

seen that it meant no less than that Her Majesty's Government would be prepared and willing to advise Her Majesty to make all concessions to the Colony requisite for the establishment of Responsible Government therein, on a decided manifestation of the wishes of the people to that effect; and if he (the honorable member for Charlottetown) were capable of justly estimating the weight of the conditions, on which the salaries and allowance in the Civil List Bill were to be paid, he would at once perceive that the payment of them being made altogether contingent upon the granting to and establishing in this Colony a system of Responsible Government similar to that now in force in the Provinces of Canada, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia, and that that Bill's having received the sanction and allowance of the three Branches of the Legislature—the House of Assembly, the Legislative Council, and the Lieut. Governor—were a positive and very sufficient evidence of the wishes of the people of the Colony to have the same measure of justice extended to them, with respect to the privileges and advantages of Responsible Self-Government, as have been conceded to the neighboring Provinces; and, were it also still further considered, that the Civil List Bill, with the important suspending or conditional clause annexed to it, had been carried through the House of Assembly by a large majority—that it had received the sanction of the Legislative Council, without one dissenting voice being opposed to its passage—and that His Excellency in assenting to it in Her Majesty's name, had intimated no intention on his part to advise the withholding of the Royal allowance; it would be quite clear, he thought, even to the honorable member who had last spoken, that the anticipation of the Royal assent to the Bill, which led the majority to contemplate the passing of a Revenue Bill, as intimated by the Resolution which he (Mr. Coles) had just submitted, was based upon good foundations.

The Chairman (Mr. Jardine) then put the question upon the Resolution, which was agreed to without opposition. And then the House being resumed, the Resolution was reported agreed to accordingly; and the question being put thereon by the hon. Speaker it was adopted *nem. con.*

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS TO THE CLOSE OF THE SESSION.

Monday, April 29, 1850.

Message from His Excellency, by the Honorable Mr. Secretary Haviland:

"The Lieutenant Governor transmits to the House of Assembly the Estimates of the Expenditure of the Government of this Island, for the current year.

"The Lieutenant Governor lays before the House of Assembly, Copies of Communications, received by him from Captain Bayfield and Commander Jenner, of Her Majesty's Navy, relative to the Light House at Point Prim, and he recommends to the favourable consideration of the Assembly, the suggestions of those Officers, as to the means of increasing its efficiency.

Government House,

April 29, 1850.

"The Lieutenant Governor transmits, for the information of the House of Assembly, the Road Commissioners' Returns of Statute Labor for the past year, together with the Road Correspondent's Account, showing the sums which have been expended, during the same period, upon Roads, Bridges, and Wharves, under the several appropriations of the Legislature. Also, Reports from Road Commissioners, relative to the advances made to destitute Settlers in the years 1847, 1848, and 1849.

The Lieutenant Governor further submits, for the consideration of the House of Assembly, the following communications connected with the Road Service:—

No. 1. Petition of the resident Inhabitants of the Eastern Section of King's County and others, for a Bridge to be erected across Souris River.

No. 2. Petition of Inhabitants of Lot 18, for a sum to be appropriated on the Road which passes from the Old Town Road to Fermoy.

No. 3. Estimate to re-build Poplar Island Bridge.

No. 4. Accounts of Wharfage received and expended in the several Road Districts.

Government House,

April 29, 1850.

Ordered to be laid upon the Table.

Debts due to the Government for Supplies of Seed Grain, &c.—Mr. Pope moved that the following Address be presented to His Excellency:

"May it please Your Excellency,

"The House of Assembly being desirous of meeting the circumstances of the numerous poor Settlers who, during the last four years, have received advances for the purchase of Seed Grain and Potatoes, and many of whom are now unable to discharge their obligations in money, would respectfully request that your Excellency will give directions to the several Road Commissioners to receive labor on the High-ways, Bridges and wharfs, during the present season, in liquidation of the obligations now in their hands for moneys so due to the Government, the rate per day not to exceed 4s., and the Commissioners to be required to make due returns to the Government of all sums so received, and how and in what manner expended.

*The House of Assembly are of opinion that the

arrangement will, in the present circumstances of the country, afford much relief to parties indebted to the Government, and be found beneficial towards the repairs of the Roads for the present year.

Illuminating Gas.—Mr. Pope presented the following Petition:—"To the Honorable House of Assembly of Prince Edward Island, now in general Assembly convened.—The Petition of Abraham Gesner, of Halifax, in the Province of Nova Scotia,—humbly sheweth: That during the past year Petitioner has made an important discovery in the manufacture of illuminating Gas, which he now obtains from bitumen, asphaltum, or mineral pitch, never heretofore used for that purpose, and from which a better and cheaper Gas is derived than from coal, rosin, or any other substance.

That to encourage and reward such inventions and discoveries, the laws of Great Britain, the United States, France, Spain, and other countries, authorise the granting of Letters Patent, even to foreigners. Your Petitioner, although a subject of the Queen of Great Britain, has obtained such Letters Patent for the whole of the United States, also for Nova Scotia and other places. His caveat is also filed in England and in the French and Spanish Colonies.

Upon making application for Prince Edward Island, your Petitioner is informed that such Patent cannot issue under the present law to any person who is not a resident of the Island.

Your Petitioner is a Colonist and a British subject, and begs most respectfully to submit to the consideration of Your Honorable House that whether as being such, he should not obtain Letters Patent from a British Colony. It is by such inventions and discoveries the welfare and comfort of mankind are promoted, and your Petitioner only seeks such protection from your Honorable House as will aid in compensating him for the expense and labor he has sustained in the invention and discovery referred to.

Your Petitioner therefore prays that your Honorable House will be pleased to amend that Section of the Patent Law that excludes him, or make such other resolution as shall enable him to obtain Letters Patent for said Island, or adopt such other means as may be deemed meet in his case. And your Petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray.

ABRAHAM GESNER.

Halifax, 27th March, 1850.

Ordered to be laid upon the Table.

Seed Grain, &c.—Hon. Sol. General, by request of his Excellency, informed the House that his Excellency had been pleased to say in answer to the Address of yesterday, respecting the Debts due to the Government for Supplies of Seed Grain, &c., that he would comply with the request contained therein. The hon. and learned gentleman added that from the tenor of the directions heretofore given to the Road Commissioners, it was evident that it was not the wish of his Excellency that they should pursue a rigid course for the recovery of these debts.

Wednesday, May 1.

Mill Streams.—Mr. Lord presented the following Petition, which was read by the Clerk:

To the Honorable the House of Assembly, in General Assembly convened,

The Petition of the undersigned inhabitants of Bedeque, Crapaud, De Sable, and the adjacent settlements,

Humbly sheweth:

That your Memorialists, many of whom occupy land through which valuable Mill Streams flow, learn with no small degree of astonishment and alarm, that an exclusive right or claim has been set up by individuals owning Mills on said Streams to the alone privilege of directing the waters of the same for the purpose of driving machinery; and that in consequence of such assumed right, Parties who have erected Mills thereon, have been dragged into Courts of Law, and thereby subjected to heavy expenses and loss.

Your Memorialists would therefore most respectfully solicit your Honorable House to adopt such measures as you in your wisdom may see fit, to prevent the recurrence of such arbitrary and vexatious proceedings, and thereby secure to the occupiers of such Mill sites the quiet and undisturbed possession of their property. All which is humbly submitted.

RICHARD HUDSON,

S. E. DAWSON,

PHILLIPS F. IRVING,

And many others.

On motion of Mr. Lord, it was then ordered that the Petition be referred to a Committee to report thereon, next Session by Bill or otherwise. The following hon. members were appointed a Committee accordingly, Messrs. Lord, Pope, and Coles.

The Examiner.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 1850.

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

No falsehood has been more industriously circulated by the Obstructives since the prorogation of the Legislature than this, that no provision was made by the Assembly in the last Session for the Service of Roads, Bridges and Wharves. The object of the Obstructives

in putting forth this deliberate falsehood, is to create, in the breasts of the most indigent of the farming population, a feeling against the House of Assembly, by representing to them that if they be without the means of procuring Seed Grain and Potatoes for the present Spring, they should blame the House of Assembly.

Now the facts shew that the Assembly have made a very excellent provision for the Service of Roads, Bridges, and Wharves, and in such manner as to be of the most essential service to the poorest part of our population. There are sums now due to the Government, amounting to between three and four thousand pounds, for Seed Grain and Potatoes advanced to poor Settlers in every section of the Island, during the three or four years past, when crops failed and great scarcity prevailed. Government, through the agency of the Small Debts Courts, lately commanded suing for the recovery of those sums of money; and as judgments were in all cases obtained against the unfortunate defendants, the poor fellows were likely to be made to pay high enough for their Seed Grain and Potatoes. The House of Assembly, not wishing to see their constituents fleeced and harrassed by Government at "Tracadie Fair," addresses the Lieutenant Governor on the subject, requesting him to cause the Road Commissioners throughout the Island to take in payment of those debts labor to be done on the Roads, Bridges, and Wharves, during the present season: thus presenting to the debtors an easy method of meeting their obligations—saving them from law expenses; and, as the amount due—considerably over £3000—is larger than the annual vote of the Assembly, we conceive that an adequate provision is made for the Road Service. Even if money had been voted by the Assembly for Roads and Bridges, it does not follow that means would thereby be afforded to the poorer classes of procuring Seed Grain, for the least needy might obtain the work, as is most frequently the case, and payment could not be had until the contracts were performed, which is usually about mid-summer, and nearer to harvest than to seed time.

THE PAY.

We take the following sentence from the *Islander* of Friday last: "We would not ask for better evidence of a guilty conscience, and at the same time of a deliberate intention to deceive the public, than the omission in the last EXAMINER of the Resolution voting themselves (the House of Assembly) their £25 a-piece." We tell the Editor of the *Islander* that he errs in asserting that we intended to deceive the public in this matter; for if we had any such intention, we should have omitted in the same paper the Governor's Speech, since the story of the £25 is very conspicuously presented to the public in that famous document. The Resolution voting the "pay" was inadvertently omitted, amongst other things, to make room for the Governor's Speech, which came to hand when our paper had gone to Press, and our columns were of course filled up. As it appears to be a great sin on our part to omit the Resolution referred to, why did the *Islander* not publish it? It is true four lines were inserted in that paper, in the form of a Resolution, stating the grant of pay and travelling charges; but that was not the Resolution which passed the House of Assembly. The *Islander's* Resolution would make it appear that the £25 was voted for the one Session, whereas the Assembly's Resolution states the £25 to be for two Sessions' attendance.

Again, why did the *Islander* omit in the same paper in which it complains of our omission, the amended Address in answer to the Governor's Speech at the opening of the Session, giving only Mr. Palmer's bawling, which was remorselessly strangled by the House of Assembly in a very few minutes after it was ushered into the world. Was the *Islander* ashamed to shew the utter defeat of his friends by publishing the amended Address and the circumstance of its adoption? We merely ask was there an "intention to deceive the public" in respect to this matter?

The *Islander* speaks of a "guilty conscience." Well, then, every member who voted for pay, should according to the *Islander*, feel his conscience accusing him of guilt; and as Messrs. Palmer, Thornton, Haviland, Longworth, Montgomery, and Yeo, readily voted for their pay, we suppose their consciences are equally troubled. To express our own opinion in the matter,