and recovering the same and all arrears thereof, and that the proceedings taken against Lands in arrear of the Tax or Assessment by the said Act now in recital imposed, should or might be joined with proceedings taken against Lands of the same description in arrear of the Tax or Assessment imposed by the said Act of the 11th Victoria, Chapter 7th, according to the description and class of the said Lands respectively, as by the said Acts of the 11th Victoria, Chapter 7th, of the 12th Victoria, Chapter 7th, and 15th Victoria, Chapter 13th, reference being had to the same will more fully appear.

And whereas although the wording of the said Acts is not explicit on the point, the intention thereof was that one Information only should be filed against all the Township Lands together, on the several Townships, in this Island, which should be in arrear of the said Taxes or Assessments, or either of them, and one Information only against all the Lands together on the several Islands not forming part of any of the said Townships, which should also be in arrear as aforesaid, and not that a separate Information should be filed and judgment taken against each Township or Island for the recovery of Assessment in arrear in respect of Lands therein respectively, as has of late been done,and which course is productive of unnecessary expense. And it is desirable that the intentions of the said recited Acts in such respect should as nearly as possible be carried out, but, as nevertheless it is, at the same time, deemed advisable and would be convenient in some respects to vary the mode of proceedings against such Lands in arrear, so that although separate proceedings be not taken against each Township whereon Lands are in arrear, or against each Island, yet that separate proceedings should be taken for each County against all the Lands in arrear on the several Townships therein, and also separate proceedings for each County against all the Lands in arrear therein on the several Islands not included in such Townships. The Bill then proceeds to enact—That after it shall become Law, the mode of proceeding for the recovery of arrears of Land Tax shall be as follows: One Information, and one only, shall be filed for each County against all the Lands in arrear on the several Townships therein together; and one Information, and one only, for each County against all the Lands in arrear on the several Islands therein together, not included in such Townships; and all the proceedings which shall be taken by virtue of the Act against any such Lands so in arrear down to final Judgment shall follow the course of the said Information against the said Lands—that is to say, There shall be one Judgment only on each Information, and the Costs thereon shall be made up, taxed, and divided proportionably amongst the several Townships and Islands included in any proceedings, in manner as pointed out in the said Act of the 11th year of the Reign of Her present Majesty Queen Victoria, Chap. 7th; and all future and other proceedings thereupon or thereunder shall be conducted in the manner prescribed in the said recited Acts, or either of them.—That the mode and forms of proceeding against the several Lots and parts of Lots in arrears of Taxes or Assessments imposed by the said Acts, or either of them, in each of the Towns in this Island, Town Lots and Water Lots inclusive, and in each of the Royalties in this Island, Pasture, Common, and all other description of Lots inclusive, shall remain unaltered, and be in a manner as pointed out and declared in and by the said Acts, or either of them.—And to prevent any doubts or difficulties which may arise from the wording of the said Act of the 11th year of the Reign of Her present Majesty, as amended and explained by the present Act, it provides—That all proceedings heretofore taken under the said Acts, or either of them, shall be and the same are heieby confirmed, although the Informations may have been filed against each Township or Island separately, and the subsequent proceedings taken in the same course. The Bill also provides that any person owning or occupying Land on the Island within any Town, Common, or Royalty, or on any Township or Island or Reserved Lands, against which proceedings have been taken for the recovery of arrears of Assessment due thereon, shall be entitled to stay the proceedings against the Land owned or occupied by him, at any time before the day of sale, by paying or tendering payment of a proper proportion of the Costs and Expenses of the proceedings, up to the day of payment or tender, according to the extent of his Land and also the Tax or Assessment due thereon; the same to be paid to the Sheriff after Execution issued, or if before execution, to the officer in whose hands the proceedings may be or who, at the time, should properly receive the same, and the Sheriff or other officer having charge of the proceedings, on application made to him by any such person as aforesaid desiring to redeem his land, shall give to the applicant the particulars of the amount to be paid by him.

Hon. Mr. Pope, in explaining the object of his Bill and his reasons for introducing it, broadly declared that the present mode of proceeding for the recovery of arrears of land tax, was injurious and oppressive. He said, it would appear that they were in a fair way to bring about something like a revival of the old arbitrary and iniquitous mode of collecting the quit rents. By filing separate Informations against the Township lands in arrear, contrary to what was supposed to have been the intention of the Legislature in passing the Act of 1848, under which they were made, the expenses were multiplied to a very grievous extent; and, in fact, the proceedings taken in that way, although under sanction of the Law, were of so oppressive a character that any government would be highly culpaple that should knowingly suffer their continnance and make no attempt to effect a remedy. He must, however, do the Attorney General the justice to say, that he believed he had not strained the Law, but had only given it its fair interpretation. The Government, however, were, and had been, fully alive to their duty touching the evils which arose out of the interpretation put upon the Land Assessment Act at present in force. He, himself, had been very particular in his enquiries concerning the amount of expenses generally incurred by the present mode of proceeding for the recovery of Land Assessment arrears; but, although he had discovered enough fully to convince him that few complaints could be better founded than those which were made concerning those expenses, he had been able to obtain but very scanty documentary evidence of the loss and hardships sustained in consequence of them. There was a lamentable defect in the mode in which returns were made by the Sheriffs to the Writs. He had before him, however, a Bill of Costs in one case, for the recovery of arrears, which certified the expenses at £4 2d per 100 acres, not including the Sheriff's expenses, which, if added, would make the amount £11, and upwards; this, for the recovery of a debt of 7s 6d at most, was exorbitant. But, to be able to make anything like a correct estimate of the amount of the Sheriff's expenses in most cases, was quite impossible; for although the Government had issued peremptory orders to the Sheriffs to make returns, for the last four years, of all their charges on any proceedings under the Land Assessment Act, only two or three had complied. The hon. gentleman then proceeded to explain the intended operation of the Bill, one main feature of which was to provide that one judgment only should be had against all the Lands in the same County, and to show how it would work for the prevention of the abuses of which he had spoken.

The abstract of the Bill above given, however, renders it unnecessary to give the hon. gentleman's explanation here.

It was ordered that the Bill should be read a second time on Wednesday next.

Mr. Montgomery rose, and moved that a Message be sent to the Lieutenant Governor, requesting His Excellency to be pleased to cause Copies of the Returns for the last four years made to the Prothonotary's Office of the expenses incurred in the collecting of Arrears of Land Tax, together with Copies of the Attorney General's Bills of Costs in all such cases for the said period, to be laid before the House.

Hon. Mr. Palmer said he believed it would be found that the Costs in such cases claimed and received by the present Attorney General were double and treble the amount of those which, in similar cases, had been claimed and received by his predecessor in office, the present Chief Justice.

Hon. Mr. Coles replied, that the honorable and learned member for Charlottetown was quite mistaken: that the Judges had decided that the present mode of proceeding by Information against each Township was that authorized by the Law; and that the present Attorney General had not charged one penny more than his predecessor in office.

Mr. Montgomery denied that the mode of proceeding adopted and followed out by the present Attorney General was that pursued by his predecessor; adding, that if the practice of the late Attorney General was right, that of the present one must be wrong.

Hon. Mr. Pope.—It would be wrong to censure the present Attorney General before due enquiry had been made. If any authority was to be depended upon, it ought to be that of the Judges; and if the Attorney General had that in his favor, he ought to be exonerated from blame. The Act was by some deemed ambiguous; and one lawyer put one interpretation upon it, and another, another. The Attorney General had, he was informed, been guided by the decision of the Court. But it was true that they could only ascertain the amount charged for Public Services from the Public Accounts, and not of those paid by private individuals. It would be unnecessary, therefore, he thought, that they should be furnished with all the particulars of the Bills of Costs and Expenses for the last four years. It would be sufficient to furnish one detailed account, and the aggregate amount. If it were supposed that the members of the Government were acquainted with them, it was a mistake; for they had no better opportunities of being correctly informed concerning them than private individuals.

Hon. Mr. Palmer.—If any new decision or adjudication under the Law had been made by the Judges, he would, he thought, have been aware of it; but he knew of none. The hon. member then referred to the Act, of which he read the fourth Section, and then observed that he thought the classification a very clear and plain one—such as might be comprehended by any common understanding. The practice of the late Attorney General was to proceed against each class by one information; and that was the mode prescribed by the Law. Latterly, however, the practice had been to proceed against each Township by a separate Information. He was not aware that the Judges had given any new interpretation to the Law. It they had, he would certainly have known it. The Judges were not counsel for the Crown, any more than they were for individuals. If a question were raised before them, they would be bound to give an opinion; but not otherwise. He was employed in two or three cases to have the proceedings according to the present practice, against lands in arrear set aside, particularly in one; but as yet, there had been no decision. As far as his judgment went, the Act was too plain to require any amendment. If they went on amending in the way then proposed, there would be no end to such amendments; for any member objecting to a clause in an Act would bring in a new Bill to amend it.

Hon. Mr. Coles.—He had, on his being returned the first time to the House of Assembly, thought the Information taken against each 100 acres, (as was then the practice,) a very expensive and ruinous mode of proceeding to the defaulters; and he then introduced a Bill to lessen the expense, by authorising the Treasurer to issue his Precept to the Sheriff at once without applying to the Court for an Information. The Bill passed the Assembly, and, had it gone into operation, it would have reduced the expenses to a mere trifle; but it was rejected by the Legislative Council. Nevertheless the present Chief Justice, who was then Attorney General, found that the Act would bear the interpretation which the present one does—namely that it authorized judgment to be taken against 20,000 acres, instead of one against every 100 acres in arrear, and admitted of the expenses being divided amongst all the lands in arrear in each Township. The hon. gentleman then proceeded to say that he thought the Act clearly directed one Information to be filed against each Township. The question had been mooted in the Government; and that was the interpretation they had put upon the Act. The practice formerly had been to file an Information against every 100 acres; but it had been found that that mode was an overstretching of the Law; and the present Act had been intended to correct it. If the Act I meant that there was to be one Information against all the Township Lands in each County, it would have expressly said so. The law fairly bore the construction put upon it by the Attorney General. He (Hon. Mr. Coles) did not say that the Judges had given their opinion to that effect to the Attorney General without his having applied to them for it; but he had told him (Hon. Mr. Coles) that such was the opinion which they had given him. If according to the present practice an Information were filed against a Township, and only 100 acres the property, of one individual, were in arrear, the expenses to that individual would be very heavy; but if 5000 acres, the property of several were in arrear, the expenses, by division, would be light to each. The, law, however, clearly authorised one Information against each Township in a County.

Hon. Mr. Lord. He was one of the unfortunate individuals who had had personal experience of the unjust and oppressive nature of the proceedings now adopted for the recovery of arrears of Land Tax. When he was out of the country 160 acres of his had been so proceeded against, and bought in by the Government for £21; and he had not thought proper to interfere further in the matter. If, for the recovery of a tax of 5s., the owner of 100 acres of land, could be subjected to an expense of £20, it was certainly high time to make some amendment in the Law, and to adopt some simpler mode of collecting the tax. He could not indeed conceive why, in such, cases a man was to be driven into the Supreme Court, unless the Act were intended for the especial benefit of the gentlemen of the long robe and the Attorney General in particular. It would be better far to arm the tax-gatherer with power to enter a poor man's barn, to seize upon his produce, or his stock, at once, and to carry it off in satisfaction of the tax. The present practice, in fact, was actual robbery; nay worse, if possible. It was nothing but oppression from first to last: and such a system, he believed, existed no where else.

Mr. Yeo said, he knew an instance in which a poor man for arrears of land-tax to the amount of 14d. or 14½d. had been subjected to £3 of expenses.

Hon. Mr. Pope was of opinion, that the best way would be for the House to apply for such information as they wanted concerning the subject, by an Address to His Excelency. He, at the same time observed, that there appeared to be no way of getting returns from some of the Sheriffs. In one instance, from £20 to £30 had been held back since 1847. Two or three Sheriffs had made no returns; and would make none, unless they could be compelled by some legal steps.

Mr. Montgomery moved the appointment of a Committee accordingly; which being agreed to, was thus constituted:—

Mr. Montgomery, Mr. Longworth, and the Hon. Mr. Lord.

Monday, Feb. 28.

FURTHER ISSUE OF TREASURY NOTES.

The Hon. Mr. Pope rose and said, that he had seen by the Order Book, that an hon. member (Mr. Palmer,) had given notice of his intention to move that the House go into Committee of the whole to consider the expediency of passing an Act, to authorise a further issue of Treasury Notes. As to have waited until this notice should have been carried into effect, would have been to allow an anticipation of the intentions of the Government, he (Hon. Mr. Pope) had thought it proper to bring the question forward at once, as previously purposed by the Government; and, that the House might be put in possession of the facts and data which had afforded the Government evidence of the propriety of such a measure, he would move that a Despatch, addressed by His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor to Earl Grey and a Memorandum concerning the financial affairs of the Colony, addressed by the Executiv Council to His Excellency, and which had ccasioned the writing of that Despatch, be then received and read, together with the draft of the Bill which accompanied the Despatch.

Hon. Mr. Palmer. Having learned, after he had inserted the notice which had just been alluded to, in the Order Book, that information concerning the question was to be sent down to the House, by His Excellency, he had postponed further action, on his own part, with reference to it. He was quite as willing that a measure should proceed from the other side, as that it should orignate with him. Indeed he would prefer its proceeding from the Government side of the House, because its success would be more certain, than it would be if brought forward by a member of the opposition. When he put his notice upon the Order Book, he had no knowledge whatever of the intention of the Government concerning the object of it. He was, however, much gratified to find that so desirable a measure as that of a further issue of Treasury Notes was to be introduced by them; and it should have his support.

The following Despatch and Memorandum, presented by the Hon. Mr. Pope, were then received and read.

(*Despatch.*)

Government House, P. E. Island,
Jan. 2d, 1852.

My Lord;

I have been requested by the Executive Council to forward to your Lordship the accompanying Memorandum, with the draught of a Bill proposed to be introduced by the Members of the Government in the ensuing Session, provided such a measure, or any similar one, which would accomplish the object which the Council have in view, namely, to withdraw from circulation the whole of the Treasury Warrants now afloat, would meet with your Lordship's sanction.

In the present state of the Colony, with an increasing revenue and better credit, it would be very undesirable that any measure affecting its financial arrangements should be disallowed by Her Majesty's Government; I am induced, therefore, to accede to the wishes of the Council, and, before any such Bill is brought forward, I am desirous to ascertain, for their and my own guidance, what may be your Lordship's views on this subject.

It was one which was formerly brought under the consideration of the Imperial Government, in consequence of joint Addresses from the two Houses of the Legislature, praying Her Majesty's assent to authorise the issue of £10,000 in Treasury Notes, redeemable in fifteen years. The addresses were accompanied by a Despatch from the Lieutenant Governor, enclosing a Memorial from several Inhabitants of Prince Edward Island, objecting to any such issue of paper money; and the Colonial Minister, Lord Stanley, did not think it advisable to accede to the prayer of the Address, for reasons contained in His Lordship's Despatch.

In the subsequent year, 1847, Commissioners were appointed by the Lieut. Governor to enquire into the state of the Currency of Prince Edward Island; and their Report will be found Appendix No. 5, Journal of the Legislative Council for that year.

No alterations, however, had taken place in the Warrant system until this year, when the Government were enabled, with your Lordship's sanction, to to borrow £10,000, and to pay off an equivalent amount of Warrants; nearly the whole of this loan has been effected, at 5 per cent., notwithstanding the predictions of some who have long benefited in so pernicious a system, by purchasing and discounting, at various rates of Interest, Warrants to large amounts, to the great detriment of the Colony, and pecuniary loss of poor individuals.

The application to the Colonial Minister, in 1846, was made under very different circumstances, and when the Revenue of the Colony was only £16,000. It will now exceed £25,000, and, if a further issue of Treasury Notes, as suggested by the Council, can be sanctioned by your Lordship, and the Government be thereby enabled to do away with the Warrant System, nothing, in my opinion, will tend more to promote the interests of the Colony, provided care be taken by the Legislature that its expenditure shall be kept within its income, and the debt gradually diminished.

In conclusion, I have only to add, that the statements in the Memorandum of the Council are substantially correct; that, of the £11,500 Treasury Notes now in circulation, £300 have never, at any time, been in the hands of the Treasurer, and, although the holders have the power to fund at 6 per cent., if not paid in specie, by Colonial Statute, 5 Geo. 4, cap.18, no such operation ever took place—the Colony thus saving the interest on the amount of Treasury Notes: shewing that, hitherto, the issue has been far from excessive, and forming only a small amount, in proportion to the Notes which find their way from the neighbouring Provinces, without which the ordinary business of the Colony (at present too much carried on by truck and barter) would come to a stand-still. As the Legislature will meet in February, may I request to be favoured with your Lordship's views with your convenience.

I have the honor, &c., &c.,
A. BANNERMAN,
Lieut. Governor.

(*Memorandum.*)

The Executive Council having directed their attention to the subject of the Monetary and Financial affairs of the Colony, submit, for your Excellency's consideration, such facts and data, in relation thereto, as they trust, will satisfy your Excellency and Her Majesty's Government, that the present circumstances of this Colony require a larger amount of circulating medium, for the transaction of its commercial and financial business; and, in the absence of that accommodation which wealth and private enterprise, in richer and more populous communities, supply for the operations of trade, the Council are of opinion, that the best substitute that can at present be devised, would be such a further issue of Treasury Notes, as with those now in circulation, would not exceed the amount of the Annual Revenue of the Colony—a measure which, they believe, would be fully sustained by public opinion, without diminishing, in the slightest degree, the public credit; whilst, at the same time, it would enable the Government to withdraw, from circulation, the whole of the Treasury Warrants now afloat, by the substitution of a more tangible and negotiable medium than the Warrants; whilst, based upon the same security, such notes would form part of the local circulation, and would be received at all the public offices, as a legal tender in payment of taxes.

The Council would further observe, that, in the year 1825, the Legislature of this Colony was induced from the scarcity of specie in circulation, and in anticipation of advantages to be derived from an issue of Treasury Notes, in forwarding the internal improvements, and facilitating the mercantile transactions of the Colony, to issue Notes to the amount of £5,000—equal to one year's Revenue at that period.

In consequence of the advantages found to be derived from the issue of such Notes, the Legislature, at three subsequent periods, increased the issue to the extent of £16,800, (at which period the Revenue of the Island was only £9019 0s. 8d.) but from this amount, £5000 have been cancelled out of moneys raised by an Assessment on Land, leaving only £11,-800 at present in circulation.

That the system of trade carried on between this Colony and the adjacent Provinces, which are the chief markets for the surplus Agricultural produce of the Colony, is such, that a great proportion of the sums brought into it in specie or Bank Bills of these Provinces, is immediately collected and returned by the importing merchant in payment of his merchandise.

That there being no Banking Institutions in this Colony, it is impossible to retain sufficient specie to serve the purpose of an exclusive circulating medium, to supply the wants of its trade.

That an increased issue of Treasury Notes would supply a great public accommodation, and be a saving to the Government without at all endangering the public credit.

That, in order to guard against the depreciation of the Treasury Notes, the Legislature passed a Law (on their issue) to enable the holder of such Notes to fund them, and to receive interest thereon, at the rate of six per centum. Yet such has been the estimation, by the public, of the security arising from the increasing Revenue of the Colony, on which such issue was originally based, that no instance has yet occurred of any such Notes having been so funded, but they continue to be received at their specified value.

That the Annual Revenue of the Colony has increased since the first issue of Treasury Notes in 1825, from £5,000 to £25,000, while the population has increased, during the same period, from 23,000 to nearly 70,000.

That, owing to the want of Bonded Warehouses, and to the peculiar nature of the trade of the Colony, where business is chiefly carried on upon a system of credit, it is found necessary for the Government to grant to the Merchants and Importers of dutiable articles, a credit of from 3 to 12 months, for the payment of their duties and taxes upon such importers, giving their Bonds with approved security for the payment of the same. This practice has hitherto rendered it necessary for the Government to issue Treasury Warrants, in the nature of Exchequer Bills, in anticipation of the Revenue of the current year, (bearing interest until paid) for the payment of all public services; or, in the absence of a surplus Revenue on hand, the public business could not be carried on.

The Council are aware that the most effectual method of sustaining public credit, is by a speedy liquidation of the Public Debt, and by limiting its expenditure within its income. But, in a young country like P. E. Island, which, 30 years ago, was almost destitute of Roads, Bridges, Wharfs, Public Buildings, and other improvements, the making of which constitutes the only debt due by the Colony, they consider that the debt contracted for such purposes to have been founded in a wise and enlightened policy, it behoves those who have a permanent interest in this young and growing country,andwho are entrusted with the management of its affairs,to avail themselves of every expedient, consistentwith that security which should always be afforded to the public creditor, to promote its improvement.

It is not difficult to trace the advancement of this Colony from a comparative Wilderness to its present condition, vieing with its more populous neighbours, to that stimulus which was first imparted in 1825, by the issue of Treasury Notes, with which many most important public improvements have been effected; although the amount of the Revenue at that time did not exceed £5000: Whereas had the Government of the Colony waited until it had a surplus Revenue in hand to effect those objects, this Colony would have been a wilderness to this day; or had those checks and restrictions on the issue of paper money, which are, no doubt, applicable to older and more wealthy communities, been enforced, the people of this Colony could not have complied with them, and the advantages which it has derived would not have been realized.

We feel assured that your Excellency will concur with us, that the credit of the Colony never stood higher, and that, with an increasing population and revenue, and with many of its valuable resources yet undeveloped, no danger need be apprehended from the insignificant debt with which it is burthened; nor by pledging its credit for the small additional issue of Notes now sought to be obtained.

The proportion which the Treasury Notes of this Island bear to the general circulation of the Colony,so far as the same can be ascertained by the amount paid into the Public Treasury, and certified at the Quarterly Audits for the present year, amount to only about one tenth of the circulation; whilst a large amount of the paper of Private Banks, in the adjoining Provinces, supply in part the deficiency, without affording a security at all equal to that given by the Laws of this Colony to the holders of its Notes.

That, on the 1st of January last, the amount of Warrants in circulation was £23,712 1s. 6d. bearing 6 per cent. interest—at which time, after taking credit for the assets then in the Treasury, the public debt, including £11,800 of Treasury notes in circulation, only amounted to £16,681 16s. 4½d. That since that period up to the 30th November, 1851, £19,704 18s. 6d. of such Warrants have been paid off, as also the sum of £5,882 13s. 7½d. of Warrants drawn since the 25th of April last, for the services of the current year, £1842 15s. 7½ of which latter amount have been paid on demand in liquidation of sums of £10 and under; thus greatly reducing the amount of *small* Warrants in compliance with the suggestions of Her Majesty's Imperial Government, as communicated in the Despatch of Lord Grey, No. 6, of date,—and no Warrants have since been issued, bearing more than 5 per cent interest, by which a saving of one per cent., on the public debt has been effected.

That, from the returns of the Revenue, for the last two Quarters, the Council are warranted in believing that there will be a material increase over the past year, and that it will fully meet the expenditure of the last Session, although the appropriations included large sums for the services of the year 1850, which had not been previously provided for.

The Council are not desirous that such an issue of Government paper should be made as would at all disturb the exchange between this and other countries, nor as would lead to a depreciation of its Notes; nor do they aim at the establishment of a Government Bank, supplying that accommodation so requisite for the due management of commercial operations. They believe, with Her Majesty's Imperial Government, that such accommodation and operations more properly belong to, and would be best secured by private enterprise; but, at the same time, until such institutions are established, they conceive it to be the duty of the Government to do all in their power to facilitate the developement of the resources of the country, and to make the well-established credit of the Colony available for every legitimate object of improvement and economy.

The Council would further remind your Excellency, that the measure which they desire is not a mere experiment, nor one of a doubtful policy: the experience of twenty-six years can be adduced in its favour, and no alteration of the existing laws will be requisite, beyond the authority to increase the issue to the amount before stated.

The Council, therefore, respectfully submit to your Excellency, that if the consent of Her Majesty's Government were obtained to the passing of a Bill to authorise the further issue of Treasury Notes, under the regulations, and subject to the laws now in force relating to Treasury Notes, to such an amount, viz: £13,200, as would, with those now in circulation, make £25,000, much benefit would accrue to the Colony; and we feel assured that such a measure will give great and very general satisfaction to the Public. They, however, concur with Lord Grey's suggestion, that no part of the proposed issue should be in Notes of a less denomination than one Pound.

The Council sincerely hope that the reasons herein set forth will secure your Excellency's co-operation in carrying into effect a measure that is so earnestly desired by the people of this Province.

Should your Excellency consider that the Royal Instructions require Her Majesty's consent to the introduction of a Bill for the purpose, the Council beg to submit the draft of the same, and to solicit your Excellency's best influence to give effect to their wishes.

Council Chamber, Dec. 4th, 1851.

Hon. Mr. Pope said the Despatch and Memorandum had been sent to England so long ago as 1852; but no answer had been received. The unsettled state of the Home Government had, no doubt, occasioned the due consideration of them to be postponed. The proposed measure, however, had His Excellency's full approval; and, should it pass the Legislature, he would use his best exertions to give it effect. The hon. gentleman then moved that the Despatch and Memorandum be submitted to a Committee of the whole House to-morrow.

Hon. Mr. Coles said that, when the question was before the House some years since, the objections made to the proposed increased issue of Notes was, that it would not be fair to those parties who held Treasury Warrants bearing interest, to pay them off with Treasury Notes not bearing interest, which, however, was the reason then given for the issue of Notes contemplated. But now it was different—upwards of £20,000 of Warrants had been paid, and the Debt of the Colony almost wholly extinguished; and an increased issue of Notes to the amount of the Revenue could not be complained of, as the Debentures now afloat would be paid off in specie as they became due. And one great benefit to the public generally, which would arise from it, would be that demands upon the Treasury would be paid at once in Notes, which would then be preferrable to, and pass from one hand to another as radily as gold and silver; and parties would be saved the trouble of selling their Warrants, which now, however, was not so objectionable as formerly; for Warrants now, instead of being at a discount, were at a premium; but still the Government had to pay interest on them until the Revenue was paid. The hon. gentleman then concluded by saying that if our expenditure were kept within our income, an issue of Notes to the amount of that income would, he thought, be approved by all parties.

It was then ordered that the Despatch and Memorandum should be submitted to a Committee of the whole House tomorrow.

The Draft of the Bill alluded to above was also read at the Clerk's Table. It provides that it may be lawful for the Lieut. Governor or Administrator of the Government, for the time being, to order a further issue of Treasury Notes to the amount of £13,200; whereof £2,200 shall be in Notes of the value of £1 each; £6000 shall be in Notes of the value of £2 each; and £5000 shall be in Notes of the value of £5 each.

R. B. Irving, Reporter.

GLEANINGS FROM LATE PAPERS.

Mr. Walter Scott Lockhart Scott, of Abbotsford, the only son of Mr. Lockhart, and grandson of Sir Walter Scott died, unmarried, on the 10th instant, at the early age of twentyseven. When Sir Walter died, he left two sons and a grandson to perpetuate the lineage of his house; and it is difficult to conceive that even a chance thought could have crossed his mind, that all three should die childless and abroad in the short space of twenty years. The only grandchild of the great novelist now alive is Mr. Lockhart's only surviving child, Mrs. Hope It was but a month ago, that we were called on to chronicle the death, at thirty-seven, of the closest link in blood to Scott's great contemporary, Byron; and here are we now recording the death, at twenty-seven, of the closest link in blood to Byron's great contemporary, Sir Walter Scott. It seems as if it were ordained, that the children of the brain shall be the sole creations of great authors destined to endure.—*Athenaeum*

INTERESTING DISCOVERIES IN PERSIA.

We have had the pleasure of listening to a letter written in Persia, to a gentleman in Boston which gives an account of some recent and interesting discoveries in that country. The writer is a scientific gentleman of the highest standing, an American, and one whose position in Persia is a pledge of the correctness of his details.

The line between Turkey and Persia has not been defined with that exactness which peace and security demand: and soldiers have, by both Governments, been placed upon the disputed territory, to defend the rights of Turkey and Persia. And for many years the soldiers has been in the practice of coming into collision. To avoid this bloodshed, and settle definitely the boundary line between the nations, England and Russia have induced Persia to submit to a mixed commission, which should embrace England, Russia and Persia That commission is now engaged in establishing the line between Persia and Turkey. Col. Williams, well known to many Americans, and a man of character and talent, is the English commissioner.

In the prosecution of this work, the commissioners have come upon the remains of the ancient places Shusan, mentioned in the sacred books of Esther and Daniel, together with the tomb of Daniel the prophet. The locality answers to the received tradition of its position, and the internal evidence, arising from its correspondence with the description recorded in the sacred history, amount almost to demonstration. The reader can turn to Esther, ch. i, 6. There he will read of a "pavement of red and blue, and white, and black marble in that palace." That pavement still exists, and, as described by Col. Williams, corresponds to the description given thus in the sacred history. And in marble columns, dilapidated ruins, the sculpture, and the remaining marks of greatness and glory that are scattered around, the commissioners read the exact truth of the record made by the sacred penman.

Not far from the palace stands a tomb; on it is sculptured the figure of a man bound hand and foot, with a huge lion in the act of springing upon him to devour him. No history could speak more graphically the story of Daniel in the lion's den.

The commissioners have with them an able corps of engineers and scientific men, and most interesting discoveries may be expected. The Persian arrow-heads are found upon the palace and the tomb. Glass bottles, elegant as those placed upon the toilet table of the ladies of our day, have been discovered, with other indications of art and refinement, which bear out the statements of the Bible. Thus, twenty-five hundred years after the historians of Esther and Daniel made their records, their histories are verified by the peaceful movements of the nations of our day.—*Boston Chronicle*.

WIND MEASURING.

It is now about twelve months since a peculiar apparatus, consisting of a miniature wind-mill, an oval plate somewhat like a railway signal, and four iron cups, revolving horizontally by the action of the wind, was fixed upon the roof of the Observatory, at the Waterloo pier, Liverpool. People were told in the newspapers that Osler's anemometer was the name of the contrivance in question; though thousands of our townsmen are unaware how industriously since then old Æolus has been writing down his daily, his hourly, his minutely history, recording all his whims and eccentricities, registering in black and white the gentlest zephyr and the rudest gust, pencilling down with the most methodical accuracy, the speed, the force, and the direction of each current of the atmosphere. The visitor to the Observatory, under the courteous guidance of Mr. Hartnup, the resident astromer, will find much to admire in the curious workings of this wind-measuring instrument.

Rods from the apparatus on the roof descend into the room below, where the index may be consulted at all times. Two drums, each fitted with a graduated chart, move slowly round by clock-work, while a series of pencils, which gain their motion from the rods, denote on one chart, within the prescribed lines, the direction of the wind;