

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30.

Mr. Rae moved, that the Committee appointed to take into consideration the proceedings of the Commissioners appointed under the Boundary Act, with reference to the Survey of Township Number Three, have power to employ a competent person to measure the distance from that point on the rear line of Township Number 8, struck by the line bounding Township Number Six, on the South, as run by order of and instructions from the Commissioners, to that point where the road between Townships Numbers 7 and 8 enters Township Number Six.

The House divided upon the question: Yeas—Messrs. Rae, W. Dingwell, M'Farlane, Fraser, Beck, Dalziel, Yeo, Gorman, Hudson, Thomson, D. Macdonald, Macintosh, J. Dingwell. Nays—Messrs. Clark, M'Neil, Hon. J. S. Macdonald, Longworth, Forbes.

A Message was received from His Excellency the Lieut. Governor, with six accompanying documents, by the Hon. T. H. Haviland. The first five of these being merely official communications of no peculiar interest, we content ourselves with giving the sixth, which certainly contains some remarks worthy of consideration.

[No. 33.]

Downing Street, 13th October, 1840.

Sir—Your Despatch of the 10th June last, No. 29, with the series of Acts passed by the Legislature of Prince Edward Island, have been received at this Department, and having engaged the attention of Her Majesty's Government, I proceed to convey to you the result of their deliberations on this subject.

The Act numbered in the records of this Office, 330, intitled "An Act to amend the Act now in force regulating Apprentices," although obviously designed to remedy a real grievance, might, I fear, in its present state, give occasion to abuses still more serious. It is very fit that the Children of destitute parents should be taught some business, by which they can become useful members of society; and with this view it is fit that such Children should be placed out as Apprentices, with persons who are at once willing to undertake, and proper to receive the charge of them. But in a country where there is a scanty population, and a great demand for manual labour, such apprenticeships—especially in the case of Children who have passed the age of puberty—will often be regarded by the Master, as a valuable interest; and great care should be taken to prevent their being contracted, without the consent, either of the parent or guardian of the child, except on an evident and well established necessity. Now, in this Act, I find no such precaution. On the contrary, a youth of fourteen may be apprenticed till the age of twenty-one, by any two Justices, on proof by a single witness, or by the certificate of eight householders, that the parents of the proposed Apprentice have been in the habit of soliciting alms, or of receiving alms, or allowances, from any charitable association; and that they had no other means for their necessary and permanent support. This is, in effect, to declare that every person who has been in the habit of receiving alms, must submit to the penalty of having their Children apprenticed till the age of twenty-one; because it may be generally affirmed of all such persons, that they have no means of permanent support.

Independently of the individual distress, which the strict execution of such a law might occasion, it might also tend to increase the amount of pauperism. A young man, from his sixteenth to his twenty-first year, would usually contribute largely to the support of his parents, if permitted to labour on his own account.

Without his aid they might be compelled, however reluctantly, to prolong their demands on the funds of the charitable. Further, although the living on alms, systematically, may, in the case of able bodied people, be generally regarded, and as conclusive indication of dislike to labour, and of bad character—yet, even in the case of the able bodied, such assistance may sometimes be indispensable; and in other cases, it does not raise even the presumption of misconduct.

The habitual receipt of alms is not the proper criterion of culpable pauperism, nor is it desirable that the law should impede the judicious exercise of alms giving, whether public or private.

The receipt of alms, in order to escape from the duty of honest industry, is the practice against which such laws should be directed; and even when such abuse arises, the object of the law should be to stimulate the activity of the pauper and his family, a result which the proposed apprenticeships would rather discourage and prevent. This Act will therefore require the revision of the Legislature, and in the mean time, Her Majesty's decision on it will be suspended.

The Act numbered in the records of this Office, 510, intitled "An Act to authorize the appointment of Coroners in King's and Prince Counties," is suspended for the signature of Her Majesty's pleasure.

It appears objectionable on two grounds; first, because it deprives the existing Coroner of part of the lawful emoluments of his office, without any compensation; and secondly, because the appointment of the new Coroner is given, not to the Queen, nor even to the Lieutenant Governor, but to that officer, with the advice and consent of the Executive Council.

Slight as may be the importance of these objections in the particular case, the precedents established by these enactments, and the principles involved in them, are of general application. This law must also therefore be remitted to the Legislature for amendment.

The Act No. 512, in the records of this Office, and intitled "An Act to authorize the erection of a Building near Charlottetown, as an Asylum for Insane persons, and other objects of charity, and to provide for the future maintenance of the same," places the Lunatic Asylum under the care of Ten Trustees, all of whom, with the exception of the Chief Justice, must be Members of the Legislature, and Six of whom must be Members of the House of Assembly, selected by that body. To these Trustees are committed various administrative powers. Her Majesty's Government cannot be parties to encroachments of this kind, on the rules which should separate from each other the functions of the Executive Government and those of the Legislative bodies. Society at large is without any real and effective security for the right discharge of administrative duties, especially when connected with a pecuniary trust, when such duties and trusts are assumed by the Members of the popular branch of the Legislature.

The Royal Assent will, therefore, not be given to this Act, unless the management of this Asylum be transferred, by a supplementary Act, from the Legislative bodies to the Executive Government of the Island.

I subjoin a list of the Numbers and Titles of the various other Acts transmitted with your Despatch of the 10th June, which have been left to their operation by the accompanying order of Her Majesty in Council.

Such of the Acts of the last Session as are neither noticed in the preceding remarks nor comprised in the subjoined list, are under the consideration of other Departments of Her Majesty's Government, and until their reports shall have been made, Her Majesty's decision on them must be postponed.

I have the honor to be, Sir, Your obedient humble Servant.

(Signed) J. RUSSELL, Lieutenant Governor.

Sir C. A. Fitz Roy, &c. &c. &c.

Resolved, That so much of the said Despatch as relates to the subject of the Bill passed last Session, for the appointment of Coroners in King's and Prince Counties, be referred to a special Committee, to report thereon, by Bill or otherwise.

Ordered, That Messrs. Thomson, Clark and D. Macdonald do compose the said Committee.

Mr. Longworth moved the following Address:

To His Excellency Sir Charles Augustus Fitz Roy, &c. &c. &c. The House of Assembly respectfully request that your Excellency will be pleased, at your earliest convenience, to inform the House whether or not any contract has been entered into by Government for the conveyance of the Mails by means of a Steam-boat, between Charlottetown, Pictou, and Miramichi, founded on a Resolution of the House of Assembly of the 18th April 1840: and if not, whether any, and what proposals have been made for such service, with any other information on this subject in your Excellency's possession, which may be deemed of value to the House, in legislating on this important subject. Agreed to.

Mr. Maclean gave notice that he would move, on Wednesday next, that the House do resolve itself into a Committee of the whole, to consider the expediency of increasing the present rate of assessment on wilderness land; and of making a rateable reduction of the duties now levied upon Tea, and other articles of general consumption.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1.

Mr. Rae, pursuant to leave given, introduced a Bill for the purpose of opening roads to such farms as have no access to any public road. Second reading to-morrow.

Mr. Rae moved, that a Message be sent to His Excellency the Lieut. Governor, to ascertain whether any reply has

been received to the Address of last Session, to Her Majesty, on the subject of the claims of the Loyalists and Disbanded Troops—which was ordered; and Messrs. Le Lacheur and Rae were appointed a Committee accordingly.

Mr. Secretary Haviland delivered the following Messages from His Excellency the Lieut. Governor:

FIRST MESSAGE.

C. A. FITZ ROY, Lieut. Governor.

The Lieutenant Governor lays before the House of Assembly, Copy of a Despatch from the Right Honorable Lord John Russell, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, in reply to the Address of the House of Assembly to the Queen, with reference to the Bill to authorize the Crown to purchase the Lands, and to regulate the Settlement of the Inhabitants of this Island, and to repeal certain Sections of an Act intitled "An Act for levying an Assessment on all Lands in this Island"—rejected by the Legislative Council at the last Session of the Assembly; and further praying for a reconstruction of the Council, Government House, February 1, 1841.

SECOND MESSAGE.

C. A. FITZ ROY, Lieut. Governor.

The Lieutenant Governor transmits to the House of Assembly the Copy of a Despatch from the Right Honorable Lord John Russell, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, accompanied by copies of the Correspondence which has taken place between the Colonial Department and the Treasury, with reference to the Address of the House of Assembly, praying that the Steam Vessels employed in conveying the Mails between Pictou and Quebec might be allowed to touch at Charlottetown.

The Lieutenant Governor takes the same opportunity of acquainting the House of Assembly, that, agreeably to a Resolution entered upon their Journals in the last Session, he caused Advertisements to be published, calling for Tenders for a Steam-boat, of not less than Eighty Horses Power, to convey the Mails twice a week between Charlottetown and Pictou, and once a week between Charlottetown and Miramichi, touching at Bedouque; but he regrets to observe, that no such Tender has been received.

The Lieutenant Governor submits to the House an offer which has recently been made by the Owners of the Steam-boat *Pochohanas*, to run that Boat twice or three times a week between Charlottetown and Pictou; and as it is of great importance to secure a frequent communication with Pictou, during the Season in which the English Mails are conveyed by that route, the Lieutenant Governor trusts that the House of Assembly will give this offer their early and favourable consideration.

Government House, February 1, 1841.

[No. 30.] DOWNING STREET, 22d Sept., 1840.

Sir, I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 13, of the 5th of May, in which you transmit an Address of the House of Assembly of Prince Edward Island, to the Queen, praying Her Majesty to recommend the adoption by the Colonial Legislature of a Bill for the disposal of the Lands, similar in principle to that which was rejected last Session by the Legislative Council. I have also received the Resolutions of the Assembly, complaining of the construction of the Legislative and Executive Councils, together with the counter Resolutions of the Legislative Council to that complaint.

Having laid before the Queen the Address of the House of Assembly, Her Majesty has commanded me to instruct you to acquaint the House, that she learns with regret that the question of the Lands in Prince Edward Island, continues to disturb the peace of the Colony. Although this question originates in motives of private interest, shared equally by Landlords and Tenants, it assumes, in effect, the character of a public question, and as such, must be treated. It is Her Majesty's earnest desire, to remove every just cause of complaint in all parts of Her Dominions. Her Majesty has been accordingly pleased to desire me to enter into communication with the Resident Proprietors in this Country, with a view to learn whether, by any further proposition on their part, means may be found to determine a question which has for so long a period agitated the Colony.

After a careful examination of the several Resolutions which accompanied your Despatch, it is my duty to declare that I do not see that adequate reasons exist for the immediate reconstruction of the Councils. The material charge against these bodies is, that they have an interest inimical to the general interests of the Inhabitants, in consequence of their alleged connection with the Proprietors of the Lands. It is stated in answer to that charge, that of the Ten persons composing the Legislative Council, Two only are Proprietors, whilst a Third is agent for a Proprietor, the remainder being wholly unconnected with the Proprietors. In the Executive Council, you inform me that there is no Proprietor at all in the Board, and only three agents of Proprietors, holding less than Three Townships. The allegation of undue weight in the Council, in favour of the landed Proprietors, thus appears to me not to be sustained. On that ground, therefore, I would not desire that any alteration should be made in either of the Councils.

I have &c. (Signed) J. RUSSELL, To His Excellency Sir C. A. Fitz Roy, &c. &c.

On motion of Mr. D. Macdonald, it was resolved, that the House do, on Wednesday next, resolve itself into a Committee, to take into consideration the State of the Colony.

Mr. Rae, agreeably to notice given, moved for leave to introduce a Bill to relieve Tenants and Lessees from the payment of Quit Rents and Land Assessments.

The House divided on the question: Yeas—Messrs. Rae, J. Dingwell, Macintosh, D. Macdonald, Macneil, Fraser—6.

Nays—Messrs. Beck, Yeo, Le Lacheur, Dalziel, Clark, Hon. J. S. Macdonald, Gorman, Longworth, W. Dingwell, Maclean, Thomson, Macfarlane, Montgomery, Hudson—14. So it passed in the negative.

Resolved, That this House will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the whole, to consider the expediency of revising and altering the Statute Labour Act, and also the Road Compensation Act.

Then the House adjourned.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2.

The Bill to authorize the opening of Roads to such Farms as have no access to any public road, was read a second time, committed and ordered to be engrossed, with amendments.

Mr. Thomson introduced a Bill, authorising the Lieut. Governor to take the requisite steps for ascertaining the number of persons residing within this Island, and for other purposes. Second reading on Thursday.

Mr. Rae, from the Committee appointed to wait on His Excellency the Lieut. Governor, with the Address of the House, requesting information as to whether any answer had been received by His Excellency to the Address of last Session, to Her Majesty, respecting the claims of the American Loyalists and disbanded troops in this Island, reported the delivery thereof, and that His Excellency was pleased to say, no answer had been received.

Mr. Thomson presented to the House a Bill for the appointment of Coroners in Prince and King's Counties, as prepared by the Committee appointed for that purpose.

On motion, that the Report of the Committee be received—the House divided:

Yeas—Messrs. Thomson, Beck, Macfarlane, W. Dingwell, Dalziel, Longworth, J. Dingwell, Hon. J. S. Macdonald, Hudson, Clark, Gorman, Yeo, Montgomery, Maclean—14.

Nays—Messrs. Rae, Fraser, Macintosh, D. Macdonald, Le Lacheur, Forbes, Macneil—7.

The said Bill was accordingly read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

The Hon. J. S. Macdonald from the Committee of the Council and House of Assembly, appointed to prepare a joint Address to Her Majesty, on the auspicious event of the Birth of a Princess Royal, presented the following Address, which was adopted by the House:—

TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN;

WE your Majesty's loyal and devoted subjects, the Legislative Council and Assembly of Prince Edward Island, in Colonial Parliament assembled, crave permission to approach your Majesty, with heartfelt sentiments of respect and congratulation, upon the Birth of a Princess and Heiress Presumptive to the Crown of these Realms; and we beg to assure your Majesty, that we deeply participate in the

feelings of joy which this happy and auspicious event has so universally diffused amongst all classes of your Majesty's faithful subjects—an event of the highest importance to the present and future interests of the Empire.

Our gratitude is due to Divine Providence, for its protecting care, in preserving your Majesty in the hour of trial, and restoring your Majesty to health and strength.

We earnestly pray that Almighty God will continue to watch over your Majesty and your Royal Consort, and that your illustrious daughter may be preserved to you both in health and safety, and that she may be endowed with those virtues which have rendered your Majesty so dear to the hearts of your affectionate and loyal subjects.

The remainder of the day was spent in the consideration (in Committee) of the expediency of amending the Statute Labour and Road Compensation Acts.

The Colonial Herald.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1841.

We have to apologize to our readers for the brevity of our Legislative report this week. We have been furnished with a report of some of the speeches delivered, but we find that the preparation of them for the press will require more time than we can this week devote to the subject: besides that, our columns are nearly all pre-occupied with original communications, and other matters, which, we trust, will prove generally interesting. We shall next week endeavour to lay a full report before our readers.

TOTAL ECLIPSE OF THE MOON.—Last evening was presented to our view one of the wonderful displays of the wisdom, power and goodness of God, in all its sublimity and beauty, viz: a total eclipse of the lamp of night. It commenced, as near as we could judge, at Eight, p. m., and the period of the moon's greatest obscurity was about 20 minutes to ten. The evening was delightfully serene and clear, affording us a fine opportunity for viewing the wonderful phenomenon. As the light gradually diminished, our minds were forcibly struck with the awful grandeur of the scene, and we were led to exclaim with the Psalmist—"the heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament sheweth his handy work!" At one time the moon appeared red, as if on fire; it might have seemed to a lively imagination as if the period had arrived when the earth was to be destroyed—the moon turned into blood—and all the workers of iniquity hurled into the blackness of darkness for ever.

Astronomy appears to be the science in the study of which man has been most successful. This is proved by the certainty which attends his calculations regarding the heavenly bodies. We shall feel exceedingly obliged, if some of our scientific readers will favour us with their notes respecting the Eclipse last evening, that we may record in our columns the particulars of this total obscuration of the moon. Chronologists tell us, that the first total eclipse of the Moon on record happened 19th March, 760 B. C.

At a Meeting of the Inhabitants of Lot 64, held this day at the house of Mr. J. Johnston, the following Resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

1. Resolved, That notwithstanding the recommendation of the late Noble Earl of Durham, to levy a penal Assessment on the Wilderness Lands of this Colony, as a means whereby the defaulting proprietary body thereof would be compelled to render justice to the oppressed agriculturists; and notwithstanding the recommendation of Her Majesty's Colonial Minister, to carry said measure into operative effect—this meeting, from past events, have reason to disapprove of the proposed measure of Assessment, as it is our opinion that the said expedient originated from delusive proprietary misrepresentation, with regard to the foregoing high authorities, in order to prevent the establishment in the Colony of such expedients as are calculated to redress the wrongs of a suffering people: therefore, this meeting wholly disapprove of the proposed measure of Assessment, and indulge the hope, that our worthy representatives in the House of Assembly (in whom we place the most unlimited confidence) will devise such judicious measures as will render justice to an injured and oppressed people.

2. Resolved, That this Meeting, from dire experience, are justified in considering the extra and injudicious indulgences of 1816 as the prolific parent which has conferred an existence on those measures which have effected a transfer of the agricultural rights of the Colony into a defaulting body of unscrupulous speculators, whose selfish principles have not only retarded the development of the natural product of the country, but have produced therein the most baneful results, through the persecution of a persevering but oppressed people: therefore, this meeting are justified in the expectancy that the House of Assembly, in the ensuing Session, will devise means whereby the said unconstitutional indulgence or dispensation shall undergo a mature investigation of the imperial law authorities, in the full hope that such will dispense to an injured people that justice which they are entitled to expect from the equitable dispensation of British laws.

3. Resolved, That it is the opinion of this meeting, that it is derogatory to that respect which is due to the British Crown, and also to that justice which is due to its subjects, further to procrastinate the opening of the Fishery Reserves of the Colony, in accordance with the Reservations set forth in the original Grants thereof, and also in accordance with Lord Glenelg's Despatch of the 10th May, 1838, as such procrastination has not only enabled the defaulting proprietors to enforce, by coercive law proceedings, the payment of rents for the said Reserves—in which they are borne out by the sanction of the Supreme Court—but said proprietors are also enabled further to lease and sell to sundry individuals the said Fishery Reserves—measures at once calculated to stop and undermine the foundation of our constitutional rights: therefore, this meeting also indulge the hope, that the House of Assembly will so effectually operate in its next Session, as to induce Her Majesty's Government to throw open the said Reserves, in accordance with the original intention of the British Government.

4. Resolved, That this meeting have reason to regret the principles resorted to by the Colonial authorities, in the construction of the Legislative Council, which have so banefully operated against the best interests of this Colony, for the accomplishment of partial measures calculated to further proprietary misrule at the expense and degradation of popular rights: therefore this meeting feel assured the House of Assembly will not only require a satisfactory answer to the Address transmitted to the Throne last Session, for a reform of said Council, but we indulge the hope that the said Assembly will further proceed in the accomplishment of such judicious measures as will ensure to the people a Legislative Council, composed of persons not only worthy of their confidence, but such as will be responsible to those for whom they legislate.

5. Resolved, That the foregoing Resolutions be published in the Colonial Herald.

By Order of the Meeting, JOHN JOHNSTON, Chairman. Murray Harbour, Jan. 22, 1841.

At a public meeting of the Inhabitants of Princetown and Royalty, held in the Schoolhouse near the Church, in Princetown Royalty, which was numerously and respectfully attended—Donald Montgomery, Esq. M. P. P. in the Chair—the following Resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

Moved by William Clark, Esq., seconded by Mr. William Beairto—

1. That it is the opinion of this meeting, that a certain communication, published in the Colonial Herald of the 26th ult., purporting to be from a meeting of the inhabitants of Princetown Royalty, was not notified as such, and, therefore, cannot interfere with this meeting.

Moved by Mr. George Beairto, seconded by Mr. James Montgomery—

2. That this meeting considers the manner in which the Crown Lands in this Royalty are disposed of a very great grievance, inasmuch as, in many instances, the upset price is three times the value of said Land.

Moved by Mr. W. Beairto, seconded by Mr. George Ramsay—

3. That this Meeting are of opinion, that a Committee should be appointed, to prepare a Petition to the Hon. the House of Assembly, praying them to address Her Majesty, for redress of the above grievance, as respects this Royalty, and other parts of this Island.

Moved by Mr. James Montgomery, seconded by Mr. Benjamin Beairto—

4. That the following persons be appointed a Committee, to prepare a Petition, in accordance with the above Resolutions, viz:—Messrs. Wm. Beairto, James Montgomery, Alexander Stewart, George Beairto, and Robert Hyndman, Esq.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND AUXILIARY TEMPERANCE SOCIETY. A Meeting of the Members of this Institution was held according to advertisement, in the National School, on the evening of Wednesday last; the meeting was opened with a short address from the Rev. Mr. Knox, who was requested to preside on the occasion. The Rev. Mr. Waddell then addressed the meeting, congratulating them on the noble stand that had been made, and the high ground which they now occupied as members of an Auxiliary to that dignified Institution, the New British and Foreign Temperance Society. The Rev. gentleman submitted the draught of a code of Rules, which he recommended for the government of the Society, and which, after a long, interesting, and animated discussion, were unanimously adopted. The Rules are as follow:—

I. That this Society shall be called the Prince Edward Island Auxiliary to the New British and Foreign Temperance Society.

II. That all persons subscribing the Declaration of the New British and Foreign Temperance Society shall be members of this Auxiliary.

III. That this Society shall be governed by a President, Vice Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurer, and a Committee of six—to be a quorum.

IV. That all Ministers, who are members of this Society, shall be considered members of Committee.

V. That a Public Meeting of this Society shall be held on the last Monday of every month—the January Meeting to be the Anniversary, at which the Report will be submitted, and the Office-bearers chosen.

VI. That the meetings of this Society be opened and concluded with prayer.

VII. That a collection, in aid of the funds of the Society, shall be taken at the several monthly meetings.

It was then resolved that a copy of the foregoing Rules be transmitted to the New British and Foreign Temperance Society, and that the patronage of that Institution be respectfully solicited.

The Rev. Mr. Knox having left the Chair, the thanks of the meeting were presented to that gentleman for his kind attention to the business of the meeting, and for his generous and cordial co-operation in promoting the interest of the cause.

The evening having been spent in the discussion of many interesting subjects, arising out of the new and important position which the Society now occupies, the meeting was adjourned, at a late hour, till the evening of Wednesday, 17th inst.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE COLONIAL HERALD.

Sir; As a disinterested, though by no means an uninterested, observer of passing events, I have been much amused by the sensation that has been created in this small community, in consequence of the recent appointment of Mr. Young to a seat in the Legislative Council, and the various letters that have appeared pro and con in your paper and the Gazette.

I am neither a proprietor nor an agent, neither am I well termed here an Escheater; therefore, I trust that the following desultory comments, which I am about to make, on the event, and the correspondence to which it has given rise, may not be unacceptable to those of your readers who wish to view the subject in an impartial and unprejudiced light.

It is an obvious fact, amounting to a truism, that in every Colonial society, whenever an appointment, whether of honor or emolument, falls vacant, it becomes an object of jealousy and heart-burning to the many who think themselves qualified to fill it. There can be only one successful candidate, and it is not unnatural that those who are unsuccessful, should seek vent for their spleen against their rival, and fill government which has selected him, in the columns of the local newspapers; and such has been the case in the present instance.

Without expressing any opinion on the propriety or impropriety of Mr. Young's appointment, I shall endeavour to deal impartially in my remarks upon the several letters for as they appear in print.

First, as to the letter addressed by Mr. Young to his constituents, I must observe, that in my opinion, it is unwarrantable to have been far better if that gentleman had submitted to the reversal of some judicious friend—(I cannot doubt that a proverbial good temper and natural willingness to oblige must have secured him many in this place)—before he permitted his address to meet the public eye. Such a frank man would have advised him to curtail it by at least one half, probably would have recommended him to confine himself to such a plain explanation of his reasons for accepting the office, as seated in the Council as his constituents had a right to demand together, if he thought proper, with an avowal of the political principles to which he meant to adhere. Mr. Young would then have avoided those epithets which he so freely, and so must say, imprudently, scattered about; expressions secondly related to do him prejudice in the eyes of reasonable men, of which could only be excusable on the hustings, during what excitement of an election; but which were beneath the dignity of a gentleman to use in his more calm and reflective moments. It is a bad cause that requires to be suppressed by bad language!

The next letter that falls under my notice appeared in your paper of the 2d inst., signed "O. P. Q." and it requires very little to be said about it; for I profess I cannot discern the drift of the author—Some meaning, I presume, he intended when he wrote it, but whatever semblance of an idea may have been floating in his brain at that time is so obscured and enveloped in a mass of verbiage and confused phrasology, that it is as puzzling to find it (to use the common phrasing) as "a needle in a truss of hay."

I pass over the letters of THEOPHRASTUS, VERITAS, as being of little account. Their purpose is sufficiently apparent—I come to one bearing the signature of ALPHAS, but here I must pause for a moment, to reprobate the practice of certain writers, who, fancying they can detect an opponent under his fictitious signature, endeavour to thrust him up by proclaiming the initial letter of the name of the individual whom they suspect. Thus one—I forget the name of the above mentioned writers—tries to fix the letter signifying "O. P. Q." upon a "Mr. P." Perhaps, however, he only selected the middle letter, and fired a shot at random, hoping that chance he would hit the mark. Still it is a bad practice, as unjustifiable as if, in the present instance, I culled the middle letter from the signature of ALPHA, and saddled it also upon the aforesaid, and no doubt calumniated, "Mr. No, Mr. Editor, I have been taught to know my P's and to well for that.

But, to return to this letter of ALPHA, which I cannot tate to pronounce to be the production of a disappointed man—some fox, whose grapes are abused as sour, and found to be out of reach—I admire his disinterestedness to know what are the qualifications required for a seat in the Legislative Council, at the same time that I acknowledge the justice of some of his remarks. He exhibits sufficient, that mere personal friendship or favoritism is not sufficient, and that some sort of apprenticeship is necessary, and some knowledge of Colonial habits and feelings. P. S.—local circumstances, is required before a man is qualified to perform the duties of a legislator; and so far I perfectly agree with him. But I have never heard that Mr. Young was much about the Government House—though I suppose he has been treated with that courtesy and urbanity to which every gentleman of respectable character receives, whatever his political opinions. And after a gentleman has been selected by the constituency of any district, to serve as representative, it is surely worse than folly to object to him that he has not, "by his position and character, obtained the general confidence and esteem of the inhabitants of the Province." But I will dismiss this "querulous questioner" as trusting, that having vomited forth his bile, he may get over his disappointment.

Next in order come the letters which appeared in the Gazette, signed WILLIAM DOUSE. There is something ludicrous in their history (I speak from common knowledge) that it is hardly possible to approach the subject without saying that every one who knows Mr. Douse would pronounce him, I believe, to be what, in common parlance, is called a "no conjurer;" notwithstanding which, if truth be told, he keeps a "Familiar" at his beck—one too who is an adept at "calling spirits from the vasty deep," although, like the