

the Grant of the Government House Grounds, reported that His Excellency had been pleased to say that he would attend to the request of the House.

It having been explained to their honours, that the House of Assembly, in sending up to this House the Bill to regulate the manner of proceeding on controverted Elections, (which Bill, with the exception of one or two verbal alterations, is a mere copy of the expiring Law relative thereto,) have in contemplation to reprint the second volume of our Laws, so that every Act which the said volume may contain may be in itself a complete Law, explaining itself independently of any former similar enactments; the object of the House of Assembly was at once understood, and duly appreciated by their honours; and all objections to the re-enactment of the old controverted Election Law by a Bill being merely a copy thereof, was at once withdrawn. The said Bill was, therefore, read a third time and passed.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY,
WEDNESDAY, February 14.

Mr. Cooper moved to resolve, that an Address be presented to the Lieutenant Governor, praying that he will be pleased to take such measures as may be necessary for putting into operation a Court of Jurisdiction, wherein the inhabitants who have improved the lands of the Colony from its wilderness state may sue for a settlement, in the proportion of one person for every two hundred acres, agreeably to the conditions of the original grants, and proclamation of 1816.

Mr. THORNTON said, it was a matter of great importance, and, in his opinion, should not be disposed of otherwise than by a Committee of the whole House; then might some measure be produced with a probability of being carried; that this would be, he (Mr. Thornton) verily believed the hon. member did not expect. He was not sincere, at least he could not give him credit for being so. The intention was otherwise than avoided, and to answer another purpose foreign to it. I am not now, said the hon. member, about to enter into the merits or demerits of the old question that had been argued in this House, over and over again. The hon. member is well aware he has no prospect of obtaining the support of the House. It appears the Resolution is not now in its original shape; a part has been struck out, which he (Mr. Thornton) was glad to perceive, for it was highly ridiculous.

The hon. member then moved that it be referred to a Committee of the whole House on Friday next.

Mr. COOPER then commenced his reply from a written speech, relative to the numerous refusals of the Imperial Government—the *ex parte* statements forwarded to the home Government—the Despatches relative to them—the original Grants—Proclamations, &c. &c.—the Proprietors' non-compliance with the Grants, or indulgences granted to them, from time to time, by the high authorities at home, &c. &c., when the Speaker interrupted the hon. member by reminding him that such matter was irrelevant to the question. The hon. member begged he might be permitted to proceed; but the Speaker was inexorable; an amendment was before the House, to which he said the hon. member must confine himself.

Mr. RAE observed, he did not think the hon. member, Mr. Cooper, was out of order. He had been accused of being insincere, and he ought to be allowed to answer the accusation.

Mr. COOPER said, he ought to be allowed to explain, in answer to what had been said by the hon. member, Mr. Thornton, as touching his insincerity.

Mr. THORNTON explained; he had not accused the hon. member of being insincere; his remark was, that he did not give him credit for sincerity.

Mr. COLES said, as the hon. member had adopted the Episcopal mode of reading his sermon, he (Mr. Coles) did not object to his bringing it to a close, as it was not a rare occurrence for a sermon not to be understood till it was concluded.

Hon. Mr. PALMER said, he had been several times about to interpose; but he had now no objection to the hon. member's proceeding, as no doubt the hon. member's object was publicity.

Mr. COOPER then hastily concluded the reading of his speech, by remarking that the home government, in 1816, would not have issued a Proclamation, if they had not thought it practicable to settle the Colony with others than German Protestants.

Mr. THORNTON said, if the question were taken up by the House in Committee, some measure might be introduced, preferable to the one under discussion, he (Mr. T.) had given notice of a motion in the Order Book, that might meet the views of the House. The hon. member had gone a long way back; he (Mr. Thornton) wished to know, if the hon. member had gone as far when he was delegated to the home Government.

The House divided, for the amendment 12; original motion, 10. On motion of Mr. THORNTON, the House resolved itself into a Committee of the whole, on the Small Debt Bill. Several amendments were moved by the hon. Speaker, and adopted by the Committee.

Hon. Mr. PALMER named Tuesday next, for talking up that part of His Excellency's Speech which relates to the Fisheries. This was agreed to.

The Hon. Mr. Palmer presented, pursuant to the Message of the House of Assembly to His Excellency the Lieut. Governor, of the 8th inst., various papers and documents upon the subject of the Fishery Reserves in this Island.

And also, pursuant to the Message of the House of Assembly to His Excellency, of the 8th inst., a copy of the correspondence between the Postmaster at Charlottetown and the Deputy Postmaster General at Halifax, N. S., on the subject of the Inland Mails of this Island.

Ordered, That the said correspondence be referred to the Committee appointed to report on the state of the Post Office department.

The Hon. J. S. Macdonald, pursuant to a Message of the House of Assembly to His Excellency, of the 10th inst., presented copies of various papers and correspondence having relation to the rejection of the Act of last Session, authorising the issue of Writs, *de novo*, under the Road Compensation Acts.

Resolved, That this House will, on Tuesday next, resolve itself into a Committee of the whole House, to take into consideration so much of His Excellency's speech at the opening of the present Session as relates to the Fisheries of this Island; also, the Despatches and other papers communicated to the House by His Excellency during the present Session.

A Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, Mr. Secretary Haviland, by command of His Excellency, delivered the following Message:

H. V. HUNTLEY, Lieut. Governor.

The Lieutenant Governor lays before the House of Assembly the several Returns of the Commissioners of Statute Labor, for the past year.

Also, the Account of the Road Correspondent, shewing the amount expended during the same period upon Roads, Bridges and Wharves, under the several appropriations of the Legislature.

The Lieutenant Governor avails himself of the same opportunity to submit, for the favourable consideration of the House of Assembly, a Petition of William Douse, Esquire, Agent for the Earl of Selkirk, praying, for the reasons therein mentioned, to be relieved from the payment of the sum of £189 10s., assessed upon Townships Nos. 59, 60, and 62, under the Road Compensation Acts, towards completing the Road leading from Wood Islands to Montague River, and which Road has recently been opened.

The Lieutenant Governor also submits an Account of Messrs. J. R. Bourke and T. B. Tremain, amounting to £43 2s., for superintending the building of the Wharf at Minchin's Point, Lot 48. As the Law allows a percentage to be charged by the Road Commissioners upon sums expended by them upon Roads and Bridges, the claim of Messrs. Bourke and Tremain is entitled to the equitable consideration of the House of Assembly.

The Lieutenant Governor also lays before the House of Assembly, a report of the present insecure state of Poplar Island Bridge, and estimates of the expense of the repairs of the said Bridge. The public Accounts will shew a large and unavoidable expenditure incurred in the temporary repairs of this Bridge during the past year.

The Lieutenant Governor leaves it to the discretion of the House of Assembly to appropriate such sums, for

the service of Roads and Bridges for the current year, as the disposable amount of Revenue for that purpose will admit of.

Government House, 14th February, 1844.

Ordered, That the said Message, with the papers accompanying the same, be referred to the Committee of Supply.

Mr. Coles, from the Committee appointed to inquire into the expediency of rendering less expensive and more secure the course of procedure under the Act for levying an Assessment on Land, with power to report by Bill or otherwise, reported a Bill, as prepared by the Committee, and the same was received, and read the first time.

Ordered, That the said Bill be read a second time to-morrow.

The remainder of the day was spent in Committee on the Small Debt Bill.

THURSDAY, February 15.

The Insolvent Debtors' Bill was read the third time, passed, and sent to the Council.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY.—ROAD APPROPRIATION.

The House, upon motion, then resolved itself into a Committee of supply. Mr. Bearsto in the chair:

Mr. THORNTON said the sum proposed to be voted this year for Roads and Bridges, was three thousand four hundred pounds; one thousand three hundred to Queen's County, and one thousand and fifty to each of the other Counties. Last session the vote, &c., for this purpose was five thousand pounds, almost a third of the income of the Colony. With the addition of extras, it would, in all probability, amount to near four thousand pounds this year. The issue of Treasury Warrants, this year, was about nineteen thousand pounds. It was far from his (Mr. Thornton's) intention or inclination to indulge in any remarks which could injuriously affect the public credit; yet, he must say, this fact demonstrated to the House that the time was arrived when it became a duty imperative upon them to endeavour now to curtail the expenditure; and such a curtailment he hoped now to see effected to the amount of fifteen hundred pounds. Sorry am I said the hon. member, to propose a curtailment in the application of public money to so useful a purpose as the making and improving of Roads and Bridges; yet it cannot be obviated. He hoped hon. members, to whose care the money would be intrusted, would apply it to the most needed and urgent improvements. The hon. member then submitted his resolution.

Mr. Cooper's remarks tended to shew, that however useful the application of public money was to the improvement of Roads and Bridges, yet must the vote be reduced this year. It was (as now submitted) quite as much as the country could afford in its present distressed state, with the likelihood staring us in the face of that distress still being increased.

The Hon. Speaker agreed generally with what had fallen from the hon. member, Mr. Thornton. Existing circumstances rendered the reduction necessary this year. In another, those reasons may vanish. We may then again increase the vote. The principle of applying the expenditure to those parts of the Island where the most business was transacted should be adopted. We must, said the hon. Speaker, economise a little, and as far as he was concerned, he would not ask for a vote larger in amount than named for the appropriation of the district in which he was concerned.

On the House resuming, the Chairman reported the following Resolutions, which were unanimously agreed to:

1. Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that a sum not exceeding Three thousand four hundred Pounds be granted, for the service of Roads, Bridges and Wharves, for the present year; and that such sum be apportioned among the different Counties as follows:—

Queen's County,	£1,300
King's County,	1,050
Prince County,	1,050

2. Resolved, That the sum of Two hundred Pounds be granted, and placed at the disposal of the Lieutenant Governor, to be expended, if necessary, in the laying out and opening new Roads, under the Road Compensation Acts.

3. Resolved, That the sum of One hundred and fifty Pounds be granted, to defray the contingent expenses of Roads and Bridges for the present year, the same to be equally apportioned between the three Counties.

The remainder of the day was spent in Committee on the Bill to render less expensive and more secure the mode of procedure under the Land Assessment Acts. On the House resuming, the Bill was reported with amendments, and ordered to be engrossed.

FRIDAY, February 16.

Resolved, That a Committee of three Members be appointed, to prepare and bring in a Bill to confirm the titles to land purchased under the Land Assessment Acts.

Ordered, That Mr. Yeo, Mr. Thornton, and the Hon. Mr. Palmer, do compose the said Committee.

A Petition of divers Inhabitants of Township Fourteen, and others, was presented to the House by Mr. Fraser, and the same was received and read, praying that all restrictions upon the exportation of Oysters be removed.

Mr. THORNTON said, the oysters, even now, were disappearing fast enough. Frauds, to a considerable extent, are practised in the exportation of oysters, in defiance of the law, he (Mr. T.) was credibly informed. He hoped detection would ensue, and that severe punishment would be administered. Moved that the petition be rejected, on the ground of inexpediency. Rejected accordingly.

THE SENDING OF MILITARY TO THE EAST POINT, LAST YEAR.

Mr. COOPER, during the morning sitting of the House, moved that a message be sent to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, requesting his Excellency to be pleased to lay before the House all documents relative to the sending of Troops to the East Point during the winter of last year. He (Mr. Cooper) could gather nothing from the accounts before the House, to shew any reason why the country should be put to so great an expence.

Mr. THORNTON thought the hon. member rather premature in his motion: the documents had been only very recently laid on the table, and hon. members, as yet, had not thoroughly inspected them. Upon these grounds, and not with any intention to smother enquiry, did he oppose the motion of the hon. member.

Mr. LONGWORTH considered the motion out of place in the present stage. He had laid the documents on the table, but they were not before the House.

Mr. RAE said the Committee was not to determine whether the expence were just; but to examine the accounts, to see if they agreed with the vouchers, and nothing more. The Committee was not authorised to call upon His Excellency for this information.

Mr. COLES having said a few words relative to the purpose for which the accounts were laid on the table; which, he considered, was merely for the purpose of investigation; Mr. Cooper withdrew his motion for the present.

The SPEAKER could assure hon. members His Excellency had no desire to withhold information. On the contrary, all information which His Excellency could give, or the House require, would be willingly afforded.

The remainder of the day was spent in Committee on the Small Debt Bill.—Progress reported.

SATURDAY, February 17.

The Order of the Day, for the House in Committee on the further consideration of the Bill for the recovery of Small Debts, being read;

The House accordingly resolved itself into said Committee. After some time spent therein,

Mr. Bearsto reported, that the Committee had gone through the Bill, and made several amendments thereto; which amendments were again read at the Clerk's Table, and agreed to by the House.

Mr. Yeo, from the Committee appointed to prepare and bring in a Bill to confirm the Titles to land purchased under the Land Assessment Acts, presented to the House a Bill, as prepared by the Committee; and the same was received, and read for the first time.

Mr. Yeo, from the Committee appointed to prepare and bring in a Bill to consolidate and continue the Acts relating to Merchant Seamen, presented to the House a Bill, as prepared by the Committee; and the same was received, and read for the first time.

Ordered, That the said Bill be read a second time on Tuesday next.

Mr. Bearsto, from the Committee appointed to prepare and bring in a Bill to regulate the gathering of Sea-weed,

presented to the House a Bill, as prepared by the Committee; and the same was received, and read for the first time.

Ordered, That the said Bill be read a second time on Monday next.

Ordered, That the order of the 6th instant, for engrossing the Bill for the regulation of the Public Wharf at Georgetown, be discharged.

Ordered, That the said Bill be now re-committed to a Committee of the whole House.

The House accordingly resolved itself into the said Committee. On the House resuming,

Mr. Bearsto reported, that the Committee had gone into the further consideration of the Bill, and made several amendments thereto; which amendments were again read at the Clerk's Table, and agreed to by the House.

MONDAY, February 19.

The Bill to regulate the gathering of Sea-weed on the Shores of this Island, was, according to order, read a second time, committed, and reported agreed to, with amendments.

Mr. D. Macdonald, from the Committee appointed to prepare and bring in a Bill to consolidate and amend the Acts relating to Schools and Education, presented to the House a Bill, as prepared by the Committee; and the same was received and read for the first time.—Second reading on Thursday next.

Mr. Coles moved to Resolve, that this House do now resolve itself into a Committee of the whole House, to consider the expediency of imposing a Tax on the Rental of Proprietors of Lands in this Island.

The House divided on the question: YEAS.—Messrs. Coles, Longworth, Fraser, Hon. J. S. Macdonald, Bearsto, Cambridge, Rae, D. Maclean, Aitken, A. Maclean—10.

NAYS.—Hon. Mr. Palmer, Messrs. Cooper, Montgomery, Yeo, D. Macdonald, Macintosh, Dingwell, Thornton, Macgregor, Dalziel—10.

The numbers being equal, the Speaker gave his casting vote in the negative.

TUESDAY, February 20.

A Petition of divers Inhabitants of New London and vicinity, was presented to the House by Mr. D. Maclean, and the same was received and read—praying the House to adopt measures with a view to a change in the Leasehold tenure of Lands in this Island.

The Order of the Day being read, for the House in Committee, to consider the expediency of presenting an Address to His Excellency the Lieut. Governor, praying that he will be pleased to take such measures as may be necessary for putting into operation a Court of Jurisdiction, wherein the inhabitants who have improved the lands of the Colony from its wilderness state, may sue for a settlement, in the proportion of one person for every two hundred acres, agreeably to the conditions of the original Grants, and the Proclamation of 1816;

Ordered, That the above Petition be referred to the said Committee.

And then the House resolved itself into the said Committee.—Mr. Hudson in the Chair.

On the House resuming, Mr. Hudson reported, that the Committee had come to a Resolution; which Resolution was again read at the Clerk's Table, and is as followeth:—

RESOLVED, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that the repeated and unqualified refusals of Her Majesty's Government to claim the forfeiture of the original Grants of the lands of this Colony, or at all to interfere between the Landlords and their Tenantry, renders any further attempt, on the part of this House, to revoke the tenure by which lands are held in this Island by Legislative enactment, unless previously sanctioned by the approval of the Imperial Government, hopeless, and calculated only to mislead the people, by holding out expectations that will prove alike detrimental to the interest of the public and ruinous to individuals. But were this House to disregard the repeated declarations of Her Majesty's Government on this subject, and a Court of Escheat were even now to be established, no benefit would result to the Tenantry, as must be evident from the course which it is declared Her Majesty's Government would pursue with reference to the lands that might be forfeited, as set forth in the Despatch from Lord Goderich, dated the 1st day of August, 1832, which is as follows:

"If any lands were escheated in Prince Edward Island, it is probable that such portions of them as are actually occupied would be continued to the occupying Tenants at their present rents. There would, however, be no remission of the conditions on which the Lands are now held of the Proprietors, and assuredly there would be no free grants; this mode of dealing with the public property has been abandoned in almost every British Colony."

That the Court prayed for in the said Address—so far as the nature of its proposed jurisdiction can be comprehended—is one not consonant with the principles of British Law, and as such, the request contained in the said Address appears to be quite unworthy of the serious refutation or consideration of a Legislative body; and that this House will direct its best attention to the development of the resources of the Colony, by affording every encouragement to the promotion of its Agriculture and Fisheries, and to the opening of a Market for their productions, as a certain means of restoring contentment to the inhabitants and prosperity to the Island.

Mr. D. Maclean moved, in amendment to the said Resolution, that after the word "Resolved," all be struck out, and the following substituted:

That were a Law enacted, or an arrangement made, with the sanction of the Imperial Government, to vest the freehold of the soil in the tenant, upon payment of a fair and reasonable price to the proprietor, this Committee is of opinion, that such law or arrangement would present fewer difficulties in the way of a settlement than Escheat, or the Court prayed for in the Address: That such a mode of settlement has for precedent the practice of other British Colonies—would be approved of by this House, and be satisfactory to the country generally.

The House divided on the motion of amendment: YEAS.—Messrs. D. Maclean, D. Macdonald, Fraser, A. Maclean, Dalziel, Coles, Rae, Montgomery Macgregor, Dingwell—10.

NAYS.—Hon. J. S. Macdonald, Messrs. Cooper, Macintosh, Cambridge, Bearsto, Hon. Mr. Palmer, Aitken, Yeo, Longworth, Thornton, Wightman, Hudson, Douse—13. So it passed in the negative.

Mr. Cooper then moved, in amendment to the said Resolution, that after the word "Resolved," all be expunged, and the following substituted:—

That the following Address be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor: To His Excellency Sir H. V. HUNTLEY, Knight, Lieutenant Governor, &c. &c. &c. May it please your Excellency, That it appears that it has been admitted by the Legislative Council and House of Assembly, in their joint Address to Her Majesty last Session, that the Tenantry are greatly in arrears for rent, which they are unable to pay, and that it is necessary to lay the foundation of a better state of feeling than now exists between the Proprietors and their Tenants; and without which the Colony cannot be expected to prosper. And that Lord Stanley returned for answer, that Her Majesty cannot use mediation with the Proprietors to induce them to accept of produce for rent, in lieu of money. And that it appears on reference to the original Grants, and the Proclamation of 1816, that they were not intended to serve party purposes, to enable the Grantees to oppress the inhabitants who have improved the lands, and that all which is required to render this colony prosperous, and the people contented, is to carry out the intention of the Imperial Government, according to a just and impartial construction of the conditions

contained in the original Grants for the Settlement of the inhabitants.

That the original Grants were made upon conditions of the grantees settling their grants within ten years from the date thereof, with foreign Protestants, in the proportion of one person for every Two hundred Acres; but if the Grantees failed to settle one-third of their respective Grants in the proportion aforesaid within Four years from the date of the Lots, then, and in every such case, it is declared that every such Lot or Township shall become forfeited to the Crown, and the Grants to be void and of none effect. But that the land remaining unsettled for many years, a Proclamation was made, by order of the Imperial Government, that it was the pleasure of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, that the Proprietors should be released from the obligation of settling their Grants with foreign Protestants, provided that within ten years from December, 1816, the land shall have been settled with other persons in the proportion specified in the original Grants.

That in the colonization of the American Provinces, it has been the invariable practice of the Imperial Government, to settle the first inhabitants who were to improve the land from its wilderness state, by a Grant or Deed, in fee simple; and as the Grantees were required by the solemn Act of the Imperial Government to settle their Grants in the proportion of one person to every Two hundred Acres, within ten years, or to forfeit the land. The stipulated number of the first inhabitants who improved the lands of this Island, had just and reasonable grounds to expect that they were to be settled in fee simple, within the time limited by the Proclamation of 1816.

That as the conditions of the original Grants required the settlement of one person in the proportion of every two hundred Acres, or the forfeiture of the land, the Grantees are answerable for the terms they impose upon the persons who were to be settled; and as the Grantees have imposed a leasehold tenure, subject to a rent which cannot be paid, it is a case of great hardship and partiality to allow the Grantee to enforce the obligation of a lease in the Supreme Court, which he has imposed upon the Tenant, or to sue for rent, or the ejection of persons who have improved the land, while the tenant or occupant is not allowed to plead his right to be settled upon the land, which he has improved, because the acceptance of a Lease or any act of attornment, however it may have been extorted, is held a sufficient ground in law, by the Supreme Court, to bar the Tenant's plea of right to be settled upon the land, according to the conditions of the original Grants, and the Proclamation of 1816.

May it therefore please your Excellency, to take such measures as may be necessary, for putting into operation a Court of Jurisdiction, wherein the inhabitants who have improved the lands of the Colony from its wilderness state, may sue for a settlement, in the proportion of one person for every two hundred acres, agreeably to the conditions of the original Grants, and Proclamation of 1816.

The House divided on the motion of amendment:

YEAS.—Messrs. Cooper, Macgregor, Fraser, Dingwell, Macintosh, Dalziel, D. Macdonald, D. Maclean, Rae, Montgomery—10.

NAYS.—Hon. J. S. Macdonald, Cambridge, Yeo, Coles, A. Maclean, Thornton, Hon. Mr. Palmer, Longworth, Hudson, Aitken, Bearsto, Wightman, Douse—13.

Mr. Montgomery then moved, in amendment to the said Resolution, that the second clause thereof be expunged.

The House divided on the motion of amendment:

YEAS.—Mr. Montgomery, Cooper, Macgregor, Fraser, Dingwell, Macintosh, Dalziel, D. Macdonald, D. Maclean, Rae, A. Maclean—11.

NAYS.—Hon. J. S. Macdonald, Thornton, Aitken, Cambridge, Palmer, Bearsto, Yeo, Longworth, Wightman, Coles, Hudson, Douse—12.

So it passed in the negative.

The question being then put on the said Resolution, it was agreed to by the House.

Mr. HUDSON, from the Committee appointed to report on all Petitions praying aid towards the support of Paupers and Lunatics, and also generally upon all claims on behalf of Paupers, whether brought under the consideration of the House by Petition or otherwise, presented to the House the Report of the said Committee.

WEDNESDAY, February 21.

Read a third time, and passed, the Bill to confirm the Titles to Lands purchased under the several Acts for raising an Assessment on Lands in this Island.

Read a third time, and passed, the Bill to render less expensive and more secure the course of procedure under the Act for levying an Assessment on all Lands in this Island.

Read a third time, as engrossed, the Bill relating to the recovery of Small Debts, &c.

An amendment was proposed to be made to the Bill by Mr. Coles, in the last clause, by substituting the following scale of Fees in the place of those therein stated, relating to the same services:—

"For every Summons, Two Shillings. Trial and Judgment on every Summons not above Two Pounds, Sixpence. On every Summons from Two Pounds to Five Pounds, Three Shillings. On every Summons above Five Pounds, Three Shillings."

The Hon. J. S. Macdonald moved in amendment, that the Bill do now pass, which being seconded and put, was carried in the affirmative, and Resolved, accordingly.

The Bill to consolidate, amend and continue the Acts relating to Merchant Seamen, was, according to order, read a second time, committed, and reported agreed to, with an amendment.

The Order of the Day being read, for the House in Committee, to take into consideration so much of His Excellency's Speech at the opening of the present Session as relates to the Fisheries of this Island; also the Despatches and other papers communicated to the House by His Excellency during the present Session;

The House accordingly resolved itself into the said Committee.—Mr. Fraser in the Chair.

On the House resuming, Mr. Fraser reported that the Committee had come to the following Resolution; which, on the question being put thereon, was agreed to by the House:—

Resolved, That it be recommended to the House that a Special Committee be appointed to prepare and report the draught of an Address to Her Majesty, on the subject of the Bill transmitted last year for issuing Writs *de novo* in regard to certain lands as to which the Inquisitions under the Road Compensation Act had been quashed.

Ordered, That Mr. Rae, Mr. Montgomery, Mr. Thornton, Mr. A. Maclean and Mr. D. Maclean be a Committee to prepare and bring in a Bill in conformity with the said Resolution.

Resolved, That an Address be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, requesting that he will be pleased to lay before this House copies of such information as induced the Government of this Colony to send the Military and Civil force to King's County, last Spring.

Ordered, That Mr. D. Macdonald, Mr. Rae and Mr. D. Maclean be a Committee to prepare the said Address.

Mr. Longworth reported, from the Committee appointed to examine and report on the Public Accounts.

Ordered, That the said Report be committed to a Committee of the whole House to-morrow.

The Colonial Herald.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1844.

HALIFAX, Feb. 12.—The Steamer *Britannia* arrived here on Tuesday afternoon. As was supposed, she was frozen in at Boston, and a passage of about seven miles had to be cut, to enable her to get to sea, which occupied three days. She left this for Liverpool early on Wednesday morning, with 72 passengers, 26 of whom joined her here.

The weather had been extremely severe throughout the United States; and such was the state of the roads from the quantity of snow that had fallen that some mails for England had not reached Boston when the *Britannia* left.

NEWFOUNDLAND.—The Charles Buchan brought St. John's papers to the 31st January. The weather had been mild and there was a number of arrivals, several from Europe. Extensive preparations were making for the Seal Fishery. The different branches of the Legislature were proceeding in the utmost harmony with the business of the Session.