

for they had been found to be entirely useless. In the last House he had stated, that so convinced were the people that a reform in the mode of administering the Government was necessary to ensure the future well-being of the Colony, that at the next General Election he believed that, with exception of perhaps two or three, no candidates would be returned but such as were pledged to the support of such measures as might be thought most likely directly to conduce to the immediate establishment of Responsible Government in the Colony. His prediction was derided, but the result of the recent General Election had shown how justly he had estimated the sense and feelings of the people. It was time that the Constitution of the Colony should be defined, and that the instructions of a Colonial Secretary, as laid before the Legislature by his exponent, the Lieutenant Governor, should cease to be the law. The Constitution and form of Government best adapted to the state of the Colony, the Assembly, as instructed by the people, their constituents, were best qualified to explain; and the reform required by the Assembly, in compliance with the wishes of the people, was the adoption of Responsible Government, as granted to and established in the neighbouring Provinces. That the people of Prince Edward Island were as fully entitled to the acknowledgment which had been made by Earl Grey in a certain Despatch to the Governor of Nova Scotia to the effect, that it was neither possible nor desirable to carry on the Government of any of the British Provinces in North America, in opposition to the opinions of the inhabitants, is declared by him, Earl Grey, in his Despatch to Sir Donald Campbell, of 27th December, 1849; but, with most glaring inconsistency, he also states, in the same Despatch, that he does not consider the Colony ripe for the introduction of such a system of self-government as that which had been established in Nova Scotia with the express sanction of the Imperial Government. To such inconsistencies in the Despatches sent out to this Colony from the Colonial Office the people and the Legislature had been too long accustomed to feel much surprised at the want of consistency in the last laid before the House by command of His Excellency; and the only effect it ought to have upon the minds of that party in the Assembly who earnestly sought for the introduction of Responsible Government ought to be the convincing them, that unless they should display more energy and greater determination in their assertion of the people's rights than had hitherto characterized Legislative proceedings to that end, they would never be able to accomplish the object which they had in view. The hon. member then observed, with respect to the granting of a Civil List, that he was one who, to the fullest extent, was prepared to recognize the claims of certain public officers upon the Crown Revenues; but until these should be given up in perpetuity to the Legislature of the Colony, the question concerning the adjustment of the claims of those public officers therein, must rest between themselves and the Home Government, and not between them and the Colonial Legislature. With respect to the case of the Chief Justice, he considered his claim to be a sacred one. The complete independence of Judges was absolutely necessary; because it was essential to the pure administration of justice, not only as respected the legal disposition of property, but as it affected the all-important question of life and death. It was this consideration which induced the Imperial Legislature to make British Judges independent of the Crown, and to raise them above the suspicion of venality, by securing to them their appointments for life with salaries sufficiently liberal in amount to place them above the temptation of a bribe. And the consequence of this wise proceeding of the British Parliament was, that no class of men have ever stood higher, not only in the estimation of their fellow-subjects, but in that of foreign nations, than the Judges of Great Britain. He would, upon principle, be prepared to admit the claim of the Chief Justice of this Colony upon the Crown Revenues, from a sense of the justice and utility of doing so; but the claims of other Government officers upon those Revenues he regarded as a minor consideration. For he believed, that most of them would be quite willing to accept the rate of salaries that the House had given them last year, or such amount as the country could afford. When he saw that the Imperial Government were not prepared to make, to the Legislature and people of this Colony, those concessions which they justly demanded, and which the Colonial Secretary himself, not only admitted, but distinctly stated they were fully entitled to; he felt bound to protest against the assumption of Earl Grey. The money required to discharge the salaries on the Civil List belonged to the people, and unless concessions should be made to the Colony, by the Imperial Government, to the full extent of right and justice he was prepared to go to the utmost extremity, in resisting the demands made by the Imperial Government, and would not consent that a single shilling of the people's money should be advanced to carry on a Government in which the people had no confidence. He (Mr. Pope) would be less inclined to object to the present system, if he could discover that the present Executive Council were in a position to share the responsibilities of the Government, or to act as independent gentlemen ought to act without reference to party; but in order to this, they should enjoy the confidence of the people. The Government of this little Colony often reminded him of a celebrated educational establishment whose cognomen indicated the principles on which it was conducted. It was a political

Do-the-boys Hall, in which experiments might be tried how far the administrative authority of its ruler might be carried. But there are bounds to human endurance, and it is vain to expect that the people of this Colony, in whom the rights of British subjects are inherent, will ever submit that the public patronage shall be contingent upon personal favour, or a degrading subserviency. When Lord Grey asserted that "His Excellency was assisted in the performance of his duties by gentlemen selected from those inhabitants of the Colony who were most capable of performing with advantage to the public, the duties of their several offices," His Lordship did not for a moment intend to question the constitutional right of the Representatives of the people in Parliament, to determine who does or who does not enjoy the confidence of the people; but was doubtlessly acting upon the information that has been communicated to him, and hence this famous *echo* from Downing Street. By whom, he would ask, had his Excellency been constituted the sole judge of the qualifications and capabilities of men, in this Colony, to fill public offices, and to discharge with advantage to the public the duties belonging to them? But he (the hon. member) should like to have it pressed to conviction, upon Earl Grey and his associates in the Imperial Administration, that the people of Prince Edward Island and their Representatives in the Legislature were the only legitimate and proper judges of the capabilities of men to discharge the functions of the several public offices in the Colony who are paid from its Revenues. Was the House, he would ask, to consent to vote away the public money of the people, and to agree that it should be appropriated in a way, of which neither they nor the people approved; merely because the Lieutenant Governor, as instructed by Earl Grey, requested them to do so? He (the hon. member) would answer for himself and the majority of the House, that they recognized no obligation which bound them to such submission; and that rather than consent to a betrayal of the trust reposed in them by the people, by making any such concession, they would, without any regard to their own pecuniary interests, after having made such re-enactments as were necessary to regulate the due administration of justice, and to provide for the legal protection of life and property, retire to their several homes, and leave the Lieut. Governor, with the assistance of Earl Grey, to carry on the Government with what ability and efficiency he might.

The attempt to withstand the endeavours of the people and the Legislature to procure a full recognition of their rights from the Imperial Government, arose, independently of other adverse influences, from a consideration of the insignificance of the Colony, as compared with the neighbouring Provinces. He was, however, convinced that, by a steady, spirited perseverance in pursuit of their object, they would overcome all resistance, and that the full concession which they sought for would be obtained. The hon. member concluded by observing, that the triumph of the principles which he advocated, would not be for the benefit of one party, but for the good of all parties. For his own part, he knew not what dangers or mischiefs could be reasonably apprehended, as likely to accrue to the people of Prince Edward Island from a change in the mode of administering the Government. Surely servants who knew that they would have to render an account, would be much more likely to acquit themselves faithfully and efficiently of their duties to those who had power over them, than such as knew themselves to be bound by no responsibility, and who could, therefore, defy enquiry. The changes of Administration, they all knew, were frequent in Great Britain. At one time the Tories were in power, and at another the Whigs; but the accession to power of the one, and the retirement therefrom of the other, could never prove disastrous to the general interests of the people; because, whichever party was in power, their efforts were always to increase the general prosperity of the Empire. He, by no means, considered any party immaculate; but, on the contrary, was convinced that constitutional checks—such as existed under the operation of British Responsible Government—were needed to prevent an abuse of power, into the hands of whatsoever party it might fall. In advocating the introduction of Responsible Government, he was not seeking to aggrandize a party; for he believed its introduction would place men of equal pretensions upon the same footing; and that such as were qualified would stand the best chance for official promotion. For himself, he was altogether independent of party; and the course he was pursuing was indicated to him, by a full conviction, as that which he ought to follow as a faithful friend and servant of the people. If the Government thought they could carry on the administration of Public Affairs, with the scanty Revenue at their disposal, they had his full permission to try.

REPORTER'S SUMMARY.

SATURDAY, March 16,

MR. WAREFORD presented a Petition from Lots 8 and 9, praying for a grant of money, to be expended on the improvement of the Roads through the said Lots.

EMIGRANTS' BILL.—This Bill, which was brought in by MR. LORD, with a view to effect a reduction in the Scale of Head money. The Scale was agreed to and ordered to be engrossed. The Scale in the old Act, is as follows:

From 1st. April to 1st. September	£0 12 6 C ^y
1st. Sept. to 1st. October	1 5 6
1st. Oct. to the close of the Navigation or end of the year	1 17 6
As it stands in the Bill adopted by the House:	
From 1st. April to 1st. September	12s. Currency
1st. Sept. to 1st. November	18s.
1st. Nov. to the close of the Navigation, or end of the year	20s.

STRAY CATTLE BILL.—This Bill, a mere transcript of the expiring Law, was agreed to by the House and ordered to be engrossed.

MONDAY, March 18.

ASSAULTS AND BATTERIES BILL.—This Bill, a mere copy of the expiring Law, was agreed to by the House and ordered to be engrossed. The only alteration made is with respect to the judgment Fee, which is reduced from 7s. 6d. to 5s; Messrs. Fraser, Lord, Mooney, and LeLacheur having urged the propriety of such reduction.

THE IMMIGRANTS BILL was read a third time and passed.

ROAD COMPENSATION BILL.—This Bill, a mere copy of the expiring Law, was agreed to by the House, and ordered to be engrossed.

TUESDAY March 19.

STRAY CATTLE BILL.—This Bill, re-enactment was read a third time and passed.

COMMON ASSAULTS AND BATTERIES BILL.—This Bill (also a re-enactment) was read a third time and passed.

MR. YEO, who lately returned from England, took the oaths and his seat.

LAND-AGENTS' FEES.—A Bill to regulate the Fees of Land Agents was introduced by Mr. Jardine, and read a first time.

HEALTH OFFICERS' FEES.—MR. LORD introduced a Board of Health Bill, and stated his object to be the regulating of the Health Officer's Fees, with a due regard to the services performed.

POOR RELATIONS BILL.—MR. COLES, from the Commissioners appointed to consolidate the Laws, reported the Draft of a Bill to oblige husbands and other natural relatives of indigent and impotent persons, unable to maintain themselves, to contribute to their support. Bill read first and second time, committed reported agreed to, and ordered to be engrossed.

CORRESPONDENCE.

FOR THE EXAMINER.

"PARCERE SUBJECTIS, ET DEBELLARE SUPERBOS."

MR. WHELAN;

Sir,—That splendid publication called the *Islander*, contains in its last number a scrap from "Modus," whose impudence and ignorance are "pretty particularly" alike. The old saying, that "the greatest rogue cries rogue first," is very finely delineated by "Modus," so much so that his ignorance is too prominent to pass unnoticed; and if his gall had not lately overflowed, it is quite probable that his impudence would not have been so bitterly keen to expose his ignorance as it has done. There is nothing whatever in my communication in reference to ignorance, that any individual, except a Baalim's ass, or a "Modus," would undertake to brag about, as the latter has done, and though he makes a great flourish with latin words, it shows that he possesses not one scruple more of common sense than very many of his class, and clearly proves that he will require a great many blasts of his ram's horn, and a great many pitchers to break before he will upset the Jericho which I have planted in your paper.

"Modus" dare not come out like a man and vindicate the covered up work of the "Pump and Well Assessment" compact, and his ignorance of the eleventh commandment—"Mind your own business"—compelled his impudence to assert that my head must be composed of water. Provided this were the case, what reference has it to the subject? If he made less use of spirituous liquors his eyes would not expose to the world that his head contained more water than nature designed it to; but to be serious—the Almighty Being who made both "Modus" and me, bestowed not one drop more water in our composition than his infinite wisdom deemed proper, and any man who dares to insult his Maker by remarks on any of His works, in the manner in which "Modus" has done, I hesitate not to say, is a disgrace to his species, if he were the most profound scholar, or cleverest Lawyer that ever existed, and the sooner he hides his "diminished head" the less his ignorance and impudence will be exposed.

"Modus" need not fancy, because he uses Latin screen, that he is unknown, or that it will save him from castigation. Whenever I think proper to send you a Communication, on any public matter, let "Modus" remember that that is my business, not his. Until he can show some better reasons, and give some better arguments for withholding from the public a fair and impartial account of the expenditure of the public money than he has done in his late epistle, I cannot that it is no argument in favour of public information for "Modus" to show me to the office, or even introduce me to