

able to strangle it. The postponement of the measure was not, however, calculated to excite any thing like despondent feeling with respect to it, either on the part of the tenantry or of their friends in the House; and, least of all, could it afford a triumph to those who were opposed to it; for it was not at all surprising that the Home Government and the Parliament fully occupied as they were, during the last session, with the consideration of the awful struggle then going on in India, and the unexampled atrocities which had recently been, and were then still being perpetrated there, should find no leisure to take up and prosecute a measure, which however important to the people of this Colony, could not justly be allowed to interfere with, or interrupt their deliberations upon subjects which might involve the stability of the empire. At that time, measures respecting the vital interests of British Colonies and Dependencies, much larger than that of Prince Edward Island, were, of necessity, overlooked or postponed; that this Colony then shared no better was not at all to be wondered at. But when His Excellency had called the attention of the Legislature to the postponement of the measure, the confirmation of which the people so anxiously looked for, it surely became their representatives to express their regret that it had not been consummated,—a sentiment which he was certain was truly felt by every member of the House who supported that measure two years ago.

Mr. COOPER.—It was very natural indeed that the House should express regret at the postponement of a measure, the passage of which had been supported by so large a majority, and concerning the benefits which it was calculated, if in operation, to confer upon the people, that majority still entertained the same opinion. He had voted for the Bill, because he believed that the general wish of the tenantry was that it should pass and become law, although he himself would have preferred another mode of remedying their grievances, could it have been accomplished. Nearly all with whom he had conversed concerning the postponement of the measure, regretted it; and he could not see how the amendment could be supported by those who had voted for the Bill, and whose views concerning it remained unchanged. Of the cause of the postponement, they had not yet received any official or authentic explanation; and for that they must await the sending down of the Despatch spoken of in the Speech, which they could not receive before their Address, in answer to the Speech, had been delivered to His Excellency.

Mr. T. HEATH HAVILAND.—From the excited manner in which the expression of regret in the original paragraph had been defended by the hon. member, the Queen's Printer, he inferred that it had been penned by him; and, if so, it was not surprising that he should so zealously and energetically insist upon its propriety. He (Mr. H.) however, had voted against the Bill in every stage, and as he certainly did not regret its postponement, and as certainly would not regret its miscarriage, should it ultimately prove an abortion, he would support the amendment. If the people regretted, as hon. members on the other side said they did, the postponement of the Bill and desired the effecting of a loan of £100,000, it seemed to him passing strange that they should have remained silent with respect to it, since the prorogation. Not a single meeting had been called for the purpose of addressing the Legislature concerning it, and for calling upon the representatives of the people to renew their exertions to ensure its confirmation; and yet in King's County and in Prince County, public meetings had been called by the Electors (which meetings they had invited their representatives to attend,) for the purpose of expressing their opinions concerning the Municipalities and Board of Works Bills. He could not, therefore, believe that the people would have remained silent concerning the contemplated loan had they wished it to be effected. The great anxiety for the expression of regret, on the part of the House, for the postponement of the Bill, which was manifested by some hon. members, arose he believed, from their looking forward to the time which was fast approaching, when they would have to go before certain constituencies who desired the measure, to solicit their suffrages, and they thereby sought to propitiate them betimes. That some of the people in certain sections of the Island were in favor of the loan, could not be denied; but it was, at the same time, well known to all, that the intelligence and wealth of the country were opposed to it; because they clearly saw that, if the measure were carried into effect, it would most assuredly cause a tax to be laid upon industry for the benefit of laziness; and also because they were convinced that, should it be effected, the Government would make it a means whereby to rule alone, and firmly to fix their yoke upon the people. Respecting the regret which its postponement had caused, or ought to cause, its desirableness, and the happy results which might be expected from its operation, they had the opinions of certain hon. members, but none occurred therewith from the people.

Hon. COL. SECRETARY.—When the people knew that the Bill had passed their own Legislature, what necessity could there be for their urging their representatives concerning it? That they were satisfied with what their representatives had done in furtherance of the measure, and were patiently, although anxiously, awaiting the decision of the Imperial Parliament concerning the proposed loan, was patent to all; for, if they had changed their minds concerning it, they would, doubtless, have called upon their representatives to retrace their steps, and arrest the measure, if possible, before it should be confirmed by the action of the Imperial Parliament. And, altho' it was boldly asserted by some that the measure, if carried into effect, would lead to the imposing of a tax upon industry for the benefit of laziness, or, in other words, that the freeholders would be taxed that the tenants might be enabled to convert their leaseholds into freeholds, no public meetings had been called for the annunciation of such opinion. The reason of that, no doubt was that they who, either covertly or openly, endeavored to propagate that opinion, generally very well knew themselves how untenable it was, and dreaded public discussion concerning it. As for the Worrell Estate it was doing much better than the most sanguine promoters of the scheme had ever anticipated it would. More had already been sold than would pay for the whole, and 45,000 acres were left on hand. Twenty per cent. had been paid down, and the land sold was security for the payment of the remainder. [Mr. T. H. Haviland.—You dare not enforce it.] The purchasers would willingly give 20 per cent. more for their farms sooner than lose them. They had ten years in which to pay the purchase moneys by fixed regular instalments; and in general, there remained due only £20 or £30 upon 100 acres; and he was certain they would strain every nerve to pay the remaining instalments as they became due. Attempts, he believed, had been made to persuade them not to pay; but they had been made in vain. Such attempts had doubtless been made with an intention to defeat the government measure for the purchase of lands, with a view to the ultimate benefit of the proprietors and their agents; but there was a rod in pickle for those gentry, of which they little dreamt. He wished his friend Mr. Davies was at hand that he might assist him in showing the amount of Quit Rent arrears which they would yet be imperatively called upon to pay. When the Land Assessment Act was passed in 1848, the proprietary faction, having the power, were cunning enough to condition that the Crown should forego its claim to Quit Rents during the continuance of the Act, which was to be for fifteen years. Till the expiration of that period they would be quite safe on that score, but no longer; for they would then find themselves called upon to pay all arrears of Quit Rent. A Despatch of Lord Goderich to Governor Young dated 27th Jan. 1833, says expressly that "the claim to Quit Rents will revive retroactively and prospectively, at the termination of the existing agreement" (that is the agreement embodied in the Provincial Statute 11 Geo. 4, cap. 17.) The conditions established by that Despatch to enable the Proprietors to redeem the Quit Rents are these: "During the first two years, after the expiration of the five years, for which the claim to Quit Rents has been suspended, the Quit Rents shall be redeemable at fifteen years' purchase; at all subsequent periods, they shall be redeemable at twenty years' purchase." The Hon. gentleman further read from the Despatch, "Having established these conditions, I think that the punctual payment of all unredeemed Quit Rents ought to be rigorously exacted." "The common complaint respecting Prince Edward Island is, that the soil is owned by persons who are disposed to leave large tracts of land unimproved, in the expectation that the value of them will ultimately be raised by the exertions of those colonists who cultivate other and neighbouring lands." "I must observe, that the

land arising from the regular collection of Quit Rents will be appropriated solely to objects connected with the Colony. The support of the Civil Government will, probably, be the most proper service in aid of which to expend the fund." To that end, observed the Hon. gentleman the arrears of Quit Rents, and all future Quit Rents which should become due after the expiration of the present Land Assessment Act, would be appropriated, and to that end they were expressly resigned by Her Majesty to the Colony, in the Civil List Act. The late Mr. George R. Young, whom, in the year 1838, the Proprietors employed as their Solicitor and Counsel, did not advocate their wishes with respect to the payment of Quit Rents, urged upon the Home Government, at that time, in their behalf, that the payment of the Land Tax imposed upon them ought to be regarded as an equivalent for the Quit Rents in arrear, as well as accruing Quit Rents; but, in reply, he was told that the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury were of quite a contrary opinion; and so his advocacy of the wishes of the Proprietors ended in a rejection of them and a denial of their justice so far as the arrears went; and as the propriety of that decision had never since been questioned, or any attempt made, on behalf of the Proprietors, to set it aside, the matter as between the Proprietors and the Government of this Colony at the present time stood exactly as it did at that time between them and the Crown; and they might rely upon it that at the expiration of the present Land Assessment Act, they would find themselves imperatively called upon to pay all their Quit Rent arrears: for by the Law the arrears, as well as the accruing rent, were recoverable at the day. The local government was, and had been, for a long time, virulently assailed, because, forsooth, they were opposed to establishment of a Court of Escheat, or Court of Enquiry, as the opposition, for reasons of their own, chose to denominate it. But what did Lord Goderich, in the Despatch from which he had already read, significantly, say with reference to a measure of Escheat? It was this: "The objections which I entertain to a forfeiture of Lands under a breach of the condition requiring them to be settled with a certain number of occupants, would by no means apply to a forfeiture of them for non-payment of Quit Rents. It appears to me clearly for the interest of the Colony, that the rights of His Majesty on this latter point should be enforced with vigour." Thus it appeared that altho' Lord Goderich, in perfect accordance with the sentiments of the Home Government on the question of Escheat, both before and since his official career, did not consider that the Lands of this Colony were liable to Escheat on account of non-settlement; yet he thought quite the reverse with respect to non-payment of Quit Rents; and further declared that it appeared to him to be clearly for the interest of the Colony "that the rights of His Majesty on this latter point," now the rights of the Government of this Colony, "should be enforced with rigour." For a period of eight years, during which he had zealously endeavored to settle this much vexed question, upon principles of justice and equity, he had been exposed to the rancorous hostility of the proprietary faction and their friends, who, not satisfied with throwing every obstacle in his way which, perhaps legitimately, they could put in operation, had also assailed him, in the most unjustifiable manner, by ascribing to him the most selfish and sinister designs, and even accusing him of the most improbable—he might say impossible—collusion with the proprietors. Escheat he had openly, honestly, and steadfastly opposed, chiefly, if not altogether, because he believed it to be unattainable—impossible. Taking a dishonest advantage of the opinions entertained, and openly declared, on that head, by his political friends and himself, the opposition—the proprietary faction—had raised a deceitful cry for the establishment of a Court of Enquiry. He said *deceitfully*: for could it be, for one moment supposed that the opposition—composed of proprietors, proprietors' agents, and their friends—would should they attain the ascendant, introduce and honestly support a measure for the establishment of a Court of Enquiry; and even should such a Court be established under their auspices and government, what sort of enquiries or decisions respecting the non-fulfilment of conditions involving a forfeiture of Lands, could be expected to be made or to proceed from such a Court, when composed of such members as Messrs. Douse, Yeo, & Co.? The last decision made by the Home Government concerning the Quit Rents, dated from "Treasury Chambers, 23rd July, 1838," is this:

"The Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, having had under their consideration the representation from Mr. Young, on behalf of proprietors of Lands, subject to Quit Rent in Prince Edward Island, I am commanded by their Lordships to request you will acquaint Lord Glenelg, that they have not seen any sufficient grounds for altering the views in regard to the terms on which those rents are redeemable, which were stated in the letter from this Board, of the 19th March last, or for assenting to Mr. Young's proposition—the adoption of which, it appears to their Lordships, would operate as a premium to the proprietors, at the expense of the Provincial Revenues, to defer the redemption of their Rents to the close of their respective periods specified in the Earl of Ripon's Despatch of the 27th January, 1833, instead of holding out an inducement to effect the same without delay."

Signed A. Y. SPEARMAN.
JAMES STEPHEN, Esq.
The hon. gentleman then continued: The Act for enforcing in future a due and regular payment of the Quit Rents, which passed the Legislature of this Colony, in the year 1802, and which, it appeared by Governor Smith's Proclamation of 3rd February, 1818, received the Royal Allowance, enacted in the first place, that the Receiver General might enter upon any Lots or parts or shares of Lots and distrain, and sell, for Quit Rents in arrear and unpaid for more than one year; and with respect to proprietors resident in Great Britain and Ireland, they were allowed six months before the expiration of which to make payment in London of all Quit Rents due by them, otherwise their Lands would be liable to be proceeded against as by the Act directed. In defiance of the provisions of this Act, the proprietors allowed the Quit Rents to go on in arrear; and in like manner, they neglected and refused to comply with indulgent conditions offered to them, with respect to those Quit Rents, by the Despatch of Lord Goderich, in 1832, saying that it would be better for them to put out their money at interest, than to pay it in commutation, for the interest would pay the Rents. When Mr. Davies took up the equity concerning the amount of Quit Rent Arrears remaining due and unpaid, he estimated the amount at about £200,000; so large an amount as that might not be due; but it was quite certain that thousands were so; for Mr. Davies, in 1852, by his advice, took the steps necessary to ascertain what amount of Quit Rents, if any, had been paid, since the passing of the Act of 1802, for the enforcing in future of a due and regular payment of the Quit Rents; and the answer to his enquiries on the subject were, that nothing whatever had been paid by the Proprietors, on account of Quit Rents, since the passing of that Act. The obstinacy and folly of the proprietors which dictated their refusal either directly and regularly to pay the Quit Rents, or to comply with the easy and indulgent commutation conditions, proposed to them, had long been manifest to him; and, ere long he believed, it would, to their regret and sorrow, be fully manifest to themselves; for he faithfully promised them, that, at the expiration of the present Land Assessment Act, he would, if he lived, use every endeavour which it might be in his power to make, to compel them to pay, the arrears of Quit Rents, and they might depend upon it that, at that time, either through his exertions or those of others, similarly and equally determined with himself, they would be compelled to pay the arrears even to the uttermost farthing.

Mr. H. HAVILAND.—He could not but admire the pluck and confidence of the Hon. Colonial Secretary, and his determination respecting an event which would not occur before the year 1853.

Hon. Mr. WHELAN.—He had already spoken, and therefore would not trouble the Committee with much in addition to what he had already said; but he felt he would be justified in replying to some observations directed against him by the hon. and learned member for Georgetown. He (Hon. Mr. W.) was sorry that his hon. friend on his left (Hon. Col. Sec.) should have anticipated him so far as to have expended, not only one shot, but every shot in the locker. He should still, however, have some remarks to offer himself. The Hon. the Col. Secretary had, perhaps, spoken at greater length than the question before the Committee, might, on a first consideration, seem to warrant; but, on second thought, it would appear that all he had said had been called forth by the opposition. The proprietary class and their friends had declared the Land Purchase Bill to be a failure, and now pretended to desire the establishment of a Court of Enquiry. This, from the first, they had done, and still continued to do, most deceptively, for no other purpose than the creation of political capital. Little success, if any, however, had attended their hypocritical endeavours in that line. The people well knew,

that, were they in earnest to advocate the establishment of such a Court—a Court which, if duly constituted, might, in the exercise of sound judgment and unwavering integrity, pronounce the forfeiture of many of their estates—they would, by so doing, give the lie to all their former practice and professions; and, therefore, erroneous as their practice, and false as their professions had been, the people could not believe that, from having become, either more enlightened or more conscientious, they would ever honestly seek to establish such a Court; and, almost with one consent, they refused to be cajoled and inveigled by them. In fact, if the party who now pretended to desire the establishment of a Court of Enquiry, as they facetiously styled it, should come to have the majority in the Assembly, they would be the foremost and the most determined in opposition to the establishment of such a Court. In that case, it would immediately be found that, although, whilst endeavouring to win golden opinions among the electors, they had kept the word of promise to the ear, they had no sooner obtained the object of their long disappointed ambition, the reins of the government, than they were prepared to break it to the hope. They knew that the Home Government were opposed to the establishment of any Court, either of Enquiry or of Escheat; and that, therefore, they would be well prepared, were they in power to evade, seemingly on that account alone, the passing of a measure which they had never, for one moment, entertained a purpose to carry. He had freely stated his opinions upon this subject, at different times, at public meetings of his constituents; and told them that should such a measure ever be brought forward in the Assembly, whilst he had a seat in it, it should have his hearty support; and he now promised the minority, that should they ever become the majority and introduce such a measure, and he, at the same time, be a member of the House, he would cheerfully give them his vote in its behalf; but will he know that, if it came to an issue, they would be the first to oppose it. The hon. and learned member for Georgetown had thought proper to tax him with having spoken with undue warmth and excitement. He was quite willing to plead guilty in some measure to the charge. He had certainly spoken earnestly and warmly, perhaps even with some degree of excitement in support of the original paragraph; and as one of the Committee who had prepared the draft Address, it was quite natural he should do so; and he could, he believed, safely put it to the honor, the honesty, the candour of the hon. and learned member, whether he, himself, if similarly situated, would not have done the same. The hon. and learned member had said, it was strange that the people should remain silent upon the subject, if they desired to see the Loan Bill become law, and, in support of his assertions, he had alluded to the public meetings which the people had held, in different sections of the Island, to give expression to their sentiments concerning the Municipal Corporations and the Board of Works Bills. But he begged leave to tell the hon. and learned member that no analogy between the consideration of the Loan Bill, and the consideration of the other two measures, could be established; and the reason that there could not, was that the Municipal Corporations and Board of Works Bills were not law. Those two Bills had been introduced, and carried through the House, in order that, in due legislative form, they might be submitted to the opinion and judgment of the people. The people's having held public meetings to consider and ascertain what might appear to them to be the merits or demerits of those Bills, and pass judgment upon them accordingly, was nothing more than the majority of the House had desired and expected they would do. The Loan Bill, on the contrary, was not referred to public opinion; the framers, the promoters of it, the majority of the House, knew that such reference was needless, being well assured that it was in accordance with the views and wishes of a vast majority of the country. And that such assurance was well founded was made quite evident by the silence of the people concerning it. "Silence gives consent," was an old adage, perhaps not always justly applied, but most assuredly so with respect to the silence of the people concerning that Bill; for it was certainly tantamount to an expression of satisfaction not only with the Bill, but with the Government. The hon. and learned member for Charlottetown had said, that if the country were polled for the purpose of ascertaining the opinions of the people concerning it, there would be seventy against it out of every hundred. If such were the sentiments of the people generally concerning it, petitions from every quarter of the Island would have been sent up to the Legislature against it; but it was notorious that there was not one against it. It was not surprising that the expression of regret should be opposed by those who had opposed the Bill, and who had generally opposed every measure which had had for its object the enfranchising and elevation of the people. Neither, on the contrary, was it surprising that they who had supported the Bill—they who had uniformly advocated the adoption of every measure for enlarging the sphere of popular freedom and happiness—they who desired the purchase of the proprietary lands by the Government, with a view to the abolishment of the feudal system and the bondage worse than Russian serfdom, in which the tenantry were held—yes, neither, on the contrary, he said was it surprising that they—men who knew that the real prosperity and happiness of a country did not consist in the advantages enjoyed by a few, but in the universality of those enjoyments, and that contentedness which should ever be the reward of honest perseverance and industry—should feel sincere regret, and desire to express their regret at the postponement of a measure which they believed would, in all probability, if carried into operation, bring about such a state of things in this country. How reasonable it was to entertain such an expectation, was clearly proved by the present condition of some of his own constituents upon the Worrell Estate, now that, under the operation of the Land Purchase Bill, they had become freeholders, as compared with their former condition thereon. When tenants—no, not even tenants—they had scarcely a local habitation or a name—but now they have independent homesteads, and the improvements which they have made around them, give satisfactory evidence that they are rapidly advancing on the way to prosperity. And such, before this time, would have been the condition of many more, who were still in the galling state of tenant vassals, had free scope been wisely given to the measures desired for their relief. In consequence of these measures, however, lands still in proprietary possession, for which 40s. were formerly asked, were now being offered for 30s. and 25s. an acre. The reduction was considerable; but the price still was very much above that which the Government had been able to fix upon the lands which they had purchased for the benefit of the people, which was from 7s. 6d. to 12s. 6d. an acre; and, at that price, Sir Hunt Walsh and the Worrell Estate had been sold to the settlers thereon, who had, by that means, been converted, from discontented tenants, into prosperous and contented freeholders. The Loan Bill having been, as he had said before, introduced and passed at the instance of the people, it was surely the duty of their representatives, the majority of the House, who had carried the measure, to express their regret at its postponement, on having that postponement brought immediately under their notice as it was by the Speech.

Mr. DINGWELL.—Were he to follow the example of some of the hon. members who had spoken before him, he would have to travel over a much more extensive field of remark, than he felt at all disposed to review. With one exception, therefore, he would confine himself to the paragraph immediately under consideration. The exception was to the objections made to the use of the word "abundant," applied to the late harvest, in the paragraph of which they had just disposed. He had indeed been surprised at the very earnest, the very eager manner, in which some hon. members objected to that word—members who, he almost thought, were disposed to disregard and altogether set aside the evidence of their own senses, when that evidence, if admitted, would be likely to thwart them in the opposition course which they were determined, right or wrong, to pursue. That the harvest had been abundant, most of them knew from their own personal observation; and, besides, the moderate prices of provisions of all kinds, and the very large exports of grain and other agricultural produce which were made in the fall, left none who were willing to take a candid view of the question, any room to doubt it. With respect to the expression of regret for the postponement of the Loan Bill, contained in the paragraph then immediately under consideration, that expression was, he believed, justly called for. Every member of that House who supported that Bill, did so, he believed, from a thorough conviction that, should it become law, it would afford the friends of the tenantry, whose province it would be to carry it into operation, a certain means of conferring upon them great and lasting advantages. Was it not then right, was it not natural for them, to feel and express their regret that any untoward circumstances should have occurred to prevent, for a season, its receiving the sanction of the Imperial Parliament and the Royal allowance? It was so; and, with that conviction, he would vote for the original paragraph.

Mr. YEO, in very strong language, denounced both the Land Purchase and the Loan Bill. The object of the scheme, as propounded by its concoctors and their friends, was the relief of the oppressed tenantry, as they called them, and wonderfully, they were told, would its operation, in a very short time, improve the condition of the people, and accelerate the growth of the Island's prosperity. Such was the language used, such were the promises made, by the members of the government and their party. Their motives, their intentions, according to their own showing, were the most pure, honorable, and patriotic. But in all they boasted of, in all the merit they claimed, they were no better than a set of mountebanks, blowing their own trumpet. The benefits which might result from the operation of their scheme would be limited to a small number indeed, it might fill their own pockets and wallets, but it would not benefit the country at large. The Hon. the Treasurer and the Hon. the Queen's Printer had, doubtless, very substantial reasons to be satisfied with the working of the grand scheme; but the case would be the very reverse, not only with the small land owners throughout the Colony, but with many—of the majority—of those whom they were told it would at once, almost miraculously, raise from a state of poverty, to one of wealth and independence. The money which had been expended by the government, in the purchase of proprietary lands, particularly the £1700 paid for Lot 11, would never be repaid by the settlers thereon, now styled freeholders. Than the people resident upon Lot 61, a portion of the Selkirk Estate, a poorer set could scarcely be found anywhere. How could they rationally be expected to pay for their farms, when it was well known they could scarcely pay for any thing, not even for the most common necessities. As for the people of Bellast, he certainly knew them and their condition more by repute, than by any intercourse or dealings which he had had with them, but he believed they were as little able to pay for their farms as any class of tenantry on the Island; and if the government should ultimately succeed in purchasing the Selkirk Estate, and in selling it to the tenantry, the purchase money, he ventured to predict, would never be paid, unless it were made good by means of taxation; in which case the small freeholders would most unjustly have to bear a burthen imposed upon them wholly for the benefit of others, and they, generally speaking, the most undeserving portion of the farming population. Had Lot 11 been allowed to remain in the hands of its late proprietor, it might have been so managed as at once to benefit the agent, his children, and the whole country around; but now, given up, abandoned as it was to the management of improvident men, men greatly deficient both in skill and industry, the result would be, not only loss to the country, but embarrassment and misery to those very men and their families themselves. If, concluded the hon. member, we represent the country, let us do it honestly, and give up the prosecution of all such nefarious schemes as the Loan Bill.

Mr. J. C. POPE.—Although a new member he could not give a silent vote on the paragraph then before the Committee, relating as it did to an Act which affected the vital interests of the Colony. He was one of those who did say and believe that the Loan Bill was a very bad one; and that, if it were to go into effect to the full extent contemplated by its supporters, it would involve the country in debt and ruin. The experience of the past was the only guarantee for the future. Last year, a majority of the House voted for that Bill, but they were told, by its immediate supporters, that it would be self-sustaining; and that even the Worrell Estate would pay; but a year's experience had proved that such was not the case; for that Estate had not paid even the working expenses and interest. [Where are your proofs? from several members of the ministerial side of the House.] He was aware that when the Land Accounts should be laid before the House there would appear a small balance of something like £415, in favor of the Estate; but those accounts were untrue so far as therein appeared in them about £380 received from Crown Lands which had no business there. Add to that the interest of £3000, which the Government acknowledged to be due to the sellers of that Estate and it would shew a balance of about £115 against the Estate. The Colonial Secretary and Queen's Printer had made themselves very busy, at the time of his election, in the Electoral District which he represented, where they had right to interfere. [Hon. E. Whelan. They had done no more than they might perhaps do again.] Well all he could say, that one should be again wish to have a seat in the House of Assembly, he should like nothing better than the opposition of the Queen's Printer, the Colonial Secretary, and the supporters of the Government; for it would effectually secure his return without any effort on his part. The very fact of his then having a seat in the House proved that, and that the people of the District which he represented were opposed to the Bill. The Committee were told, by the Colonial Secretary, that, on the expiration of the Land Tax Act, which would not be until the year 1863, he would enforce from the Proprietors arrears of Quit Rent amounting to £200,000. But how did he know where he would be at that time? His (Mr. Pope's) own opinion was that, unless he altered his course, he would be riding in "the political death-horse" spoken of, by an Hon. member in the other end of the building, some time since. The Queen's Printer had asked, who would benefit by the Land Purchase Bill? Why he (Mr. P.) would reply, the Queen's Printer himself and his friends; and, so long as they represented the Districts where the lands had been purchased by the Government, so long would they be afraid to enforce the payment of the purchase money; knowing right well that, if they did, they would be turned out. He would support the amendment.

Hon. Mr. MOONEY.—He never dreamt anything else. [A laugh.] He was delighted that he could congratulate the hon. member upon the bold, unflinching manner in which he had come out in his maiden speech. He had given undeniable proof of his courage in at once taking the ball by the horns—he had grappled with the public accounts, and threatened the country with ruin if the Loan Bill should become law. He seemed to be imbued with a spirit of the same character as that of the hon. member from Port Hill, Mr. Yeo. He (Mr. Mooney) well remembered that in 1847, at the time he was but a young member, his being started by Mr. Yeo's reiterated declaration, "It will ruin the country—it will ruin the country," and so deep was the impression made upon him by that declaration, that it had rung in his ears occasionally ever since; and when the frogs commenced their croaking in spring, he fancied they croaked nothing but "ruin the country—ruin the country." The Loan Bill was introduced at the close of two Sessions; but when it passed, it doubtless passed in accordance with the wishes of the great majority of the people. He had talked with many persons in the country concerning it; but he had never met with any man who told him that its operation would be ruinous to the country. If the young member had a wish to dictate and lecture, he was in the wrong place for indulging his humor. Men soon found their proper level on the floor of the Assembly. He might perhaps dominate to his heart's content in a ship-yard; but in the Assembly he would find that all were equal—that Jack was as good as his master. A little experience in the House would teach him that legislating was a very different trade from ship-building; and if not pleased with it, he might then go back to the ship-yard. [Mr. Pope. And you to the mill. Hon. R. Mooney. Ay, and you to the tar-pot.]

Mr. PERRY.—Hon. members, he thought, had gone strangely astray. They had lost sight, almost entirely, both of the original paragraph and of the amendment. The question under the consideration of the Committee, or rather that which ought to be under their consideration, was simply, Should the Committee be justified, or should they not, in retaining in the Address the expression of regret at the postponement of the Loan Bill? The amendment, he thought, did not greatly differ from the original paragraph; but he could not support it, especially as they who did so wished it to be understood, and to go forth to the public, that their idea of the measure was, that, should it become law its operation would be ruinous to the country. He entertained a very different opinion concerning it, and so did the people in his part of the country; he would, therefore, support the original paragraph.

Hon. Mr. PALMER.—He had observed that the party of which the Hon. the Colonial Secretary was the leader, when the dissolution of the House was at hand, always devised some political nest-egg, which, in the shape of some scheme or measure, was to be effected or brought forward for the benefit of the country, when a new House should be elected. A few evenings ago, he happened to be in company, when the conversation took a political turn, and the prospects of the present Government and their friends, having come under consideration, a question was started as to what would probably be their next nest-egg at the approaching crisis of a new-election. There was an end, it was said of any hopes of popularity to be derived from the Municipal Corporations and the Board of Works Bills; for these Bills, instead of mortgaging the favor among the people, had greatly damaged it; and, as for the Loan Bill, it was likely to prove anything but a means whereby they might secure to themselves a continuance of their power. It was therefore concluded that no feasible project could be proposed by them, in their present damaged position, to serve them as a nest-egg. The announcement which the Hon. Colonial Secretary had just made of his views and intentions concerning Quit Rent Arrears, to be carried into effect by a party year 1863, was a clear proof of the straits to which he and his party were driven. He had given the House to understand that, if the Loan Bill should not become law, he had a rod in pickle for the backs of the proprietors with which he would salt them for all the days of their lives; and, by means of which, all who could not be provided with free lands through a Loan, would be fully compensated. But, seriously, he meant to say that the exaction of the Quit Rent Arrears would be enacted, the people? Supposing that the Quit Rent Arrears could be carried forward in the shape of a loan, would it be a means of relief, or a means of rather difficult of solution would arise. The first was, Who would have to pay them? and the second would be, For whose benefit were they to be enacted and paid? There was something so truly preposterous in the proposition, as almost irresistibly to provoke ridicule and contempt. He was sorry that a certain individual formerly a member of the