specie, reduced 20 per cent in value below that of the adjoining Colonies; and it is beyond all question, that the additional issue of £15,000 more of the same unredeemable paper would cause the further depreciation which he anticipated; and indeed I think much greater" *litera scripta manet.* "A change has indeed come o'er the spirit of the dream," of their honors; and their remarks on the measure of 1846 are so applicable to the views I entertain on the present Bill, that it is almost unnecessary for me to add any thing of my own, but I must still trespass on your Honors' indulgence by offering a few observations on a subject of such great importance as this is. In the first place, it is against the Royal Instructions. It is true the Bill has a suspending clause, but his Excellency having, in his Despatch accompanying the memorandum of the Executive Council, requested to be favored with the opinion of the Secretary for the Colonies on the subject, a draft of the Bill before us having been also sent with the documents referred to, I cannot but think it highly indelicate and improper to introduce any such measure, until an answer shall have been received from the Colonial Office. "Silence in this case cannot be construed into giving assent." I should argue the reverse, when I see every despatch received hitherto from the Colonial Office has been prohibitory of an issue of paper not payable in specie on demand. It is self-evident that the whole matter has emanated from the Executive. His Excellency taking his information and opinions from his Council, writes his despatch recommending the measure; and it is equally evident, that the Colonial Office has not listened to it. And why? Simply because the principle laid down is diametrically opposed to the views of all the most able financiers of the present day, particularly of the successors of the late Sir Robert Peel who are now in office, and who will never listen to the admission of a principle so opposed to that by which they are governed on such a question as this. In confirmation of what I have said, I can safely refer you to all previous despatches which have been received on this subject. It was ill advice, which caused the introduction of such a measure particularly until after an answer to his Excellency's despatch had been received from the Colonial Office. It is a great financial error which will tend to the ruin of any country which may have recourse to its admission. In times of adversity, it is ruin. It also tends to mislead the people by leading them to the belief that it will increase their prosperity. Paper money if not redeemable in specie and payable on demand, is in fact a delusion. Why should our paper remain in its depreciated condition, when compared with that of the Provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia? Simply from the cause above stated. Once make our paper payable on demand in specie, and it would be on par with them, and circulate as freely in these provinces as their paper does in our Island. Far from such a system being beneficial—it has a contrary effect, as it tends to prevent the establishment of private banks, which would indeed benefit the community. I fully agree with his honor (Mr. Hensley) that the Government ought not to be Bankers. It is an improper power to be exercised by a Government, and might prove prejudicial to the interests of the Commercial and Agricultural community. I will now advert to a paragraph in his Excellency's Despatch of 2d Jan., 1852, which I cannot pass over without notice. It is quite clear from the memorandum of the Executive Board, that his Excellency derived his information from that source, and I am, therefore, of opinion the remarks, I am about to make will apply to His Excellency's advisers rather than to himself. I am the more inclined to arrive at that conclusion from the arguments used on moving the second reading of the Bill, by his honor Mr. Swabey, a member of the Executive, who evidently had a finger in the concocting of that document as it tallies so much with his speech. Be that as it may, there is, at all events, a striking coincidence. The paragraph is this: "No alterations, however, had taken place in the Warrant system until this year, when the Government were enabled, with your Lordship's sanction, to borrow £10,000 and to pay off an equivalent amount of Warrants; nearly the whole of the 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 *usurious rates of interest*, Warrants to large amounts, to the great detriment of the Colony, and pecuniary loss of poor individuals." I conclude the passage is correct as it comes from the Secretary's Office. It is different in the document as printed in a Journal before me, in which the term "various" instead of "usurious" is used (the hon. Mr. Hensley said the term was "usurious" in the original, and the hon. the Attorney General confirmed it, by stating, that the copy received through the Colonial Secretary was correct) my argument is founded in the precise language used in that document, and I may therefore proceed. I object to the terms "pernicious" and "usurious." The first is unjust as applied to individuals who held Warrants at that period, inasmuch as, it is well known, that Warrants were not so much in demand as they have been of late, and but for the arrival of a few persons of capital, they would scarcely have been negotiable, even at a much greater depreciation than was the case, although bearing interest at 6 per cent, and therefore the persons who invested their capital in Warrants were benefactors both to the Colony and to the poor man. The second term, I hold to be inapplicable. To purchase any Bond bearing a fixed legal rate of interest at a discount cannot be termed "usurious" as no alteration is made in the rate of interest, but in the value of the Bond, by either a temporary pressure on the money market or a want of credit in the security itself. The same fluctuation of price is continually occurring in England both in the funded and unfunded Debt. Such transactions cannot be termed "usurious," as no more than legal interest can be exacted. Therefore, I consider the term unfairly and incorrectly used. But I am given to understand, that a system *does* prevail in this Island, by which certain individuals are exacting 10 per cent., 20 per cent., 30 per cent. and even more for discounts and loans of money; and if such be the case, I think the terms "pernicious" and "usurious" may well be applied to such a system. Such acts amount to an evasion, if not a direct violation, of the *usury laws*, and so long as they remain on our Statute Book, can as little be defended as the acts of the smuggler. It is illegal, and morally and religiously wrong, and no defence of such a system can be attempted with justice by any right thinking man in the community. It may well be said to be a "detriment to the Colony and a pecuniary loss to poor individnals," and cannot be too loudly condemned. I turn now to the proposed plan of paying off the remainder of the Warrants by means of the issue of Treasury Notes, in other words, to pay off a *debt bearing interest* by an issue of Notes not payable on demand in specie, in fact by another debt *not bearing interest.* In your private transactions, I would ask your Honors whether you would like to be dealt with in like manner? Undoubtedly not; and why then should the public creditor be so treated? Pay him off if you please in gold or silver, or in paper payable in specie on demand, but to force him to take by an Act of the Legislature, paper not redeemable in specie is scarcely acting with common honesty. It is true, you may present the Notes for payment at the Treasury, and if refused, there being no obligation to pay in specie, you may have the amount funded. Now if the object of the present Bill be, to extend the circulation, who does not at once see how it would defeat the intention? The holder of Warrants being paid off in Notes, may proceed to the Treasury and demand payment in specie, and on being refused, he would then demand to have them funded, to which the Treasurer could not object. He must, however, make his application at the Treasury on certain quarterly days, fixed by the Act 5th Geo. 4th clause 6. And the Treasurer must give certificates to the amount of the Notes, bearing interest; but the Act is silent, as to the rate of interest or the time when it is to be paid. Now this being the case, the present Bill may be called a Warrant-creating Act, the hon. the Attorney General says—"the Notes could not be put into circulation again" Just so. Then where would be the proposed addition to the circulation? It cannot be denied that the Notes may be funded, as I have stated. This being admitted—no increase of the debt, and no increase of the circulation would ensue from the passing of this Bill, even if the Royal assent could be obtained. I will now consider the subject of paper issues, as it affects the question of Banking: In an American work, entitled "Public Economy," by Calvin Cotton, which I hold in my hand, I find the following sentence, under the head of "Paper Money and Banking:" "Assuming that no paper money ought ever to be in circulation which is not good for the amount in specie, whenever demanded by the holder; and that no institutions for such issues should be authorized, without being obliged to conform to this rule,—it may be said, that the invention of paper money, on such a basis, has proved scarcely of less importance to society than that of a metallic currency." Here is the principle for which we contend, fully recognized. After treating the matter at some length, he proceeds to explain the method of Banking. He writes, "The usual mode of banking in the United States, has been through the agency of corporate Companies; but the State of New York authorized private banking, by requiring deposits of public funds with the Comptroller, as security, and the Comptroller's stamp on all such private issues, as a method of inspection and control." "No system of banking can stand, except as the Notes are always payable on demand, in legal tender,—that is, specie. They who prefer paper, for convenience, are usually many to one of those who want specie. The chances and probable calls for specie are obliged to be well considered by the Bank, so that it may not be taken by surprise,—and its issues are regulated accordingly." After proceeding in favor of banking, as a great means of promoting the prosperity of a country, and after speaking in terms of praise of the late Sir R. Peel's Bill of 1844, he again recognizes distinctly the principle we are advocating in these words: "Nevertheless, the world now generally understands and believes that nothing but a basis composed of the precious metals, exchangeable on demand, will sustain a circulating medium in full credit." He then alludes to Government Banking, in no very favorable terms. He says, "The greatest hazard of all for a Government to set up Banking in its own proper capacity, is the temptation to trade on the public credit. Money brokers may do this legitimately; but that a Government itself should do it, in banking, as a part of its banking capital, is one of the most alarming features of the case. After all the experience of the world, it ought to be considered as a settled question, that no paper should ever be authorized as a common currency, which is not founded on a specie basis, and which is not redeemable on demand in specie." What can be said more to the purpose than I have read from this work?—and coming from the pen of an American, it proves, beyond all doubt, that experience has led the United States to admit the principle of a metallic basis for their issues. I must apologize for taking up so much of the time of your Honors; but feeling the importance of the subject, with a few more observations, I will conclude. The tendency of the measure before us is highly prejudicial. In the face of a proposed issue of Debentures, under the Land Purchase Bill, you contemplate a further issue of unredeemable paper. How can you expect the capitalist to come forward, with the prospect of being repaid in a depreciated currency? Independent of this, who would attempt to establish a Bank in this Colony, without being secured from the effects of an excessive issue of Treasury Notes? No sensible man would encounter such a risk; and so long as this system is allowed to prevail, so long will the Colony suffer injury by such obstruction to the establishment of a Bank. Let the Government but see this matter in its proper light, and cease to tamper with the Currency; and let them lend every facility to the establishment of a Bank, on sound principles; and you will soon see the effects of such a course, in the increasing activity, and consequent prosperity, of this commercial and agricultural community. I had intended to have added to my arguments a few extracts from the "Report of the Currency Commissioners;" but as you have that in your possession, I will merely refer you to it for confirmation of the principles I have endeavoured to advocate. I feel that I have already taken up too much time. In concluding my remarks on this question, I cannot avoid repeating, that as a draft of this Bill has been sent home, I think it would be unadvisable to proceed further in the matter. Had it not been in opposition to the views of the party now in office in England, and directly in the teeth of previous Despatches, some excuse might be offered for the course pursued by the supporters of the Bill. Therefore, with these observations, and entertaining the views I do on this subject, I beg to second the amendment, that the Bill be read a second time this day three months.

The Hon. the ATTORNEY GENERAL. In supporting the motion for the second reading of this Bill, I shall offer a few remarks which occur to me, some of which have been alluded to by the previous speakers. In the first place, the difference of the position of the country in the year 1848 and in 1853, I must observe is very great. As a general principle, I admit that no paper ought to be issued except on a sound specie basis, but I think, Your Honors, that circumstances will justify a modification of that principle for the purpose of carrying a Government successfully on. I would ask, what is the the present state of the paper of Prince Edward Island? (the hon. Mr. Hensley "at a discount of 20 per cent). Look on the amount of Island Treasury notes in the Teasury during any one quarter. Your Honors will hardly credit me, when I state from facts that cannot be contradicted, that it has never exceeded three or four hundred pounds, as issued by this Government. In what then has the balance consisted? why in Coins and in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia Notes—the New Brunswick Notes redeemable in specie, those issued by the Government of Nova Scotia, not so. A great many Notes from one pound and upwards go through my hands in the course of a year. The circulation of the Notes of these provinces in this Island is almost incredible. I dare say over £100,000 (The hon. Mr. Hsnsley "is this merely supposition?) Yes, but I firmly believe it and I happen to have rather favorable opportunities for affirming an opinion upon the subject. Such being the case then, it is essential that there should be some change, because it clearly appears, that our Island Notes are in demand and that there are not enough of them to meet the wants of the Country. I conceive that this bill would remedy the inconvenience and also be the means of driving the other Notes out of circulation. Who derives the benefit of the paper currency I have spoken of? why, Your Honors, the banks of Halifax and New Brunswick derive the whole benefit of our circulation. And yet do you mean to say that they do not—that it is no benefit to those banks? Some of these Notes may never be seen again by their Issuers—they may be lost—a vessel, in which there are individuals who have them may go down—a house may be burnt, and altho' these no doubt are individual losses, yet the banks are gainers by them and they derive besides the whole benefit of those that are in circulation. Now, I ask if such be the case—if it be the fact, that our Notes have not depreciated in value for the last 15 or 20 years and I know that there has not been the slightest depreciation since my knowledge of the Island, the discount having always been 20 per cent, is not this Island then perfectly justifiable in issuing an increased amount of Notes? I certainly would not assert, that if our Treasury was burdened with an excessive debt that it would be proper to do so and most if not all of the remarks that have been made and of the authorities that have been quoted are founded upon *an excessive issue of paper*. Many of the banks in the United States I know exceed their paper circulation; but do you mean to say, that, if we issue paper within our revenue destruction would follow? For instance, if a man has an income of £30,000 and, only spends £25000, Surely he is £5000 better at the end of the year than he was at the beginning of it? There is an act on record too (the statute authorising the funding of notes) that advantage could be taken of the very instant that an excessive issue did take place, under which Notes can be funded, of which your Honors have lost sight and which would meet your Honors' objection—What does the 7th clause say? (his honor read it) I heard that no time was limited—that no interest was specified. The time specified is within three years [The Hon. Mr. Hensley "where is the amount of interest?" His Honor the Attorney General replied, that there was no necessity to have stated the particular amount of interest, for the legal rate of interest then, 6 per cent. was presumed and could be recovered. The Hon. Mr. Hensley differed from his Hon. and contended that it was indispensably necessary, that both the rate should have been specified and the particular time, but that neither had been and consequently that such a funder would be liable to be exposed to the caprice of the Government as to the amount of interest it would allow—"they might," said the Hon. Mr. Hensley, "only allow you 4 per cent."—The Hon. the Attorney General "I think your Honor would understand it, if you were to go to the Treasury on such an errand"] The circumstances of this Colony are very different indeed from what they were in 1848.

I consider, that at the present moment, independently of the Treasury paper altogether, this colony has a surplus of £2,500, currency. [the Hon. Mr. Birnie "I do not admit it."] The Treasurer's accounts shew it, and that not only in Bonds but from other sources, independent of the Treasury Notes. In 1848, the Colony was heavily in debt, but now it is free of it. I contend, that the Colony is not paying any interest on any part of the public debt, because although there was the sum of £22,000, on which interest was payable, yet there was, to meet that, the large amount of bonds. I have spoken of, bearing interest, so that one interest may be said to be equivalent to the other, and there is £11,500 in Notes which do not bear interest, and that debt is on these Treasury Notes not bearing interest, and thus the Colony being rapidly increasing in prosperity, the Government is perfectly justified in bringing forward the present Bill (his Honor then referred to the Memorandum by the Executive.) Now I differ altogether with some opinions of your Honors. I do not coincide in them at all with regard to the effect our issue of Notes would have on the establishing of a bank here, because I believe, that if one were established and its managers found that our paper interfered with their operations; they could easily get hold of it and fund it. Suppose for instance the Bank of British North America were to establish a bank here, how very easily could it buy up the government paper, fund it, and issue their own paper in place of it. But again, your Honors say, if you had the £25,000, what is to hinder the Government from issuing £25,000, more? Do not your Honors see, that there would be an effectual check on such an attempt, because the Imperial Government would immediately turn round and say, no, you must not, you have issued enough already? But what danger I would ask, would there be with such a revenue as we now have, of the Colony becoming Bankrupt supposing the present application were sanctioned? The Revenue was never so large and there is every indication that it will go on increasing in amount too; look at our large public works, our buildings, our roads and bridges—all these are works of value in which the funds of the colony have been invested. Honorable gentlemen opposed to this Bill have alleged that it is contrary to the Royal Instructions. In reply to this, I would beg leave to say that with these Royal Instructions, we have nothing to do. If this Bill be passed by us, it rests with his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, whether he will assent to it or not. The reason why no answer has been given to the Despatch of his Excellency on this subject is owing altogether to the peculiar position of the Ministry and the immense amount of important business on their hands. There was a change of the Ministry in Feb. last, and they have since then been so engaged in Election and other matters, that they have had no leisure to devote to the interests of this Colony; but as the Bill has a suspending clause, if they should see fit to withhold from it Her Majesty's sanction, of course, however much cause we would have to regret the circumstance, it could not go into operation. His Excellency alone, I repeat, is responsible to the Colonial Secretary with regard to the passing of the Act, and this will meet the objections with respect to the Royal Instructions that have been raised.

I have gone through, I think, nearly all the material points that have been offered in opposition to the Bill, and under the special favorable and flourishing circumstances of the Colony, it is highly expedient, in my opinion, to grant this issue of Notes, but if the state of the revenue had been other than it is, I certainly would not have consented to it or advocated it, seeing, however, a good revenue and the prospect of its continuing to increase and that the issue is within its present amount, then I say, by all means let us try the experiment at any rate, and if in the course of two or three years or so, it be found likely to produce any of the evils so confidently predicted, why, then, it can be remedied. What is to hinder this Government to issue £30,000 in debentures? Your Honors say, but this would be on interest, but have I not shown you, that people when they please may fund those notes? moreover, I pledge myself, that if there should be found any difficulty experienced, as some affirm there would, in procuring the legal amount of interest then I say, I pledge myself, should any of these notes be funded, to introduce a Bill to prevent any difficulty on that score; I will do so, because the spirit and integrity of the Statute have influenced the promoters of the present Bill on its introduction—they will maintain that statute in all its integrity. The reason why it has lain a dead letter on our Statute Book, is not because it cannot be put in operation but simply because no one has ever thought proper to exercise the right. Will any of your honors say, that any one was ever prevented from funding notes, merely because it was not specified in the Act when the quarter day was, and that there was not the particular rate of interest mentioned? and if he cannot do that, then the remarks that have been hazarded with regard to that Statute on this point will necessarily fall to the ground. There is another remark that I would notice, and that is, with respect to the term "usurious" that has been used. Without regard to over-nice distinctions I would illustrate it; suppose I have a Warrant for £100 and this Warrant were to bear interest at 6 per cent, and I were to ask another to give me £100 for it and he were to offer me some pounds less than it bore on its face, and my necessities compelled me to submit to it, would not this be on the part of the purchaser a virtually usurious transaction. (The Hon. Mr. Hensley—"the only thing that surprises me is this, I know not how His Excellency comes to state it as a fact, within his own knowledge—I have no knowledge of such a fact and yet I have been several years in the Colony") His Honor merely cavils at a word but perhaps according to the true and strict definition of the word, it may not be a correct one, that however, is but of little consequence. Whether my arguments have been of such a nature as to convince any of your Honors that there would be little chance of dangerous results from a further issue of Treasury Notes, I know not, but I assure you, that if I thought that such would be its consequence, I would unhesitatingly peril my place in the Government and oppose the Bill to the utmost of my power, but I cannot think, nay, I am convinced, that it will not realize the evils so graphically pourtrayed; on the contrary, I believe it to be a financial measure, admirably calculated to promote commercial enterprise and to advance the prosperity of the Island in a greater ratio even than the last few years have fortunately exhibited. I cordially second the Motion that the Bill be read a 2d time, and hope that it will meet with the encouragement it so well deserves and that it will ere long become part of the law of the land. (*To be continued.*)

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, Thursday, April 7.

TENANT COMPENSATION BILL.

Hon. Mr. COLES, from the Committee appointed to draw up Reasons for disagreeing to certain of the Council's amendments to this Bill, presented to the House the following:—

"Because, as the first amendment declares that no Tenant shall be qualified to be an Arbitrator," on the same principle, no Tenant would be qualified to serve as a Juror in cases to be tried in the Courts of Law between Landlord and Tenant, as, on the other hand, Tenants may refuse to allow Freeholders to arbitrate or serve on Juries in similar cases. The House, therefore, can see no reason to depart from the present practice of choosing Arbitrators, and therefore cannot agree to the said first amendment.

"The five succeeding amendments being contingent on the first, the House, for the same reasons cannot agree to them.

"The seventh amendment—being a proviso—the House agrees to a part thereof, but disagrees to the following, viz:—'who shall have allowed more than four years' rent to have run in arrear, or who shall have systematically delayed paying rent,' or—because limiting the Bill to four years, would not afford that encouragement to a Tenant to improve his Farm, which the Bill intended to carry out, as a Proprietor may allow the Rent to remain unpaid a few months after that time by feigned encouragement, with a view to evade the Compensation allowed under the Act.

"The eighth, ninth and tenth amendments, being contingent on the first, the same reasons for disagreeing to it will therefore apply to them.

"The Eleventh amendment the House agrees to.

"The Twelfth amendment would destroy the equitable working of the Bill, and is, therefore, disagreed to.

"The Thirteenth is also disagreed to,—Because, in the opinion of the House, it is not as equitable as the provisions of the Bill proposed to be struck out."

The question of concurrence was carried on the following division:—

For agreeing to the Report—Messrs. Coles, Whelan, Lord, Mooney, Campion, Warburton, Clark, Wightman, Jardine, Thornton, Fraser, Macaulay, Macneill—13.

Against it—Messrs. Palmer, Yeo, Longworth—3.

MONDAY, APRIL 11.

By Message, the House were informed that the Legislative Council had passed the Bill, intituled An Act to enable the Government of this Island to take possession of Lands, when required to erect Light Houses, and for other public purposes, and to pay compensation to the Owners or Occupiers thereof.

JUNIPER KNEES.

The Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY, by command of His Excellency the Lieut. Governor, read to the House the following Message:

A. BANNERMAN, Lieut. Governor.

The Lieut. Governor transmits to the House of Assembly, two Petitions—one of them very numerously signed—on the subject of the exportation of Juniper Knees, and the duties imposed thereon. The Lieut. Governor understands the Revenue Bill has not passed, and he is desirous that the Petitioners' case should be submitted to the consideration of the Assembly: he only received the Petition about an hour ago.

Lieut. Governor's Office, 11th. April, 1853

REVENUE BILL.

The Revenue Bill was read a third time and passed.

CROWN LANDS AND CROWN FISHERY RESERVES.

Hon. Mr. LORD, from the Committee appointed to prepare the Draft of an Address to His Excellency with respect to the Crown Lands and Crown Fishery Reserves, reported the following which was agreed to by the House, on a division, as below given:

To His Excellency Sir Alexander Bannerman, Knight, Lieut. Governor, &c., &c., &c.

May it please your Excellency;

The House of Assembly having had under their consideration, certain portions of the Crown Lands and the Lands denominated Fishery Reserves, and having referred the same to a Special Committee who have reported thereon—which Report has been agreed to, and is herewith annexed—the House respectfully request that your Excellency will be pleased to give effect to the recommendation therein contained.

The question being put, that the Address reported from the Committee be agreed to, the House divided:

Yeas—Hon. Mr. Lord, Hon. Mr. Whelan, Hon. Mr. Jardine, Mr. Laird, Mr. Macneill, Hon. Mr. Coles, Hon. Mr. Warburton, Mr. Fraser, Mr. Davies, and Mr. Mooney—10.

Nays—Hon. Mr. Palmer, Mr. Longworth, Mr. Yeo, Hon. Mr. Thornton, Mr. Clark, and Mr. Haviland—6.

So it was carried in the affirmative.

PETITION OF NEIL DARRACH.

Mr. DAVIES, from the Committee appointed to prepare an Address to His Excellency the Lieut. Governor, on the subject of the Petition of Neil Darrach, Township No. 65, presented the following, which was agreed to by the House:

To His Excellency Sir Alexander Bannerman, Knight, Lieut. Governor, &c., &c., &c.

May it please your Excellency:

The House of Assembly having under their consideration the Petition of Neil Darrach, complaining of unjust proceedings in two actions at law, at the suit of Harry Bentinck Cumberland, Esquire, and Wife, and having referred the same to a Special Committee to report thereon—which Report has been agreed to, and is herewith annexed—the House respectfully request, that your Excellency will be pleased to give effect to the recommendation therein contained.

WEDNESDAY, April 13.

REPORT ON THE PETITION OF NEIL DARRACH.

The House again took up the Report of the Special Committee on the Petition of Neil Darrach, which had been agreed to by the House, on Saturday, 8th instant, (as given in Haszard's Gazettee, No. 24); and agreed to strike out the last clause thereof, which recommends *the granting of 50 acres of Land, in Lot 55, to the Petitioner, and an application be made to the Lieut. Governor to that effect*; and to substitute instead thereof the following:

"Your Committee would therefore recommend that an Address be presented to His Excellency the Lieut. Governor, requesting that he will be pleased to submit the evidence and report of the Special Committee of this House, to the Judges of the Supreme Court, or Court of Chancery, with the view to ascertain their decision on the merits of Neil Darrach's case, and should they recommend a new trial to be commenced, then this House will make good any expense attending the same."

JUNIPER KNEES.

Mr. LONGWORTH gave notice that he would, in the next Session of the Legislature, move that a duty of *Five Shillings* be imposed on each and every *Juniper Knee*, exported from this Island, during the year 1854.—The hon. member said, that his object, in giving such timely notice, was that parties who might, hereafter, contract for the supply of any quantity of Juniper Knees for exportation, might be fully aware, when so doing, of what might be the action of the Legislature in a future Session, with reference to that article. In New Brunswick, with a view to the protection of the Ship-building and general interests, an export duty of 4s. 6d. had been imposed upon each and every Juniper Knee which should be exported from the Province; and he was persuaded that a due regard to the Shipbuilding and general interests of this Colony demanded the imposition of a similar protective duty by its Legislature.

ALLOWANCES.

Hon. Mr. THORNTON, from a Committee appointed to prepare an Address to His Excellency on the Subject of certain allowances to the Post Master at Georgetown and Angus Macdonald, of East Point, late a Preventive officer, reported the following Address which was agreed to by the House:

To His Excellency Sir Alexander Bannerman, Knight, Lieut. Governor, &c., &c., &c.

May it please your Excellency;

The House of Assembly, in the Report on the Post Office Department, which was presented to Your Excellency, recommend that an additional Sum of Five Pounds be paid to the Post Master at Georgetown. And the House also while in Committee of the whole on the Petition of Angus Macdonald, of East Point, late a Preventive Officer, agreed to allow him the sum of £7 10s. 7d. the amount of Costs incurred by him in prosecuting certain parties for an alleged breach of the Revenue Act of 1851. Both these amounts were not provided for in Committee of Supply; and, therefore the House of Assembly respectfully request your Excellency in Council to direct the payments to be made, and the House will provide for the same in its next Session.

Report on the subject of the Crown Lands and Crown Fishery Reserves.

Note.—With reference to the Report of the Special Committee on this subject, as adopted by the House Saturday the 8th. instant, and published in *Hassard's Gazette*, No. 24, the Reporter, at the request of MR. CLARK, takes this opportunity to state that, when MR. Clark signed the Report, it contained a recommendation "that reasonable compensation should be made, for the sacrifices which tenants '*and small free holders*' would be called upon to endure, when required to give up, for fishing purposes, any parts of the *Reserves* in their occupation or possession;" but, that the words "*and small freeholders*" which had been inserted in the Report, at the suggestion of MR. CLARK, were struck out when the Report was under consideration on a Committee of the whole House; and, consequently, the Report, *in this particular*, is not as MR. CLARK signed it. The hon. member also wishes it to be further stated, that he was accidentally absent, at the time the division on the Report took place, or he would have voted against its being adopted by the House, as amended in Committee.

R. B. IRVING, Reporter.

SCRAPS OF NEWS.

The Collins' steamer *Arctic* arrived at New York on 5th April, with Liverpool dates to the 23 ult.

A letter from M. Bucos, the French Minister of Marine, in reply to one addressed to him by Mr. Ewart, M. P., is published in the English papers. It gives assurances of the most pacific intentions of the French Government, and considers that any serious misunderstanding between the two nations would be one of the geatest misfortunes.

A fire took place on the 19th ultimo, in the Prince of Wales' Tower, in Windsor Castle.—Several rooms in the occupation of the Royal family were badly burned, and at one time the whole edifice was in danger of total destruction.

The Canadian House of Assembly has passed a bill increasing the representation in that body from eighty-four to one hundred and twenty-eight members.

WRECK OF THE QUEEN VICTORIA.—We inserted a piece from Wilmer Times last week narrating what the Diver had seen on board of the wreck of the Victoria, We find that he contradicts the statement altogether, we here insert The Diver's Narrative.—ED.]

The operations for the raising of the hull of the ill-fated steam ship Victoria have been suspended for the present. Other appliances beside those employed are to be tried when the tides and weather permit. In reference to some mis-statements in the London journals, the diver, W. Campbell, who was employed on the vessel, says that "the writer must have fancied the thing himsef, or was most grossly misinformed of the facts connected with the matter, as in place of my seeing any persons in the cabin with glasses, charts, &c, before them, it was with the utmost difficulty that I could ascertain my whereabouts on my coming in contact with the deck. I went down by a rope with a grapnel attached, which was hooked into a part of the machinery. As soon as I let go, on my feet touching the deck, the tide carried me to the vessel's side, at the afterpart of the paddlebox, and the funnel, which fell over previous, lay at an angle of about 45, one end on the sands, or bottom, and the other on the rail or covering board of the vessel, the water being, as it in fact always is, quite thick or muddy in the race of the tide of Howth. I could not see anything; it was on feeling I could ascertain that I was introduced into the funnel, down which I was about being carried. I caught hold of the edge of it, in my trying to get hold of something to steady myself. The water is about 62 feet deep at low tide. I could not do any good in the way of an inspection, finding the shrouds that held the funnel were already broken (as the chief business that brought me there was to get it clear of the ship's side, to facilitate the