hon. Mr. Forgan presented a petition of Margaret Morrison, of Lot 31, praying relief.

The two last named petitions were referred to the special Committee on pauper petitions.

A Message was brought from the House of Assembly by the Hon. Mr. Haviland, with a Bill to continue the several Acts therein mentioned.

Also, a Bill to establish the standard weight of grain and pulse, and for the appointment of officers for measuring and weighing the same.

Adjourned till to-morrow at 11 o'clock.

FRIDAY, March 14.

On motion of Hon. Dr. Johnson, the Bill intituled, "An Act to amend the Act to provide for the organization of a Volunteer Force for the defence of this Island," was read a third time and passed.

Hon. Mr. Walker presented a petition of divers inhabitants of Souris, Bay Fortune, Rollo Bay and the North and South sides of the East Point, praying for a grant of money to assist them in establishing a breakwater at Souris harbour. On the above petition being read—

Hon. Mr. DINGWELL said—The inhabitants of Souris and the adjacent settlements are making very strenuous efforts to improve their harbour. They feel that they are labouring under a very great disadvantage by not having a good harbour at which to ship their produce. They have been employing a great deal of their time and means in erecting a breakwater by means of which they are confident that the harbour can be very materially improved. I think, then, that their case is well worthy of the favourable consideration of the Legislature; and I do hope that they will receive such assistance as will enable them to carry out the object they have in view.

Hon. Mr. Walker also presented a petition of Charles S. Hunt, of St. Eleanor's, praying to be reimbursed for certain sums of money expended by him in his capacity as Deputy Sheriff of Prince County.

Both the preceding petitions were referred to the Special Committee on miscellaneous subjects.

Also, a petition of John Valley, of Charlottetown, cripple, praying relief. Referred to the Special Committee on pauper petitions.

Hon. Mr. Dingwell obtained leave of absence for two weeks.

Adjourned till Monday next, at 11 o'clock.

CORRESPONDENCE.

EDUCATION AND THE CHURCH.

No. 8.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR—If the long standing and oft repeated calumny that the Catholic Church teaches that "Ignorance is the mother of devotion," were true, Rome, the head quarters of "Popery," would be the place best calculated to exemplify the effects of this barbarous policy. There we would find no schools, no colleges, no universities, no educational establishments of any kind. Now, on enquiry, we find that, far from this being the case, Rome is crowded with educational institutions, from the university of the first class down to the merely elementary school, and that innumerable facilities are offered to her "benighted" inhabitants of every grade, from the prince to the beggar, to receive the blessings of a religious and intellectual education. This fact alone is more than sufficient to prove how unfounded and calumnious are the assertions that the Popes are adverse to freedom of thought, and that they encourage ignorance and the enslavement of the mind.

It would be tedious to enumerate all the schools in Rome, kept by the Fathers Scolpi, the Fathers Somaschi, the Fathers of the Christian Doctrine, those under the direction of the Society degli Asili d'Infanzia, the Society of Private Benefactors, the Society of St. Vincent of Paul; or those kept by the Benedictines, the Regular Canons, the Greek Basilians, the night schools, the schools for the deaf and dumb, and the parish schools. Besides all these schools, there are also three seminaries for artizans, viz: those of the Termini, Tata Giovanni, and San Michele. The education of females is amply provided for by the public schools under the care of the Maestre Pie, and by those conducted by several other religious orders devoted to the instruction of youth, such as the Ursuline, the Presentation, the Sacred Heart, the Divine Love, the Providence, the S. Giuseppe, and the Holy Name of Jesus.

Besides these educational institutions, there are the Colleges of the Benedictines in S. Calisto, and of Regular Canons Lateran in S. Pietro in Vincoli, the Orfani College, the Panfili College, the Capranica College, the Seminary of St. Peter, the Roman Seminary, the Seminario Pio, the Colleges of Ghislieri, Clementino, Nazareno, and Borromeo. There are also the College of Propaganda, the English College, the Irish College, the Scotch College, the Greek College, the Belgian College, the French College, the German College, the Hungarian College, the American College, the College of St. Maria in Montecelli, the Appolinare, the Roman College, and the University of Sapienza.

I am unable to conceive how any individual, who professes to govern his life by the precepts of the Gospel, can, in the face of the existence of these educational institutions in Rome, assert that the Church is inimical to the improvement and culture of the mind. Perhaps, however, Mr. Laird was under the impression that there were no schools or colleges in Rome.

It is unnecessary to enter into all the particulars regarding any of the above colleges; however, it may not be uninteresting to give the following extract, about the Roman College, from Mr. McGuire's "Rome, its Ruler and its Institutions":—

"To give any thing like a complete account of the Roman College, would require a separate treatise in itself. A sketch of a single Faculty will, however, give some idea of the extent of its curriculum, and of the method of instruction. And as it is upon the Faculty of Philosophy that the character of a university will be generally found to depend, it will be convenient to take it in this case as an example. This Faculty is conducted by nine professors. The course of instruction extends over a period of three years, and includes the following subjects:—Logic and Mathematics, Elementary Mathematics, Mathematical Physics, Philosophy of Religion, Moral Philosophy, Physico-Chemistry, Analytical Geometry, Astronomy, Differential and Integral Calculus. In the first year of this course of Philosophy, the student has to attend lectures on two subjects, Logic and Metaphysics, and Elementary Mathematics. There are three lectures of an