

The Bill before you. I think it would not be well to renew again the Usury laws in this Colony; for I think they have been evaded; and therefore I see no use in continuing them.

The first clause was then read, and moved to be agreed to. Mr. CLARK had listened a long time, and had been forcibly struck with some of the arguments advanced against the Bill. It seemed surprising to him that the party who seemed desirous to renew the Usury laws should not bring forward a Bill to regulate the price of wheat, as it had failed the past year; for he might as well regulate the price of wheat as that of money. Were those laws to be enacted, a person might borrow money from another who could not charge more than 6 per cent. by law, yet he might easily say, give me your bond for a larger sum than that lent.

Hon. Mr. MOONEY considered some of the arguments advanced to be very shallow. If a gentleman had money to lend, he would get parties to borrow it some way; and if laws were enacted limiting the rate of interest, some plan would be devised to evade them. He was reminded of a man in the old country, who, if a person applied to him for £40 or £50, would bury a duck and giving it to him, would charge the whole sum for it. The hon. members who had money to lend were not so simple as to do so without applying to Blackstone; and it was all mere moonshine to legislate on the subject. There was a hole in every act on the subject; for the lawyers would not make an act perfect, and though they made one good clause, they just left a loophole in another. He did not wish to flatter those gentlemen in Charlottetown, though he was rather disposed to flatter; but he was prepared to state, though he was opposed to them in politics, that he would rather have the notes issued by them than those which came from Nova Scotia; for he did not know anything about the parties there who issued them, and some of them might be no better than spurious paper. He was prepared to support a measure to leave it open to all parties to ask as high a rate of interest as they pleased. He hoped there were monied men enough in the Island to support another Bank. Some persons in the country had said that they had some dollars—rusty dollars, and did not know how to address themselves to those gentlemen in Charlottetown in giving them the dollars, lest they should dirty their fingers. If, however, those gentlemen dealt well with the people, the people would deal well with them; but if they trampled upon the people, they would suffer for it in the loss of business.

Hon. COL. TREASURER was not sorry that the discussion had taken place. It had been stated that the Bank was a great benefit to the country at large, but such was not the case; for they would not discount bills drawn by persons in the country, yet he believed it was a great benefit to the merchants in Charlottetown. He did not argue for imposing any check on the Bank in Charlottetown; but he wished to restrict those persons who lent money, and obtained 60 per cent. for it.

Mr. T. HEATH HAVILAND would offer a little explanation on what fell from the hon. member (Hon. Col. Secretary) which might otherwise create a prejudice regarding the transactions of the Bank. That hon. gentleman stated he had heard that the Bank would only discount paper payable in Charlottetown, and in that he was perfectly right, for there was no Bank that would discount paper except the acceptor of the Bill or the maker of the Note made it payable in the place where the Bank was doing business. Supposing they discounted a note at the Bank, and the maker was resident in Cascapeco, and supposing that note fell due on Monday afternoon, still the Bank would be bound to present it to him the very day it became due, otherwise the indorsers would be discharged. That was the reason why money was payable at the place where the Bank was doing business, and the Bank did not adhere to the rule more rigidly than private individuals.

House resumed, and the Bill reported agreed to without amendment.

PETITIONS PRESENTED.

By Hon. Mr. Palmer—from D. B. Parnter and other inhabitants of this Island, relating to the introduction of the Bible into the Schools of the Island, referred to the Committee of the whole House on the Education Bill. Also, from Josiah McLeod, praying remuneration for his services for a term of six months, as a Teacher of a private School at St. Eleanor's, during which time the Free School of the District was vacant; referred to the Committee on Teacher's petitions.

By Mr. Laird—from inhabitants of Township 33.

By Hon. Mr. Wightman—from inhabitants of Township 66. Both the last petitions were praying aid to improve roads, and laid on the table.

By Hon. Mr. Whelan—from John McPherson, praying compensation for loss sustained on his contract for building the wharf at Launching Place. Also, from inhabitants of Township 55, praying that the road crossing the swamp between Enman's and Matheson's, on that Township, may be continued on the old line, and a grant made sufficient to complete the same, instead of the line approved of by the members of the Government who inspected the disputed lines; both petitions laid on the table.

By Mr. Clark—a petition of divers inhabitants of Summerside, St. Eleanor's, and others, praying the House to amend the Act conceding to the New York, Newfoundland, and London Telegraph Company, the exclusive right of constructing lines of Telegraph on this Island, or grant a small sum of money to induce the Company to complete the line to Summerside, or to adopt such other measures as may be deemed most advisable to confer upon that part of the Island the advantages of Telegraphic communication. The hon. member offered a few remarks relating to the Company in question, the consideration of matters concerning which would no doubt come before the House, as they were deserving of every encouragement, proposing, as they did, to lay a cable across the Atlantic, and if the House were liberal to them, they might extend telegraph lines through the Island. It, however, was absurd for the petitioners to expect the repeal of the Act to which they alluded, and if they wished to have a Telegraphic office at Summerside, they must accomplish it in a proper manner.

Hon. Mr. LORD had been travelling lately, and perhaps knew a little more respecting the proceedings of the Telegraph Company than some hon. members. While in England, lately, he had observed one or two tons of telegraph wire about being shipped for Prince Edward Island, and on enquiry found that it was the intention of the Company to lay a telegraph cable either from Mabou, Cape Breton, to the East Point, or carry it direct from Cape North to the Island, so as to be entirely independent of the Nova Scotia line, and that they intended to extend wires through the Island.

Mr. YEO explained that it was the intention of the people at Summerside, if offices were established, to pay the officers themselves.

Petition laid on the table. House adjourned.

THURSDAY, March 19.

The Bill repealing the laws relating to Usury was read a third time and passed.

PETITIONS PRESENTED.

By Hon. Mr. Montgomery—from Isaac Murray and other inhabitants of the Island, praying for the introduction of the Holy Scriptures into the Public Schools, &c., referred to the Committee of the whole House on the Education Bill.

By Mr. Mooney—from inhabitants of the Second Electoral District of Queen's County, praying a sum sufficient to repair the bridge at Mount Stewart, and also to construct it on the principle of a drawbridge, so as to facilitate the passage of vessels; referred to a Committee consisting of Hons. Messrs. Mooney, Longworth and Lord.

By Hon. Mr. Lord—from James J. Rice, setting forth that in both the newspapers published by him, he had caused to be inserted certain documents, ordered last session of the Legislature, to be inserted in all the newspapers published in Charlottetown, and that his bill of charges for the insertion of the same in the Morning Advertiser had been disallowed, and praying the House to consider his case; laid on the table.

By Mr. Muirhead—from inhabitants of Township 25, praying a grant towards the opening of a new road; referred to the members for the District.

By Mr. Laird—from divers inhabitants of Queen's County, praying for the introduction of the Bible into the schools of the Island, &c.; also from divers inhabitants of Queen's County, setting forth that the Gaelic speaking portion of the population of this Island are much more numerous than the French Acadians; that it is expressly provided by the Education Act that teachers of French Acadian Schools shall be examined, not by the Board of Education, but by a Priest,

receiving certificate from the latter; that in many Districts the Gaelic speaking people feel the great disadvantage of Teachers being unable to give a lesson in Gaelic reading to the children, or in some cases to speak to the children in that language, a matter so necessary at the outset, to all who understand nothing else; and praying that if the above privilege is to be granted and continued on behalf of the French speaking people to their priests, it may be extended to the Gaelic speaking people, to the Gaelic speaking Clergy. Both petitions were referred to the committee of the whole House on the Education Bill.

The House went into the order of the day for taking into consideration the several private petitions before the House.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Longworth, it was resolved that all the petitions praying aid for the service of Roads, Bridges and Wharfs, be severally referred to the members for the different districts, for consideration in the sub-division of the sums appropriated for that purpose.

Adjourned for one hour. R. LAIRD, Reporter.

AFTERNOON SITTING.

PETITIONS PRESENTED.

By Hon. Mr. Longworth—a petition of members of the Free Church in Charlottetown, praying to have the Bible retained in the public schools. Referred to the House in Committee of the whole on the Education Act.

By Mr. Macintosh—a petition of John McDonald, John Ford, and others. It appears the petitioners took a load of cattle to Newfoundland; but owing to the stress of weather and scarcity of fodder, were obliged to put into French St. Pierre's; not being able to procure any fodder in that place, they were obliged to sell their cargo, and to take the principal part of the payment therefor in spirits; and after clearing in a regular manner from the Custom House of St. Pierre's, they returned to the Island. The liquor, however, having been placed in casks of less than sixty gallons, was, according to law, seized by the Collector of Customs at Souris, and sold, by which the petitioners sustained a severe loss. The petitioners prayed the House to take their case into consideration, and reimburse them to some extent for the loss sustained, as they were not aware that the law forbids importations of liquor in less quantities than sixty gallons. Mr. Macintosh warmly advocated the prayer of the petition, which was laid on the table, and the House adjourned.

FRIDAY, March 20.

House met, when the Hon. Colonial Secretary presented the returns of the several Road Commissioners of the sales of winter roads in the present season, and the Road Correspondent's statement of the amounts required for the main post roads during the winter season, as per Commissioners' returns. Laid on the table.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary presented the detailed public accounts for the past year. Referred to the special committee on public accounts.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary also presented to the House the following papers, which had been laid before His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, and referred to the House, viz:—

Report of Ronald McDonald, Road Commissioner, relative to road from Sheep Pond to Rollo Bay. Report of Commissioners appointed to open new line of road between Townships Nos. 18 and 19. Petition of inhabitants of Township No. 50, respecting the wharf at China Point. Report of Commissioners on an inspection of the road between Enman's and Matheson's, on Township No. 55. Referred to members for districts.

WILMOT CREEK BRIDGE.

Hon. Colonial Secretary presented a report of the Superintendent of Public Works on the state of Wilmot Creek Bridge, together with a plan of the proposed new work.

Hon. Mr. LORD said the design was a good one, but Mr. Barnard did not say what it would cost. The Road Commissioner asks for £290 for its completion, but he (Mr. Lord) thought when it was properly built it would cost £400. It would cost £200 to purchase materials alone; and he was assured stones for the abutments could not be procured within a less distance than two miles. He thought, however, it would be better to let the matter lay over for two or three months, to enable the Commissioner to get a new site, which he thought might be obtained a mile further up the river. (Right.) In the present situation of the bridge, the abutments had sunk down some ten feet. Mr. Barnard suggested the propriety of widening it; and that may be a very proper suggestion, but he (Mr. Lord) thought nothing could be done with it this year. How was the bridge to be built, if there was not money to complete it? Was it to come out of the money apportioned to members for the district?

Hon. COL. SECRETARY.—How much did the bridge cost? Hon. Mr. LORD.—£900 originally. It would not, however, have been built but for Mr. Campbell, whose farm and residence was near it; but the site was wrongly chosen. That was twenty-five years ago. Since then it has cost the country nearly £3000.

Mr. YEO said he was not inclined to give one penny for more timber, as there was plenty wood in the old bridge to build a new one above. It will certainly cost something for the right of way, but that would not cost a great deal. The bridge would stand, when built, longer above than it would below. In the former place it would have a firmer foundation, and not, as where it now stands, be imbedded in a soft mud, where the wood is continually eaten away by worms. All the people of that neighbourhood, to whom he had spoken, said the bridge ought to have been removed long ago; and such removal would, he thought, be for the better.

Hon. Mr. LORD.—The right of way would cost £100 or £150, which was no inconsiderable sum. The proposed new site would be near Rogerson's farm.

Hon. COL. TREASURER said the hon. members for that district had better keep their share of the money, and not waste it by laying it out in the present structure. It was impossible to get a solid foundation for Wilmot Creek bridge where it now stands, as the mud was forty or fifty feet deep. The bridge is built on a foundation of brush thrown upon the mud and the blocks laid upon the brush, therefore it must be continually sinking, and all the money in the Island would not make it substantial.

Mr. MUIRHEAD.—The bridge, however, requires to be widened; at least the northern portion of it, where the bottom is hard.

Hon. COL. SECRETARY.—The hon. member (Mr. Lord) lays great stress upon the fact that the money for that bridge will have to come out of that apportioned to the members for the district. Now in my district we will have to make up £400 for Oyster-bed bridge. The only remedy for hon. members, who have such works to complete in their district, is to repair all roads by statute labour. The best plan would be to have a report of the estimated cost of building a bridge on the new site spoken of, where it will be of greater service and less expense to the country. It would be better to go two miles around than to have the bridge where it is.

Hon. Mr. MONTGOMERY.—The proposed new site for the bridge is only a few yards above where it now stands. It will not cost a great deal to remove and re-build it; neither would the right of way cost much. But under the circumstances, I would agree to leave it as it is for the present, and in the course of the incoming summer preliminaries can be arranged to have it removed, and a new site marked out for it, and a right of way secured, which would not cost near so much as was stated by the hon. member (Mr. Lord).

Mr. CLARK—I agree with what the last hon. member says. Let the bridge remain as it is until a better site can be obtained. It would be only throwing away money on it to repair or rebuild it where it now stands. It is not in a good situation, being, as it were, laid on a bed of soft mud, and the sea and the high tides causes it to sink, from time to time, deeper and deeper. It would not cost as much to build the bridge higher up the river, where the bottom is hard, as to construct it where it now stands. I hope hon. members will see the necessity of not acting precipitately, but take time to consider what is best to be done.

Hon. Mr. LORD.—After weighing the matter well in my mind, and considering all the advantages to be derived from a new site for Wilmot Creek bridge, I have, as I before stated, thought it best to postpone any immediate action upon it. If the people want to have the site altered, we have received no petition praying for such an alteration; but we should not mind the people, if by altering the site of the bridge we could benefit them. Still, I have no doubt, if we carried out Mr. Barnard's plan, embodied in the report now before the House, we should make a good bridge of it; but where is the money for such an undertaking to come from? There was a special grant made last year of £2000 to build ferry wharfs in Charlottetown; but

here, when a work of fully as great importance to a portion of the country is to be completed, there is no money for the purpose. We ask where is it to be got? and echo answers "where?" This is certainly a great hardship. It is unjust to tax one part of the country to support the other.

Hon. Mr. MOONEY.—Mr. Chairman, the hon. member who has just sat down thinks it is unjust to tax one part of the country to support the other. Now, I would tell that hon. member that I think if he got a special appropriation for Wilmot Creek bridge, he would not say it was taxing one part of the country to support the other; but to build ferry wharfs in Charlottetown is nothing else, he thinks. This bridge the hon. member has such a liking for has always been a "bore" to the country. In 1847, when Mr. Pope was Speaker, he, some how or other, managed to obtain a sum sufficient for rebuilding it from this House. I believe some of the hon. members were asleep at the time. This same bridge, sir, has always been a drag upon the country, ever since I came into this House; and I think it would be better to alter the site of it to any place—even as far up as the snells can go—than to have us continually killing ourselves endeavouring to keep it from sinking in the mud. I have heard more about that bridge, sir, than ever I heard about my grandfather; but it must be a curious piece. I suppose it would pay a man to go and get a squint at it.

The report was then referred to the members of the district.

PETITIONS, &c.

By Hon. Colonial Secretary.—A petition of inhabitants of Seal River settlement, Township No. 50, praying for the appointment of Commissioners to report on a new line of Road desired on the east side of Seal River. Also, Returns of the state of the Charlottetown Gas Light Company, December, 1856. Laid on the table.

Petitions of inhabitants of Townships Nos. 15 and 17, praying for a new line of road;—of inhabitants of New Glasgow Road, praying a further grant to open and render passable a junction road between that place and Malpeque Road. Referred to committee on new roads.

Report and estimate of repairs required at the Prince County Jail. Report and estimate of required at the Queen's County Jail. Referred to the committee of supply.

The report of the commissioner appointed by the Government to distribute money, clothing, &c., to such Indians as were in want, was also presented by the Hon. Col. Secretary when it appeared that £50 had been expended over and above the amount allowed by the House at the last session. The commissioners accounted for this by stating that the poor Indians were now, in a great measure, deprived of the sources from which a livelihood had been obtained in years past. That the sale for the articles they manufacture, owing to various causes, was gradually becoming narrower and narrower; and that, especially during the last year, owing to the failure of the crops and the consequent scarcity and high price of provisions, many of the poor creatures were unable to obtain the commonest necessities of life; more particularly, as in instances referred to by the commissioner, many of the heads of families had been prostrated by sickness. Considerable discussion ensued, during which some hon. members expressed their opposition to the principle of any commissioner taking upon himself to spend more of the public money than was given him by appropriation, but there was no dissenting voice to the course Mr. Stewart had pursued on any other grounds; indeed there seemed to be a general willingness manifested on the part of all hon. members, to allow that the Indian should be cared for, if, unfortunately. The report was then referred to the House in committee of supply.

The House then proceeded further to consider private petitions. The petition of Hugh Logan, Jailor, of Georgetown Jail, was taken up, and, after a short debate, during which the prayer of the petitioner was warmly seconded by Hon. Mr. Wightman, Messrs. Haviland and Macdonald, referred to the House in committee of supply.

The petition of Dominick Knockwood and other indigent Micmac Indians, was taken up and referred to the House in committee of supply. The petitions of Bridget Hogan; of Mary Lawrence; and of officers of Royal Agricultural Society, were severally taken up, and referred to the House in committee of the whole on supply.

The petitions of inhabitants of St. Eleanor's and Tignish praying for an enactment to the running at large of Swine, were again read, and Hon. Col. Treasurer moved for a committee to draft a bill to carry out the objects of the prayer of the petition, when a very lively and general discussion ensued, in the course of which quite a sharp fire of wit was kept up between Hons. Messrs. Mooney, Palmer, and Whelan. Hon. Mr. Mooney moved as an amendment that the petitioners have leave to withdraw. The House divided on the amendment, when it was manifest that only the Hon. Mr. Mooney voted for his motion; all the other hon. members voting in the negative. The original motion was then put and carried, and Hon. Col. Treasurer, Mr. Muirhead, and Hon. Mr. Palmer were appointed a committee to draft a bill in accordance with the prayer of the petition.

The petition of inhabitants of Township 33 and others praying for an addition to the salary of James Douglas, Teacher, or some allowance to encourage him in his prosecution of the study of Agricultural Chemistry, was again read, and referred to the House in committee of the whole on the Education Act.

Hon. COL. SECRETARY.—Before adjournment, I would call the attention of the House to a resolution came to by this House in 1854,—as several hon. members have inquired of me if any, and what action had been taken with reference to it. I will quote from the Journals: "Tuesday, October 3, 1854.

"Mr. Speaker called the attention of the House to the state of the Manuscript Journals, which had been brought by the Messenger, since the opening of the session, from the residence of the late clerk assistant, J. B. Cooper, Esq., whereby it was discovered that he had neglected the duty of transcribing or engraving the same, since the 10th day of April, 1851, and for which he had been paid; it was thereupon

"Ordered, That the Clerk do perform or employ a competent person to perform the work, and to be paid by the House; and that the Government be requested to proceed against James B. Cooper, Esquire for the expense incurred."

Now, sir, the work is not yet accomplished, nor has the former assistant clerk been called to account for not completing his work. One reason is, I believe, that Mr. Cooper had left the Island, and therefore the Government could not take action in the matter. The Journals show that the salary of the assistant clerk was £80—one half to be paid at the rising of the House, and the other half when his work was completed. After the lapse of nearly three years, when the clerk was asked where the Journals of 1851 were, and if they were finished, he replied he did not know, but on sending the messenger to the residence of Mr. Cooper and obtaining the Journals, it was found that only a small portion of them had been engraved; and thus they were returned to the House in an unfinished state, notwithstanding the fact that Mr. Cooper had been paid for doing the work. As I stated before, it was out of the power of the Government to proceed against Mr. Cooper, on account of his absence from the Island; but I expect, now that he is returned, he will refund the money drawn, or pay the cost of finishing the work.

Hon. Mr. Palmer presented a petition from the inhabitants of Charlottetown and Royalty and other districts similar to those presented by hon. members, in respect to having the Bible in the Public Schools. Referred to the House in committee of the whole on the Education Act.

Adjourned for one hour. T. KIRWAN, Rep.

Correspondence.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR,—It appears that about three weeks ago there was a Coroner's Inquest held somewhere at the west end of Charlottetown, and that the gentlemen on that Inquest have, by some malicious design or great mistake, I cannot say which, put in circulation that I was in that part of the Town on the night of the occurrence. I therefore wish to state, for the information of those gentlemen and others, that I never was in that part of the Town at night, either on that or any other occasion; nor was I in Town for ten days before and near a fortnight after the occurrence alluded to, which I can get plenty of people to prove. I am sorry to encroach on your valuable space, but the insertion of the above will greatly oblige your humble servant, WILLIAM HOOPER, Morell, April 11, 1857. Eastern Postman.

My DEAR SIR,—I did not intend to notice the wilful misrepresentations made in the Protector of the 25th ultimo, with reference to what I said in the debate on the Bible Question, viz: "During the discussion Hon. Mr. Warburton proposed that the Koran and the Book of Mormon be added to the versions; but the motion was so preposterous—may we not say, impious—that he did not even find a seconder." As the Protector has continued his misrepresentations in his last issue, for the evident purpose of destroying Mr. Barker's influence for good, I think it necessary to state what I actually said, and I will leave the public to judge whether I was desirous of having such books read in the schools.

You are aware an amendment was proposed to Hon. Mr. Haviland's resolution to have the Douay version of the Bible, as well as the Protestant one, admitted by law into the mixed schools of this Island. I then stated that there were other books called bibles, such as the Koran and Mormon Bible, which had better be stuck in with the others. This was done to show the absurdity of having two versions of the Bible read in the schools. The editors of the Protector tortured this into a declaration that I had moved those books be added to the versions; and they did this knowing I voted against the amendment to the original motion.

I do not, when such statements are published in the Protector, expect either truth or fair play from it; nor do I believe a political paper got up under the mask of religion will obtain the confidence of Protestants generally throughout the Island.

When the programme of a "Protestant paper" was published from the pulpit of St. Paul's Church, the Rev. Mr. Fitzgerald distinctly told his hearers, that politics should be carefully excluded from its pages; that it did not matter whether Mr. This or Mr. That was in office, or whether the Hon. Mr. This or the Hon. Mr. That was in the Government. How truthfully these principles have been carried out, can be seen by any person who will read a letter signed "An ardent admirer of Responsible, not Dept. National, Government," in the Protector of the 18th ult., besides other letters and editorials.

If the public are anxious to know my sentiments respecting the Scriptures, I beg to assure them I think there can be no Christian religion without the Bible; that the language in which it is written is superior, in point of style and high moral excellence, to any book ever published; that it is, as a history, a faithful record of the principal events which occurred when learning was almost unknown; and, I believe, that it has been preserved to us by the special intervention of Him whose word it is. Having thus far stated facts and my own opinions, I shall leave the editors of the Protector to make what they can of them.

I remain, my dear Sir, yours truly, Ch. Town, April 17, 1857. JAMES WARBURTON.

The Examiner.

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I., APRIL 20, 1857.

THE ex-Visitor of Schools, in the last edition of the Sanctified Press, occupies some two columns and a half in running a muck at the Government, Mr. Monk and ourselves. Feeling confident that his attacks upon his late masters and patrons can be shaken off as readily and completely as "dew-drops from a lion's mane," and knowing full well that we laugh at the exhibition of his baffled rage, he seeks to blight the character and prospects of the gentleman at the head of the Normal School. No charges are adduced against him, and if any grounds of complaint existed, Mr. Stark (we had almost written Stark) should have brought them to the notice of the Government, in his official capacity as Superintendent of the Schools.

The editors of the Protector, having prudently preface his letter by disclaiming all responsibility for his opinions, allow him to exhibit himself in the avowed character of a writer to "blindfolded partizans," (videlicet, the supporters of the Protector), and as being so doughty a man of his inches, that the Colonial Secretary dared not say "boo to a goose!"

Congratulating Mr. Coles on his prudent fear of his hero, we proceed to notice the naive admission that his knowledge of one part of his duties—that of lecturing upon Agricultural Chemistry—required so much preparation, that he could not find time to qualify himself for a service his presumed acquaintance with the subject of which had drawn a hundred pounds a-year from the Treasury to his pocket. Had he not represented himself conversant with the Science of Agricultural Chemistry, he should have said so, and not taken the money for which he could give no value.

After stating that further remarks were unnecessary, the worthy inflicts some two columns of impertinence, having for its object the vilifying of the men who gave him his bread—of the men whose friends and supporters welcomed him to their houses and boards, and by their voluntary hospitality saved to him many a pound, the outlay of which his salary was intended to cover, and who now have an opportunity of judging of the gratitude of the man. In the next edition of Esop's Fables, the ungrateful object of the peasant's kindness should, we think, be removed from its bad eminence, and a biped succeed to the vacated pedestal of the viper.

As it always affords us pleasure to admit the truth of any assertions of our opponents, a pleasure we regret their conduct seldom enables us to experience, we express our cordial agreement with Mr. Stark's statement, that neither ourselves nor our friends were ever associates of his. We take particular pleasure in endorsing this admission, as we deem it a conclusive proof that they and we are particular as to the company we keep.

We feel that we owe an apology to our readers for even this brief notice of this editor of "Old Noll," as the original Protector was familiarly designated.

THE Islander of last Friday contains some very palpable and flagrant misstatements in reference to the report of the Special Committee of the House of Assembly on the Public Accounts. Want of space only precludes us, this week, from taking notice of these in detail; but we shall take an opportunity to expose them thoroughly in our next issue.

AN American and Colonial Mail arrived in Town this morning. The news furnished by the papers is quite unimportant.

NEWS BY THE ENGLISH MAIL.

THE CHINESE WAR.

We have advices from Hong Kong fifteen days later than by last mail. Trade was at a stand still, the attention of the European inhabitants of Hong Kong being chiefly directed to means for their protection against the Chinese. Public expectation was directed to the arrival of anticipated naval and military reinforcements, and the re-commencement of offensive operations. Her Majesty's steamer Sampson, arrived at Hong Kong, having on board H. E. Admiral Sir M. Seymour, and H. E. is reported to have forwarded to India urgent despatches for a military force. A letter from Canton, dated the 22nd of January, states that the city is nearly all destroyed. The Sampson, on her way down to Hong Kong, fell in with a fleet of 150 Mandarin junks and destroyed several of them. These junks had threatened an attack on Hong Kong. With the exception of retaining Tee-to-tum Fort, it appears that Admiral Seymour has abandoned Canton, as all the available force is required to keep open the passage of the river, in consequence of the wilful sinking of junks to prevent any vessel of war or steamers passing up with troops. Whampoa has been con-