

Hon. Mr. WHELAN said the Government were applying the pruning knife in the wrong direction. Their reductions were out of all proportion. That of the Road service was now only £3000, instead of nearly £7000 for the past year, and the saving on the official salaries only amounted to £500. This was the whole amount of their saving, after their magnificent promises of economy. (Hon. Mr. Haviland—not all.) Well they did not know what would be the amount of the saving. They had heard no budget. There was no official scheme proposed. It was expected that when the gentlemen who formed Her Majesty's Government in this Colony should get into power, that there would be very great prosperity—that warrants would not sell at a large discount—that the credit of the Colony would be placed upon a firm basis; but it was not the first time that warrants were discounted. Such had happened before and might occur again. They did not know but ship-building might again prove ruinous to those engaged in it—that merchants might experience commercial embarrassments, and a monetary panic might involve the whole community in very great distress. He hoped they would be spared such calamities, and that future prosperity may be the lot of the Colony. But it had been said that Assistants in the public offices were unnecessary—that the principals should do the duties. They had said £300 was sufficient for those situations then why add, or sauggle in £50.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND—There was none so blind as those who would not see. The Hon. Mr. Whelan cannot see the difference in the expense of the Crown Land Office, which was £550, and now £250. They would also save a little more. The Queen's Printing last year cost £900, they had proposed only £600 this year. If the Hon. Mr. Wightman had, during his term of office, for the last eight years saved these sums—£500 upon the public salaries, and £300 upon the Queen's Printing—a saving of more than £6000 would have been effected, and the country would be at present relieved from that amount of debt. He remembered the promises held out to the country—the prosperity which would ensue—that grass would be made to grow where there was nothing but marsh—that Treasury Warrants would not be at a discount. But it was highly creditable after all to find that the old Government of the country, after a reign of 70 years, were only £20,000 in debt, and this building was part of that amount. They had been often told of the prosperity of the country—the blessing of free trade under the late Government. They deserved no thanks for either. They had to thank the bounty of a kind Providence for the one in the abundance of crops, and Duncan McLean for the other, and not this Responsible Government of which they had heard so much. When the late Government were in the receipt of between forty-eight and fifty thousand pounds, they boasted that they had cleared off the debt of the Colony. But what a shame on the part of the late Government to have in four years run the country into £40,000 debt.

Hon. Mr. WHELAN denied that the debt was £40,000. Hon. Mr. COLES had shown clearly that such was not the case, and the Hon. Mr. Haviland need not attempt to throw dust in their eyes, by stating that this building was raised out of the £20,000. (Hon. Mr. Haviland—it is a fact.) The hon. gentleman might tell them the moon was made of green cheese, and that the room in which they sat was dark as midnight. This building was raised by a special Land Tax. See the charge for Light Houses; they had none then, now they are all over the Island. The hon. gentleman says there will be also a great saving in the Queen's Printing—that £600 will suffice instead of £900. It is proposed to do so, but the placing of a figure in the estimates don't prove that it will be done for that amount. The amount was uncertain. Some years it was more—some less; but till he saw a Bill which confined it to the amount stated, he would not believe it.

Hon. Mr. YEZ said it was no wonder that the country had been run into debt. Warrants had been paid for work that was never done. Political agents had been employed, and travelled over the country for electioneering purposes, and they received large amounts of the public money. J. Dohant had been so employed for more than three months in this capacity.

Hon. Col. GRAY repudiated the idea of paying idle, lazy drones large sums of money, while their deputies had to perform the duties. These gentlemen were like a man who married a rich widow, who hung his hat upon a peg, and lived in ease and idleness. The deputies have been done away with, but £50 were added to the principals' salaries to enable them to pay for Assistants if they thought fit to employ them, and he felt certain that the country would feel satisfied at the arrangement. The Queen's Printer had been paid a thousand pounds. He did not see how the people could object, if it were equally well done for almost half that amount. When he looked at the extravagance of the late Government in every department, he wondered how the country suffered them to remain so long in office. Look at the expenditure for Government House for the last four years. £4,388 were expended upon it, and he was lately informed by His Excellency the Governor that it was uninhabitable, and totally unsuited for the new Governor. The Hon. Mr. Whelan wanted to reduce the salaries of the public officers who perform the labour, but he never thought of reducing the extravagant outlay upon Government House, a system of political jobbing which raised the rental in money to £800 per annum; and after this immense outlay the Governor declared it uninhabitable. The expenditure was shameful. Many of the British nobility lived in houses which cost only £200 per annum. This is what run the country in debt. Are the Government, he asked, not entitled to get credit for the reductions which they have already made, and for having filled up the public situations with competent persons? What was the state of the Land Office, and how was it managed? The Officer in that department used to walk in there, and hang up his cocked hat—for the gentleman wore one—and that was the whole amount of his duty, while more than 70 deeds were lying in a state of confusion.

Hon. Mr. WHELAN could not understand the Hon. Col. Gray. He wanted to do away with the deputies, and still he was willing to add £50 to the salary of the officials, to enable them to employ assistants. The hon. and gallant Colonel dwelt at great length upon the extravagant outlay connected with the repairs of Government House. It was not a new thing for that expenditure to be considered extravagant. He thought its construction originally defective. It was a mere job in its erection. Sir Henry Huntley had converted its saloon into stables. It was unsuited for the residence of a gentleman. It was wrong, however, to say that the amount expended on Government House, for the last four years, was employed in the construction of buildings. A very large portion was for the purchase of furniture, carpets and expensive gas fittings.

Hon. Col. GRAY would carpet the domain with the amount. He knew what house-keeping was,—he had kept house both at home and abroad. The poor people of this country are not able to fit up a residence in such an expensive style as might accommodate a prince of the blood royal.

Hon. Mr. PALMER said, the discussion had arisen from the items of reduction in the estimates of the present compared with that of other years. The Government had made no lavish boast of the reduction. One member of the Government showed that the reduction amounted, in all the public offices, to £500. The road service has been reduced very materially. A certain amount is asked for repairs of Government House. It was not meant to say that no amount should be given; the house was built by the Colony, and it would be a breach of promise with the home Government not to keep it in efficient repair. He did not feel surprised that the large expenditure struck his hon. friend, Col. Gray, with so much surprise. It was the misfortune of the Colony that they were called upon, year after year, to vote away large sums of money for alterations upon Government House, and for the purpose of paying political agents. The majority were now endeavouring to remedy those evils; they did not refuse to afford the necessary amount for repairs, but they hoped they would not be so expensive in future as they had been formerly. He would not say that a small sum, granted from year to year, was not necessary, but retrenchment must be carried out in every department of the public service. It was only by such means that the finances of the country could be placed upon a secure foundation. The present Government had pledged themselves to this policy, and they would endeavour to carry it out.

Hon. Mr. WHELAN thought the statement of the Hon. Mr. Palmer highly creditable to him—that the amount for roads and bridges was very small. The country would think so too. The people would rather pay the interest of a larger amount, and enjoy the advantages of the outlay, than effect a saving of £500 in the public salaries. It was very remarkable that the gentlemen now in power when in opposition never complained of the expenditure in the service of roads and bridges.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND said, such was not the fact; he had

heard the Hon. Mr. Palmer always complain of the outlay upon roads and bridges, and denounce it as a job.

Hon. Mr. WHELAN continued, he would not bandy words with the Hon. Col. Gray. He was, no doubt, acquainted with the expenses of house-keeping in this, and the other side of the Atlantic,—in civilized and uncivilized countries—in huts and castles. The hon. gentleman had had more experience in those matters than he could pretend to; but, notwithstanding all the hon. and gallant Col.'s experience, he would not give the late Government credit for the outlay necessarily incurred in the support and maintenance of a building which had been originally ill-constructed, and which required constant repairs to render it habitable by the representative of Her Majesty in this Colony.

Hon. Col. GRAY had no desire to bandy words—to use his own expression—with the hon. member from St. Peter's; neither had he any pretensions to do so. He had, on the contrary, particular reasons to decline doing so with that gentleman. A great deal had been said about the improvements at Government House; but what was the fact, that the out-buildings were only sufficient to accommodate a very small family. The vast expenditure upon that building must be discontinued—it never should have been permitted. The people were not disposed to submit to fresh taxation to support such monstrous extravagance as had been practised. Should the issuing of paper continue—properly denominated by Mr. Howat as thin plaster, lowering the credit of the Colony, and inflicting innumerable evils upon the people? He had seen a teacher, who travelled 20 miles into town, get his warrant for £25, and had to sell it for £18.

Mr. SINCLAIR gave the Government credit for retrenchment, but he certainly expected a greater reduction. He was glad to hear the member for Tryon and Craupud ask, if the officials were not able to do the work themselves, and dispense with the assistants? They were not in the House now, as formerly—they had only to attend to the duties of their situations. If the Hon. Messrs. Palmer and Haviland held those situations, he should not think the salary too much. The people expected a greater reduction in the public salaries. They were told at the hustings which should be the case; but he felt certain they would feel disappointed.

Hon. Mr. LEWIS gave the last speaker great credit for sincerity. But he was wrong in saying the people were told before the election, that any great saving would be effected in the public salaries. He had never, in canvassing, told the people that one man could do the duties of either the Colonial Secretary or Treasurer's department. And now that the business of the Road Correspondent was to be added to the Col. Secretary's department, who would say that one assistant was not requisite? It was surprising to hear gentlemen on the other side say, that while the present Government were amalgamating situations, and reducing salaries, they were not carrying out a sufficient measure of retrenchment; and that in appropriating £3000 for roads and bridges, instead of nearly £7000, the people will not thank them. He was convinced, however, that the people would feel satisfied at the reduction.

Hon. Mr. YEZ was certain that the people would be very well pleased with the reduction. It was necessary to save; the extravagance of their predecessors rendered it incumbent upon them to do so; they had oppressed the country with taxation, the present Government intended to remove that oppression. Hon. Mr. Whelan, no doubt, felt annoyed that the present Government appropriated so little. The hon. gentleman had good grounds to complain, when the Queen's printing had been reduced from £1000 to £600.

Mr. DAVIES did not wonder to hear the members for King's County attack the Government, and condemn them for not carrying out greater retrenchment in the salaries of the public officers; but he felt surprised to hear Mr. Sinclair indulge in the same line of argument. He knew that no man could do the work of either the Col. Secretary or Treasurer's office, and, therefore, assistants were necessary; and as to Government House, it should be burned, and a suitable building erected. The expenditure upon it had been most extravagant, and he hoped to see it, before four years were expired, pulled down. The resolutions were finally agreed to. Adjourned at 10 o'clock.

Correspondence.

DIS-APPOINTMENTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

Sir,—From the large amount of abuse which the late Government received for having appointed, as was asserted, incompetent persons to fill public offices, it was fully expected that when the Tories undertook the administration of the Government, they would bestow office on none but persons who were capable of fulfilling their duties. But, Mr. Editor, those persons in this section of the community who entertained such expectations were sadly disappointed on finding that our great Tory Reformers had actually, and, as I believe, knowingly, appointed a man wholly destitute of education to fill the responsible office of Road Commissioner for the seventh district of King's County. Now, if the Tories cannot find men better qualified to fill offices, I do not wonder at them granting so small a supply for roads and bridges; for bad as they are, I do not think they would be foolish enough to entrust the expenditure of a large amount of public money to persons so illiterate.

Hoping no more of these wild appointments will give me occasion to write you again,

I remain yours, &c., TYRO. Georgetown, May 6, 1859.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

Sir,—If "Equity" be not the person I mentioned, why does he not write over his proper signature? He can surely have no objection to making himself known, as the champion of injured innocence.

I have no doubt but that a few of the most unprincipled of his political adherents would be base and cringing enough to sign such a document as he mentions; but I would still continue to assert, that there is not one amongst them so unreasonable as to doubt for a moment the guilt of his family, or so utterly abandoned as to regard them with any other feeling than those of secret horror and disgust. A community of feeling and interest will make them silent upon the matter at present; but if he would once dare avow political sentiments different from theirs, they would cast it in his teeth.

Permit me, Sir, to recapitulate briefly the evidence of their guilt, and if "Equity" will show equally strong grounds for suspecting any other family, I will admit that my suspicions may be unfounded; but if he has no better refutation to offer than silly witticisms and personal abuse of me, any further attempt at defence is but a waste of time. 1. No other family in the world entertain such feelings of deadly hostility to me as this family. 2. It is well known that at the time my pigs were poisoned and my window sashes cut to pieces, certain causes existed which made them peculiarly spiteful against me. 3. That theirs was the only house in this neighbourhood in which poisons were kept. 4. That a member of the family, who quarrelled with me some time previously, was seen in my pig-pen, where he had no business. I think it will be shown that this is something more than an "insinuating assertion." 5. That since the publication of my last letter in the Examiner, the glass in every window in the side of my new house that fronts the woods were broken in pieces. Will "Equity" tell us who would be the most likely to commit this outrage at this particular time? On whom can suspicion fasten, if not on the family in question? Will he tell us that it was the "offal of the tannery" that did this? He has already told us that it was this which poisoned the sheep, and any person that is gull enough to swallow the one statement will have no difficulty in swallowing the other. 6. The last, though not the least evidence against them, is, that the head of this family is the only man in this neighbourhood who considers revenge a sacred duty, and who, believing Christianity a farce, and the Bible all a fable, has the least restraint upon his conscience.

"Equity" challenges me to name the family whom I accuse, and thinks that my refusing to do so will satisfy the public of the falseness of my charges. Does he really imagine that he can entrap me by so shallow an artifice? When a person perpetrates a felony he generally does it in such a way as he thinks will escape detection and punishment; but the moral proof of guilt may be strong enough to satisfy any reasonable mind, and yet legal proof be wanting. Such is unfortunately the case here.

In conclusion, Sir, I hope that "Equity" will see that the infamy which attaches to himself and his family is inevitable and eternal; that it is the just recompense of their own malice and crime.

N. J. BROWN.

St. Eleanor's, 25th April, 1859.

FOR THE EXAMINER. EASTERN TEACHERS' INSTITUTE.

The regular meeting of the above Institute for the current month was held at Black Bush School House, Lot 45, on Saturday evening, the 7th inst., when a brief discussion took place on the comparative merits of the normal and general system of teaching. The business of the Institute having been concluded, a highly instructive lecture on modern discoveries, inventions and improvements, and their immense influence in advancing the social, intellectual and physical interests of mankind, was delivered by Mr. Ronald Campbell, Teacher. The learned lecturer urged more particularly the importance of the Press, the Steam Engine, and the Electric Telegraph. In conclusion, the learned lecturer submitted some pertinent remarks on the necessity of a Federal Union of the British North American Provinces, in order to enable us to derive the utmost practical advantages from the discoveries and improvements of which he had treated in the former part of his lecture. Considerable discussion ensued. Before adjourning, a motion was unanimously carried, requesting the lecturer to furnish copies of his lecture for publication to the Examiner and Islander newspapers, to which he kindly assented. The next meeting of the above Institute will be held at Rollo Bay School House, on the evening of Saturday, the 5th of June, when a lecture on "Nova Scotia" will be delivered by the Vice President of the Institute. Other papers please copy.

JOHN CAMPBELL, Secretary.

Bay Fortune, May 10, 1859.

(FOR THE EXAMINER.)

HYPOCHONDRIASIS.

The petitioner, Sir, has no just claim upon this Honourable House. It appears that Mr. O'Neill has kept the unfortunate person referred to, for nine months, which is eight months longer than he ought to have kept him; and if he was a lunatic, he was entitled to have him admitted into the Lunatic Asylum at once. But there is no proof that the man was mad, on the contrary, the testimony of the physicians merely went to show that he was labouring under Hypochondriasis—a complaint, Sir, which may be produced by a disordered stomach, owing to indigestion, or by a contemplation of the sad state of one's affairs; as, for instance, when a person finds that he has spent four hundred pounds a year when he has an income of only two hundred. I am myself, Sir, often subject to Hypochondriasis, but it arises from the melancholy state of feeling produced by the financial ruin of my country. —Col. Gray's Speech on Arthur O'Neill's petition, praying to be reimbursed for boarding and lodging a person of unsound mind.

What is Hypochondriasis? why it is sadness, And nothing akin, says the Colonel, to madness,— Myself, for example—no person can doubt me; Have always my wits and my reason about me; But hypochondriacal fits will come o'er me; Whenever the state of my country's before me— Then I feel she's ruin'd—she's bankrupt and smash'd up— No matter what stories by others are hash'd up. Her resources neglected—her credit decay'd— Her debt so enormous!—who can't be dismay'd? 'Tis then I'm the victim of Hypochondriasis, And not the poor slave of political biases.

Physiologists say when digestion is dull The effect's the same when the moon's at the full Upon persons supposed to be crack'd in the skull,— Then every thing sad to their vision appears, Suggestive of sighs, and incentive to tears— Then the world in its dreariest aspect they see, Whether caused by repetition or hypochondrie— All things have gone wrong, and they only are right Who here stomachs too full on a moon-shiny night. And this is the case with our patriot G * * y— When the moon is at full he is full of dismay; Or the heart-rending state of our country is such It cannot be known 'till he's eaten too much.

The Examiner.

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I., MAY 23, 1859.

CLOSE OF THE SESSION.

THE Provincial Parliament brought its arduous and eminently profitable deliberations to a close on Thursday last, when His Excellency the Lieut. Governor prorogued the two Houses with the following Speech:—

Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

The completion of these measures which were necessary to the maintenance of the public interests, upon which you have been engaged, demands my best acknowledgments, and enables me to release you from further attendance.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

I thank you, in Her Majesty's name, for the Supplies which you have granted for the Public Service.

Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

I must not permit this last opportunity to pass without expressing to you the gratification which I shall ever experience in the recollection of the harmony which has subsisted between the Executive and the other branches of the Legislature during the whole course of my Administration of this Government, to which the uninterrupted tranquillity of the Island, during the same period, may, in a great measure, be reasonably attributed. The performance of the important, and often anxious duties attaching to my station has been facilitated and alleviated by the confidence which you have ever so frankly reposed in the sincerity of my desire to promote the welfare of this community; and, notwithstanding the peculiar evils with which this Colony has had to contend, I have had the satisfaction of witnessing the triumph of its natural resources in its steady though limited improvement.

In bidding you adieu, I fervently trust that the favor of Divine Providence, which has been so signally manifested towards this Island, may ever be continued to it, and conduct its Inhabitants to the condition of prosperity and improvement which is ever attainable by the united and harmonious cultivation of such capabilities as are possessed by Prince Edward Island.—Farewell!

It has been always supposed that the Speech of the Governor, either at the opening or closing of the Legislature, is prepared by, or with the concurrence of the Executive Council. If this be the case in the present instance, we should like to know what authority the Government has had for asserting that "harmony has subsisted between the Executive and the other branches of the Legislature, during the whole

course of His Excellency's administration?" We believe the "harmony" between the majority of the present House and the Executive was all that could be desired, because, to use the Indian phraseology, they were "all same broder"—there being only seven Executive Councillors in the majority to keep 10 or 11 others in check, and all having a like interest in maintaining a tolerably good feeling amongst themselves. But if the Legislative Council is entitled to any consideration at all—and the majority of the lower House seemed to think it is not—the only hypothesis upon which we can account for the alleged good feeling between that branch of the Legislature and the Executive, is to be found in the old adage which reminds us that the oftener you ill use a dog the better it likes you. The public are aware, that, from the commencement to the close of the Session, scarcely a day passed without the most violent abuse having been directed by the majority of the House of Assembly against the majority of the Legislative Council, in their individual as well as collective capacity—and members of the Executive Council being the persons who indulged most frequently in the pastime. The Government had not one solitary representative in the Upper House,—they keenly felt their disadvantage in this respect, and were so incensed that they not only constantly abused leading members of the Council as being incumbrances, mischief-makers, and nuisances, but they most unjustly and cruelly got their minions in the lower House to stop the usual pay of the members of the Upper Branch. And yet we are told how lovingly the several branches of the Legislature had put their shoulders to the wheel to urge on the rickety coach of state! We "take it," however—(a prominent member of the Government will pardon us the use of the expression)—that Sir Dominick himself is the sole author of the speech under consideration—that he was either kept in ignorance of the bickering and contention between the House of Assembly and the Legislative Council, or he was so thoroughly aware of it, that he intended to administer a severe rebuke to his advisers, by ironically reminding them of the good feeling which prevailed where no such feeling had the shadow of an existence. We are inclined to adopt the latter view of the case; and we hope the Executive Council will long remember the castigation thus quietly administered by their master, and learn better manners for the future.

We give below a list of the Bills passed during the Session, and assented to by His Excellency.

- 1. An Act for raising a Revenue.
2. An Act to amend the Acts concerning the property of the Methodist Church in Prince Edward Island.
3. An Act for regulating the size and quality of Fish Barrels and Tierces, and the weight of fish made up therein, and for the appointment of Fish Inspectors; also to regulate the inspection of Pickled Fish for sale within this Island, and to repeal a certain Act therein mentioned.
4. An Act to incorporate the Minister and Trustees of the Free Church Congregation, Bedeque Road.
5. An Act to enable Aliens to hold Real Estate.
6. An Act to continue the Act authorising the appointment of Coal Meters, except in so far as relates to Charlottetown.
7. An Act to amend the Act to enable the Supreme Court of Judicature to give relief against adverse claims made against Sheriffs and other persons having no interest in the subject of such claims.
8. An Act to incorporate the Trustees of the Baptist Church at Bedeque.
9. An Act further to continue an Act regulating Seamen shipped on board of any ship or vessel belonging to Prince Edward Island.
10. An Act further to amend the Act incorporating the Charlottetown Gas Company.
11. An Act to incorporate the Minister and Trustees of the Free Church Congregation at New London.
12. An Act to continue an Act for the better prevention of Smuggling.
13. An Act to continue certain Acts therein mentioned.
14. An Act to extend the jurisdiction of the Police Court in the City of Charlottetown.
15. An Act to amend the Act for the protection of the Herring and Alewives Fisheries in this Island.
16. An Act to amend the Act to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to Statute Labour, and the expenditure of public moneys on the highways.
17. An Act for appropriating certain moneys therein mentioned.

If we except the Revenue and Appropriation Bills, which are passed as a matter of course every session, the above list contains no Government measure.

We shall notice at some length in our next No. those splendid monuments of statesmanship—the seventeen Acts above enumerated.

THE PUBLIC EXPENDITURE

On the first page of our present No. will be found a summary report of the debate in the House of Assembly on the estimates of the public expenditure for the current year, and on the amount of salaries allowed to the Government officials. It has been estimated, and freely admitted by members of the Government, that the gross amount of expenditure for this year will not be much less than that of last year, which was about forty three thousand pounds, and about ten thousand pounds more than the revenue. We have no reason to believe that the public income will be larger this year than it was last year—and notwithstanding all the promises made about economy and retrenchment—notwithstanding, too, the furious outcry raised against the late Government for their alleged improvidence with respect to the expenditure of the people's money, and their increase of the public debt—they have shown a disposition to be less considerate with the use of the public funds than ever their predecessors were. They take mighty credit to themselves for having, as they say, cut down the public salaries to the extent of £500. It is true that in the estimates they have asked for no allowances for the deputies or assistants in some of the principal offices, but they took care to add fifty pounds each to the salaries of the Secretary and Treasurer—to enable those officers to provide for assistants—(such was the reason alleged)—although we have been told repeatedly, for several years past, that deputies were not at all required. But what guarantee have the public, that, independent of the increase to the salaries of the Secretary and Treasurer, their deputies will not be paid as heretofore? The deputies are still in the offices—the only change being the substitution of Mr. Morrison for Mr. Mitchell in the Secretary's office—and the Law, in virtue of which they can be paid £150 a year, each, is still in force. If they wanted to do away with the principle as well as the practice of hiring deputies for the public departments, why did not the present Government repeal the Act authorising the payment of salaries to Assistants? So long as that law remains upon the Statute Book, the Government is not only authorised but required to pay the Deputies as heretofore, and we have no doubt that their full salaries