

be so interpreted, are we to be kept at bay, from enacting such laws as may be advantageous to the colony, because a threat is held over our heads that it is useless, forsooth, as our endeavours will be frustrated, by other bodies in other places, are we to have a repetition of the noted *de novo* case of last session, by the great officials, is this to be performed over again this session in fresh matters, let us not be deterred from the exercise of our functions, by any such wrong and unjust proceedings, yet as it seemed the wish of the house we would ask leave to withdraw his resolution.

Mr. COLES would not notice the subject, respecting the nature of leasing the land, as alluded to by the hon. member Mr. Douse, we have nothing to do with what has been done, we have to look to what shall be done in future, an exclusive right must not be given to any party, to the detriment of the undoubted right of the fisherman. If it be determined that the proprietor shall contribute, and pay into the treasury a sum to form a fund of compensation, we cannot call upon them to pay for that, wherewith they had nothing to do; and we ought to decide that it is the fisherman's right, and not that of the proprietors.

Mr. D. MACLEAN persisted in the right of the house to determine, that the tenant should not in future pay any rent.

Hon. Mr. PALMER's resolution, with the amendment of the hon. J. S. Macdonald, was then put and carried.

Mr. RAE said, he would not press his resolution, that of the hon. member (Mr. D. Maclean's) embodying his own views.

Hon. Mr. Palmer said, if that resolution only went to say that the proprietor should not exact rent in future, he would go with it, but to say that any other interest shall take precedence of the fisherman's, should not have his support.

Mr. D. MACLEAN did not intend any thing further; leave it to the Crown and the proprietors to arrange on other matters.

Mr. THORNTON then moved that the words, "without interfering with any right the Crown may enjoy, to exact rent for such reserves, &c." be added to the resolution of the hon. member Mr. D. Maclean.

The Hon. the SPEAKER said, he wished the committee not to misunderstand him; his object never was, that the proprietors should enjoy the benefit, yet he did not doubt but that the Crown would demand rent.

Hon. Mr. PALMER contended, this resolution went to reserve it to all, and not as it ought to be, a preference to the fishing interest; his views of compensation, &c. are completely lost sight of; how useless will it not be to expect it from the proprietors, some of whom may be found unable to pay, and had yet to learn by some stronger ground of argument, than as yet had been afforded, why this good land should not be made available, or why it should go scot free altogether.

Mr. COLES said, he agreed with the hon. member for Charlottetown, that it was indispensable to create a fund from the reserves, to compensate those who may be injured by the fishermen; a small sum for each reserve would only be necessary, possibly not exceeding in amount two shillings, as it was not to be expected that any great part of the reserves would be required.

The resolution of the hon. member (Mr. D. Maclean) with the amendments, was then put and carried, by a majority of 19 to 4.

Hon. Mr. PALMER said, he would hereafter endeavor to carry his point, of a compensation fund.

A committee was then appointed to bring in a bill, consisting of the following members—Messrs. Rae, D. Maclean, Thornton, Coles, Wightman, and the hon. J. S. Macdonald.

MARCH 15.

House in Committee of Supply.

BOUNTIES FOR SEAL AND COD FISHING.

The hon. the SPEAKER moved, that the sum of 300L. be granted, to encourage this enterprise; and as a further stimulus to others, that 500L. be the amount for the two following years.

Mr. COLES advocated a larger sum; in his opinion, 500L., or as much thereof as might be required, should be appropriated for this year.

Mr. YEO agreed with the hon. member (Mr. Coles), on the ground of the general wish of the country, for wherever he travelled, the cry was, support the fisheries.

Mr. COOPER opposed bounties altogether, upon the principle of inconsistency in this enlightened age, to tax agriculturists to reward the others; nor are our finances in a state to justify the grant.

Mr. YEO accused the hon. member of opposing every thing intended for the general welfare.

Mr. WIGHTMAN contended that great advantage would arise to the Colony, provided we could set afloat an export trade in fish.

Mr. D. MACLEAN could not support bounties; this was a small and poor Colony, and such means were a poor way of relief.

Mr. DOUSE concurred with what had fallen from Mr. Yeo, relative to the line of conduct pursued by the hon. member (Mr. Cooper), and thought so favourably of the proposition, that on that account, he would refrain from asking for a grant of 150L. to the Agricultural Society, as was his previous intention.

Mr. HUDSON said, he thought 300L. was as much as he could, in his conscience, support for this year, viewing, as they ought, the state of the revenue, which he (Mr. Hudson) much regretted.

Mr. COLES was very sanguine, if proper and well-timed encouragement were afforded, that this hitherto much neglected resource of the Colony might hereafter eclipse even that of Newfoundland; and in this advanced state of the Colony we should not relax, but strive to go-ahead. This Colony has been called the Garden of North America, and when its numerous resources are fully developed, he did not doubt but it would be found worthy of that appellation.

Mr. COOPER said, a poorer tract of land could not be found; it is nevertheless easily cultivated; but without continual stimulants, in the shape of manure, its crops are not to be compared with other Colonies which he could easily point out; yet he would not say but a stranger might think far otherwise in the month of August.

Mr. COLES wished the hon. member (Mr. Cooper) would point out any Colony or country where manure was not required. He (Mr. Coles) knew it conveyed from 15 to 20 miles, even in England.

The hon. the SPEAKER said he thought hon. members were travelling away from the question; the remarks of the hon. member for King's County (Mr. Cooper) must not go abroad without comment. He (the Speaker) would say, without fear of contradiction, that if one-fiftieth part of the expense was gone to in this Island in the cultivation of the soil, it would be preferable to much of the land even of England, where, it is well known, the simple process of draining, causes an expense that would purchase the lands of this Colony ten times over.

Mr. RAE said, the matter as to the good or bad quality of the land could be easily settled, by taking the average produce of the Island and comparing that with other countries.

Mr. DALZIEL admitted the soil was very kind, but would not bear comparison with England; to say what it might become hereafter, was going too far ahead.

The Hon. Mr. PALMER differed with the hon. member for Prince County (Mr. Hudson), who spoke of the state of the revenue, as an objection to the grant being made liberal, and thought it was an argument to induce the encouragement of this branch of our resources whereby the revenue may be increased. We ought to encourage those who are now fitting out vessels for the purpose of the Seal Fishery, and to hold out inducements for others; and when they are established, and get well under way, further bounties may be discontinued, as in all probability they would not then be required. Hon. members should bear in mind the adaptation of the inhabitants to the purpose of ship-building, and other requisites necessary to the carrying on of this trade, taking into account the many other numerous advantages. He (Mr. Palmer) saw nothing to prevent the expectation of equal success with that of Newfoundland, and would give his support to the larger sum.

Mr. DOUSE moved, that the sum for this year be five, in lieu of Three Hundred Pounds.

Mr. THORNTON did not see any danger in increasing it to seven or eight, inasmuch as it would not be awarded, if not required.

Mr. RAE moved, that One thousand Pounds be granted, which proposition was only supported by five yeas.

Ultimately, it was determined that 400L. be this year's grant, and 500L. for each of the two following years.

MARCH 18.

STATE OF THE COLONY.

Mr. RAE moved, that the House do now resolve itself into

a Committee of the whole, to take into consideration the State of the Colony.

The Hon. Mr. PALMER said, it was not improbable that a debate of two or three days might be consequent upon this motion, to the detriment of other and more important business than was likely to result from this question; he would also like to see a full House, which was not now the case, and would therefore move that it stand an order of the day for to-morrow.

Mr. RAE was of opinion that if it was intended to be so lengthily a debate, the sooner it was begun the better; yet he had no such expectation; three hours, instead of three days, were more likely to be consumed in debating the question. For unless any hon. member has received directions from his constituents, he (Mr. Rae) did not expect to make one single convert. His (Mr. Rae's) constituents required him to bring the distressed state of the Colony under the consideration of the House.

Mr. FRASER agreed with the hon. member (Mr. Rae), and thought it might as well be gone into at once; and if hon. members would not make such very long speeches, as was too often the custom, no great length of time would be necessary to come to a decision.

After some few additional remarks by several other hon. members, the hon. Mr. Palmer's amendment was put to the vote, and lost by a majority of one.

The Hon. Mr. Palmer then moved, that Mr. A. Maclean take the chair of the Committee.

Mr. RAE moved, as an amendment, that Mr. Cambridge be chairman, which was carried.

Mr. RAE then rose, and without comment submitted the following Resolution:—

Resolved, That the distress of the Agriculturists under the leasehold tenure has continued unabated, and that the causes of this distress have been truly represented to the Imperial Government in the various Addresses, &c., referred to in the Resolutions 1 and 2 of the House of Assembly, in Session, 1842.

The Hon. the SPEAKER then rose and said, he could not imagine for what purpose this was, for the ninety-ninth time, again in reduced, unless, indeed, it was intended, by a side wind, to obtain an expression of opinion upon that heretofore expressed of this House, in a certain correspondence by his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor. But why should we waste our time thus uselessly, merely to gratify a vindictive feeling? So vaguely is the Resolution framed, that it is impossible to comprehend its meaning; thus grounds arise to create a suspicion that something remains behind, whereby we are to be entrapped into some acknowledgment of former votes or resolutions of a previous House of Assembly. But why, Sir, I again repeat, are we to consume our time in discussing over again what then took place? The determination evinced to bring it on to-day in a thin House looks like taking advantage. But, Sir, I will endeavor to prevent the intention, by hereafter lengthening this debate, to prevent, if possible, the gratification of a vote, though it may only exist for a few hours, inasmuch as that of this day may be upset by a full House of to-morrow. I am, Sir, of opinion, that when we become presently a little more enlightened as to the design of the hon. mover, that it will be found utterly at variance with the rules, as laid down by the House of Commons.

Mr. RAE said, there was no denying that the hon. Speaker had a majority in this House, or he would not now be exercising the responsible office of the Speakership. But are we simply on that account to be deterred from the plain path of our duty, in bringing forward measures, or introducing resolutions that we may think favourably of, merely because we are in a minority? We may be conscious that our attempt, beyond the introduction, would not go much further; yet it must not be thought to shake us off from the straight line of our duty, or that of standing up for the just rights of our constituents; but the responsibility must rest upon the shoulders of those who are against us.

Mr. COOPER read some paragraphs from the address that was sent home last year, and whose comments thereupon were intended to convince hon. members, that as they had therein confessed the tenants could not pay their rents, they ought to consider themselves pledged to bring something forward to help them out of their distress. The hon. member then quoted from former despatches received from the Home Government, and contended, that if he, and those who acted with him, were in a majority, that alleviating measures would be carried, to the benefit of the oppressed inhabitants, who may be very appropriately termed the slaves of the proprietors.

The Hon. Mr. PALMER said, the hon. member reminded him of the Lunatic, who thought all the world mad excepting himself, for he thinks every thing wrong, and every one in error, saving his measures and his own egotist self. Is it not most pitiful that the utmost they can bring forward as a remedy for the grievances of the Colony, is a resolution tending to obtain a vote, that heretofore some resolutions have been passed in this and former Houses? I contend, Sir, that shame ought to be visible on the physiognomy of every partizan of this worse than foolish resolution; may we not, with equal consistency, designate every bit of paper on this table, as a resolution? We are making a good attempt this Session to legislate for realities, by endeavouring to open the resources of the Colony; he hoped the country at length would see the advantage to be derived from such measures, and will be convinced of our determination no longer to waste our time upon mere shadows; let hon. members act consistently, let them set their faces against such trumpery as is now, for the hundredth time, again brought forward.

Mr. DOUSE could come to no other conclusion than that this resolution, disgusting as it was, was only to answer certain purposes and other certain ends of some few hon. members, who had, throughout this Session, opposed every thing to benefit the Colony. (Order, order.) Yes, Sir, I will maintain it, and cannot forbear expressing my disgust at such conduct, and such shameful attempts. I am at a loss for a name whereby to shew my contempt. (Order, and chair, chair.) The resolution is worse than frivolous. Were there an Eschert Court in being to-morrow, no benefit would arise. ("Try it," said Mr. Cooper.) The tenantry are, I doubt not, Sir, in indifferent and undesirable circumstances, but the alleviation will come from the opponents of the hon. member (Mr. Cooper) and his tail, whose superlative wisdom will bring about the loss of our House of Assembly, and whose long system of agitation, and the evils consequent thereupon, will cause our children's children to curse them!

(To be concluded in our next.)

SUMMARY OF THE PROCEEDINGS.

TUESDAY, March 12.

Read a third time, and passed, the Bill intitled 'An Act imposing Duties for raising a Revenue.'

Read a third time, and passed, the Bill relating to Entire Horses.

The Bill to further amend the Act for ascertaining the Boundaries of Counties and Townships, was, according to order, read a second time, committed, and reported without amendment.

A motion being made, that the Report of the Committee be agreed to;

The House divided on the question: YEAS—Messrs. Yeo, Rae, D. Macdonald, J. S. Macdonald, Beirsto, A. Maclean, Hudson, Fraser, Dalziel, Longworth, Thornton, Montgomery, Douse, Dingwell, Palmer. NAYS—Mr. D. Maclean.

So it was carried in the affirmative.

The Bill concerning Bail in Civil cases was read a second time, committed, and reported without amendment.

WEDNESDAY, March 13.

Read a third time, and passed, the Bill to further amend an Act passed in the Fourth year of the Reign of the late King William the Fourth, for ascertaining the Boundaries of the several Townships in this Island.

Read a third time, and passed, the Bill concerning Bail in Civil cases.

A Message was received from the Legislative Council, acquainting the House that their Honors had passed the Bill in further amendment of the Laws for making Lands and Tenants liable for the payment of Debts, and the Bill to con-

solidate, amend and continue the Acts relating to Merchant Seamen, with several amendments.

And also—a Bill to amend and regulate the practice of the Court of Chancery, and to render the proceedings therein less tedious and expensive, to which they desired the concurrence of the Assembly.

And also communicating the following Resolution:—Resolved, That the Honorable Charles Young have leave to attend the Special Committee of the House of Assembly, appointed to report generally on the subject of the Crown Lands in this Colony, and other references, to be examined touching the said references, if he shall think fit.

The Hon. Mr. Palmer presented to the House a Bill to continue the Acts relating to Fire Engines, and other purposes. Read a first and second time, committed, and reported with amendments.

An engrossed Bill from the Council, to amend and regulate the practice of the Court of Chancery, and to render the proceedings therein less tedious and expensive, was read for the first time, and ordered to be read a second time on Thursday next.

The Hon. Mr. Palmer, from the Committee appointed to draw up Reasons, to be offered to the Legislative Council, at a Conference, for disagreeing to their amendments to the Bill to confirm the Titles to lands purchased under the several Acts for raising an Assessment on Lands in this Island, presented to the House the Report of the said Committee. Reported received and adopted by the House, and a Conference desired with the Council on the subject-matter of the said amendments.

THURSDAY, March 14.

Mr. Cooper read in his place a Petition of John Howell, of Charlottetown, praying the House to alter and amend the present practice of the Supreme Court of Prince Edward Island, in so far as the same differs from the Courts of Justice in the British Empire, in conformity with the Act relating to the recovery of Small Debts, passed in the present Session of the Legislature, as laid down in the fifth and fifty-second clauses of the said Act, so that any person applying to the Prothonotary or Clerk of the said Court and telling the particulars of his case, either verbally or in writing, the Prothonotary may give the applicant (on paying for them) such documents as may be necessary for bringing the delinquent to trial, before the Court and a Jury of the country, without hindrance by demurrer or otherwise—and that either of the parties may be permitted to state their own case to the Court and the Jury, and to examine witnesses, &c.; and that the verdict of the Jury may not be cancelled or set aside, or by any other manner that the House in its wisdom may deem just and right, to afford Petitioner the privilege of getting his grievances redressed by a Jury of the country.

Mr. Cooper then moved, that the Rule limiting the time for the reception of Petitions for local purposes be dispensed with; and that the said Petition be received and read.

The Hon. Mr. Palmer moved, as an amendment to the question, that the said Petition be not received.

The House divided on the motion of amendment:

YEAS—Hon. Mr. Palmer, Mr. Yeo, Mr. Dingwell, Mr. Thornton, Mr. Coles, Mr. Montgomery, Mr. Dalziel, Mr. Cambridge, Mr. Beirsto, Mr. Douse, Mr. Hudson, Mr. A. Maclean, M. Wightman, Mr. D. Macdonald.—14.

NAYS—Mr. Cooper, Mr. Rae, Mr. Fraser, Mr. Macgregor, Mr. D. Maclean.—5.

So it was carried in the affirmative.

Mr. Beirsto, from the Committee of the whole House, on the consideration of Supply, reported according to order, Eleven Resolutions of the said Committee; among which were the following:—

Resolved, That the sum of Sixty Pounds be granted to the Speaker, and the sum of Thirty Pounds to each of the Members of the House of Assembly, together with travelling expenses (in twice coming to and returning from the present Session), to reimburse them for their attendance—deducting a ratable sum for every day's absence of each Member after the 16th March.

Resolved, That the sum of Four Pounds be granted, and placed at the disposal of the Lieutenant Governor, for the erection of a Beacon in the harbour of Crapaud, or as much thereof as may be necessary.

Resolved, That the sum of Six Pounds be granted, and paid to the Trustees of St. James's Church, for the use of a Pew in said Church, for the Officers of Government and Members of the Legislature.

Resolved, That the sum of Six Pounds be granted, and paid to the Trustees of the Wesleyan Chapel, for the use of a Pew in that place of worship for the Members of the Legislature.

Resolved, That the sum of Six Pounds be granted, and paid to Charles Bourke, Souris, to enable him to provide a Horse Scow at Souris Ferry.

Resolved, That the sum of Five Pounds be granted, and paid to the Ferryman at Ellis River, in Prince County, towards building a Scow—the former Scow being entirely destroyed.

Resolved, That the sum of Five Pounds be granted, and paid to James Bullpitt, Teacher, Crapaud, who has lost his property by fire during the present winter.

And the First of the said Resolutions being again read, Mr. DOUSE moved, in amendment thereto, that the following words be struck out—"deducting a ratable sum for every day's absence of each Member, after the 16th March."

The House divided on the motion of amendment: YEAS, 14; NAYS, 5.

So it was carried in the affirmative.

The Hon. Mr. Palmer, from the Committee appointed to prepare and bring in a Bill relating to the Fire Engine Companies of Charlottetown, presented to the House the draught of a Bill, as prepared by the said Committee; and the same was received and read for the first time.—Second reading to-morrow.

Mr. Thornton, from the Committee appointed to report on the subject of Crown Lands generally, and other references, with power to report from time to time—presented to the House the First Report of the said Committee.—To be committed to a Committee of the whole House to-morrow.

The Hon. Mr. Palmer, from the Committee appointed to prepare and bring in a Bill for the better preventing Accidents by Fire within Charlottetown, presented to the House a Bill, as prepared by the Committee; and the same was read the first and second time, committed, and reported with amendments. To be engrossed.

FRIDAY, March 15.

The Bill to consolidate the Laws relating to the Fire Engine Companies of Charlottetown, was, according to order, read a second time, committed, and reported with amendments. To be engrossed.

Read a third time, and passed, the Bill intitled 'An Act for the better preventing Accidents by Fire within Charlottetown.'

The House then resolved itself into a Committee of the whole House, to consider the Reports of the Special Committee appointed to take charge of the Government House and Public Furniture.—Mr. A. Maclean in the chair.

After some time spent therein, the Chairman reported, that the Committee had come to the following Resolution:—Resolved, That it be recommended to the House, when in Committee of Supply, to provide a sufficient sum, to be expended by the Joint Committee of the Council and Assembly having charge of the Government House and Public Furniture, in procuring such articles of Furniture as may be necessary to be replaced.

And the said Resolution being again read, and the question put thereon; the House divided: YEAS—Messrs. Yeo, Longworth, Cambridge, Dalziel, Wightman, J. S. Macdonald, Palmer, Aitken, Thornton, A. Maclean, Coles, Beirsto.—12.

NAYS—Messrs. D. Macdonald, Fraser, Macintosh, D. Maclean, Rae, Montgomery, Dingwell, Cooper, Macgregor.—9.

So it was carried in the affirmative.

SATURDAY, March 16.

The Order of the Day, for the House in Committee, to consider further of a Supply, being read; the House accordingly resolved itself into the said Committee.—Mr. Beirsto in the chair.

After some time spent therein, Mr. Beirsto reported, that the Committee had come to several Resolutions, which he was directed to submit to the House whenever it shall be pleased to receive the same.—Report to be received on Monday next.

MONDAY, March 18.

Ordered, That the Hon. Mr. Palmer have leave to present a Petition of divers Inhabitants of Charlottetown and elsewhere, setting forth—That there is not at present, nor has there ever been, a Marine Insurance Company established in this Island: That large amounts of property belonging to this Island are yearly Insured on Maritime Risks, but all such Insurance is effected by the Companies of other Countries or Provinces: That your Petitioners, with others, have associated themselves into and are about forming a Joint Stock Company, to insure on Marine Risks property belonging to this Island; but in order to accomplish the objects of your Petitioners, and to render their undertaking useful and safe to the public, they will require to be incorporated by Act of the Legislature: and praying that the House of Assembly, taking into consideration the great benefit that the Public, as well as the insured, will derive from the establishment of such a Company in this Island, will be pleased to pass an Act extending to them the usual powers of such Companies, when incorporated by Act of Parliament or Assembly.—Referred to a Committee of three Members, to report thereon by Bill or otherwise.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

MONDAY, March 11th, 1844.

HOUSE IN COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL BILL.

Hon. Mr. RICE in the Chair.

The Hon. Mr. HOLL, from the Committee appointed to examine into and report upon the state of Education in this Island, presented to the House the Report of the said Committee, which he read in his place, and which is as followeth:—

"Your Committee regret that, on a careful examination of the School Visitor's Report for the past year, a considerable diminution is apparent in the number of the Scholars, and a proportionate decrease in the number of Masters, which will be evident by a reference to the Tabular Statement accompanying this report. To what cause this is to be attributed remains to be seen; but your Committee trust, as the subject is now under the consideration of the House of Assembly, such amendments will be made as may be calculated to render the system more effective. Your Committee would call your Honors' attention to that part of the Address in answer to His Excellency's speech at the commencement of the Session, in which this branch of the Legislature expressed its "full concurrence with His Excellency in the great importance of diffusing civil and religious instruction among the poorer classes, together with an assurance that no endeavours shall be wanting to promote so desirable an object," and your Committee feel assured, that in accordance with these views, the Council is fully prepared to act, and, when the Bill is before it, give the whole subject of Education that attentive consideration to which, from its vast importance to the community, it is so justly entitled."

By this statement it appears, that, instead of an increase, within the last twelve months, in the number of children attending the different district schools throughout the Island, there had actually been a decrease of 526, and in masters of 17. The Hon. Mr. HOLL thought the fact required investigation. It must be owing to some peculiarity of circumstances in the localities in which the falling off has occurred. With respect to the annual remuneration of Four pounds, allowed to each member of the Board of Education, and the government salaries of Teachers, he thought, if it were urged to the practice of a strict economy, it should only be with respect to matters of less importance than the important one—the education of the rising generation. He should like it to go forth to the public that their honors were perfectly willing to increase the provision for the support of Schools, provided there were any chance of a corresponding benefit arising from it to the country, in the way of a religious, moral, and practical education.

The Hon. Mr. IRVING had spoken with an individual well acquainted with the qualifications of District Teachers, and he, (the individual of whom he spoke) recommended a re-examination of the whole body. It is highly probable that some of the District teachers, whose qualifications may, at present, be held insufficient, were amongst the best who could be procured at the time they passed the Board; but now, he believed, there were many unemployed teachers in the country, of qualifications much superior to those of many holding situations, and he thought it would be well, if by means of a general re-examination, the country were afforded an opportunity of parting with inefficient teachers, and engaging men properly qualified in their stead.

The Hon. Mr. HOLL fully concurred in what had fallen from the hon. member who had just sat down. The examination, by the Board of Education, of all candidates, ought to be strict. They ought to be well satisfied that every person to whom they grant a License, was, in every respect properly qualified to discharge the duties of a Schoolmaster. The great expense to which the country was subjected for the support of public schools, would otherwise be quite thrown away, and the legislative system for the encouragement of education would become a mere nonentity. The propriety of establishing a uniform system of tuition in all the district schools of the Island had been suggested to him, and he was fully alive to the propriety of the suggestion. In the first place then a sufficient sum ought to be granted, by the Legislature, for the purchase of a proper supply of books, by means of which to introduce uniformity. It was well known, and he believed generally lamented, that the children in our district schools were so ill supplied with books, that, with respect to them, they might be said to be in a complete state of destitution. Of what use could schools possibly be without the necessary implements for the prosecuting of the business of education? The duties of the Visitor ought to be fully prescribed in the bill, and as at times, his proper discharge of them might be painful to his feelings, and very likely to subject him to accusations of unfairness and partiality, he ought to be compelled to the discharge of them by a penalty for neglect: the plea of such a penalty would, also, in some degree, protect him from the annoyance of unreasonable complaints and unjust accusations on the part of negligent or inefficient teachers.

After the clause enabling two thirds of the inhabitants of any School District to assess the remaining one third, for the support of a teacher of either class, had been read by the hon. Chairman

The Hon. Mr. HOLL said it was necessary to make a stand against this clause. It was most tyrannical to call upon persons to contribute to the support of a school, and the supplying of it with certain materials, when they could not, if they were willing, derive any benefit from the one or the other. Here it was not as in the United States, where Schools were supported by district assessments, the teachers there were generally men of first rate qualifications. Here the fact is very different: men of the meanest qualifications are acting as District Teachers, and the people are as strictly bound to support them, as if they were men of the highest attainments.

The Hon. Mr. SWABEY remarked, that if a person could shew that his children were educated elsewhere, he was not bound to support the School in his District.

After the hon. Chairman had read the clause providing for the recovery of the assessed school-fees before Small Debts' Commissioners, in the name of the Trustees,

The Hon. Mr. SWABEY said he thought the clause required much consideration. It was not clear to him that the teacher was not shut out from suing for his own dues.

The Hon. Mr. MACDONALD had known cases in which it had almost been so.

On the clause empowering the Trustees of any District School to assess the inhabitants of the District for the repairs of the School House, and for Fuel.

The Hon. Mr. HOLL said, this clause appeared to him to operate most unjustly. It was hard enough to compel one third to contribute to the salary of the master, for the con-