

governor, with a copy of a Despatch from the Right Honorable Viscount Goderich, His Majesty's principal Secretary for the Colonies, in answer to an address of the House of Assembly of last Session, praying for a repeal of the two permanent Revenue Acts. The Despatch went on to say, that when the Finances of the Colony would be sufficiently able to defray the civil expenditure of the Government thereof, the Viscount Goderich should feel disposed to advise His Majesty to direct the Acts in question to be repealed, provided a permanent provision was made to pay the Civil List, which was the intention of His Majesty's Ministers, when this Island was first made a separate Government.—that at present His Majesty's Ministers were under the necessity of applying to Parliament for an annual Grant to pay for the Government of Prince Edward Island, and that it was under the assurance that the Grant should not be continued until the Island was able to bear the burthen; that he could ask for the Grant, as Parliament considered, (and with much justice in his opinion,) that money ought not to be raised from the people in England for that object. After the Despatch was read, Mr. Owen said he could willingly give "three heers," but as he knew it to be unparliamentary, he would not do it: he said it was the very thing that he long wished for, and now hoped that the House would come to a division on it, that would answer the purpose of an Escheat, and would therefore move that the House should go into Committee on that Message on Thursday next. Mr. Pope followed in a similar strain and seconded the motion. Mr. Hugh MacDonald said that he always thought the proceedings of the House would entail on the country the expence of the Civil List, and the present Despatch verified his predictions. Mr. Brecken thought the consideration of the despatch that magnitude, that it would require mature reflection; and as there was every probability that the house would be adjourned during the time of the Supreme Court, he would merely throw out as a suggestion to the Committee, the propriety of postponing the consideration of the Despatch until after the recess, as by that time there was every reason to hope that important information would be received from the Colony Agent on the subject of the commutation of Quit Rents. Mr. Green said he thought there was no harm in naming of Thursday, as by that time honorable Members might have their mind made up on the subject, when it could be postponed to a future day. Mr. Cooper gave notice that he would to-morrow move for leave to present a petition from nearly 600 inhabitants of King's County, praying for the disannulment of Prince Town, and George Town, and an extension of the Franchise to

the respective Counties. Mr. Pope gave notice that he would to-morrow move for leave to present a petition from certain inhabitants of Tryon River, praying for a grant of Money to repair the Abiteau at said place. Mr. Brecken gave notice that he would on to-morrow move for leave to present a Petition from certain inhabitants of Tryon River, praying that no money may be expended on the Abiteau at said place.

Mr. Biens here moved the standing order, and got us all turned out in the cold for sometime; and no sooner had we taken our seats in the Gallery again than the House adjourned, at about half past 4.

Friday, Feb. 8. The Bill to incorporate the Trustees of St. Andrews College received the third reading and passed.

A Petition was presented to the House by Mr. Cooper, purporting to be from six hundred inhabitants of King's County, praying for the disannulment of Prince Town, and George Town, and Prince Town, and to be disfranchised.

Mr. H. MacDonald moved that the petition be not received as he would bring up at his own expense, many persons whose names were attached to the petition who would prove that they never signed or authorized any person to sign it for them; that nearly all the names were written in two or three hands, and that some who signed detached sheets, did so under another impression.

Mr. Owen said he was anxious that any petition coming from such a number of people should be opened, and that the house might afterwards dispose of it, whether the names to it were what they purported to be another affair. He always supported receiving the petitions of the people, and should continue to do so.

Mr. Cooper said that if the names were not genuine, it was without his knowledge, but his colleague who first sat down might answer for some, as he had handed to him, (Mr. Cooper) a sheet containing the names from Murray Harbour, with another on the subject of Escheat.

Owen explained, and said that he had received both from the Rev. Mr. McCurdy, who requested him to hand them to Mr. Cooper. That he had not looked at them, nor did he think it right to do so.

Mr. Compton said that he would retain his specification on this stage of the proceedings; but he did not know what the people of King's County had to do with Prince Town. If the people of Prince County were dissatisfied they might themselves petition, but he knew they were well satisfied with their members; he believed they had a fine place for a fishery in George Town, so there was at Prince Town; and he believed there was a good deal of envy about this petition. They were afraid that Prince County was getting on too fast. The King had made a borough of Prince Town, and they had no right to pull down any he erected, he saw no reason for so uncalculated a petition, but he was for getting rid of it in the gentlest manner possible.

Mr. R. McNeill said he was anxious that the petition should be received; but he had his doubts regarding the signatures. He had spoken to some respectable people yesterday, who said they were not at all at the nature of what they signed; as they thought it was another petition, however he would vote it should be received.

Mr. Angus Mac Donald also said that he did not think the signatures genuine; he had spoken to persons whose names were there, and they assured him they knew nothing of it, he would vote against the receiving of the petition.

Mr. H. MacDonald withdrew his opposition and the petition was read, and then produced a piece of written paper and read for some time aloud; it went to say that the people were deprived of their rights, by these places sending members; that they were asking for money to build towns; but the people said they might build towns as they pleased, and the farms that they wanted the public buildings in the most convenient places, and no doubt whilst these places had members they would vote for each other. He proposed that a Committee

should be appointed to take the petition into consideration.

Mr. H. MacDonald proposed that it be thrown under the table.

Mr. Hyndman seconded it, and said that as it referred to Prince Town, it should have every opposition in his power. He saw no right the people of King's County had to interfere.

Mr. Brennan said that this was the first time that a petition from King's County was presented that could not have his support, if the gentleman [Mr. Cooper] had done his duty to his constituents, he would have showed him [Mr. Brennan] the petition; he then would have felt it his duty to enquire into the circumstances under which the petition was got up. No man in that house had more intercourse with King's county people than he had, scarcely a day but he saw some of them, and the most respectable too; and he never heard a word expressed similar to the prayer of the petition. If it were signed by some respectable names, they might have conceived they were signing a petition for Escheat, as they all know how petitions were got up; but he saw, the first three names to that sheet, two signed with their mark, he could not think such people capable of judging. He had spoken of County Courts, &c. in his address to the electors of King's County, at George Town, and he did not think he was the less popular, at all events he was returned; and Mr. Cooper not. He could not support this petition; but he would vote for its being laid on the table.

The House divided when there appeared for throwing it under the table.

Yeas.

Messrs. H. MacDonald, A. MacDonald, Nelson, Willock, McNeil, Hyndman, Cady.

Nays.

Messrs. Cooper, Biens, Pope, Brennan, Dalrymple, Owen, Compton, Green, J. S. MacDonald.

Saturday. This morning the House met at 12 o'clock, when Mr. Angus MacDonald rose to ask a question of the Speaker, as to whether or not, Members had a right to copy any papers laid on the table by order of that House. He asked this, because he yesterday was perusing the Despatch received from his Excellency on Thursday last, and impressed with its importance, he had been in the act of copying it for the information of some of his constituents, when it was rudely demanded by the Clerk: he was not in the habit of receiving such conduct from servants of this House; but he complied with his demand, not knowing whether he was allowed to do so by the rules of this house. He however felt that he had better right to such papers than a person not a member, who he last Session saw daily occupied in copying, as well as reading all papers that he chose.

The Speaker said the practice had always been so, and he conceived it was a rule that Members should have such right.

Several members expressed their regret that the Clerk should sully his character by such conduct, as he generally gave satisfaction. Mr. Collen then begged leave to speak and apologise to the honorable Member, which he did, and he said he had no intention to offend the gentleman, that at the moment he wanted the document for the journals; and was very sorry he had acted so, which he said was from inadvertence.

Mr. MacDonald accepted his apology, and here the matter dropped.

The greater proportion of the three hours business this day, was occupied on the Trespas Act.

For the British American.

Sole oriente fugiunt tenebræ.

Mr. Printer,

I fear you shall ere long call me a very troublesome fellow, for I assure you, I feel so much pleased at the reception which my last communication (yes my first I should have said) has met at your hands, that I have since considered myself a very consequential sort of being. Now Sir according to my former data "that Public Men are Public Property," whether