THE EXAMINER:

A Weekly Journal of Politics, Literature, and News.

"This is true Liberty, when Freeborn Men, having to advise the Public, may speak free."---Euripides.

Vol. XIII. Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Monday, April 13, 1863. New Series.---No. 14.

1863. NEW YEAR! 1863.

NEW GOODS,

JUST RECEIVED

AT THE

RENFREW HOUSE,

(Thomas's Old Stand, Great George Street.)

THE subscribers have lately received the following Goods, in addition to their Fall Importations:—

Hhds. SUGAR, very bright
Chests TEA, warranted good
Boxes SOAP
Boxes and Half Boxes RAISINS
Currants, Spices, Pepper
Mustard, Indigo, Starch
Weaver's Reeds, all Nos.

Rubber Goods:

Ladies' & Misses' Rubber SHOES
Do do do BOOTS
Ladies' Rubber Buskins
Children's Rubber Shoes
Mens' do COATS
And a variety of other Goods.

Also on hand:

Boiled and Raw OIL, PAINT
Putty, Window Glass, SKATES
Plough and Cart Mounting
Cut Nails, all sizes, &c. &c. &c.

☞ We beg to call the attention of City and Country buyers to our Stock, which is now complete in every department. With regard to price, we are determined that no fault shall be found in this respect. Our goods are bought in the cheapest markets, and will be sold as low, to say the least, as any in the city.

DELANY & WILSON.

February 2nd, 1863.

LONDON HOUSE.

NEW CHEAP GOODS,

JUST RECEIVED,

☞ *At the Stand formerly Dempsey's, opposite Apothecaries' Hall, Queen Street.*

H. HASZARD begs to inform his friends and the public that he has received by the "Uranus," from London, the "Prioress" and "Theresa," from Liverpool, a large supply of British Dry Goods, Fancy Goods, Hardware and Groceries. Having been purchased on the best terms and personally selected, they will be sold at the lowest rate for Cash only, comprising:

7 cases Dress Goods	2 bales Striped Shirtings
1 case Silks and Ribbons	1 do Bleached do
1 do Buttons & trimmings	1 do Printed Cottons
1 do Ladies' Mantles,	2 do Cloths and Doeskins
3 do Hats and Caps (great variety)	1 do Blankets and Sheets
	1 do Wadding
5 do Ready-made Clothing	1 do Carpeting & Hearth Rugs
1 do Ladies' and Gents' Waterproof Mantles & Coats	7 do Paper hanging (3000 pieces)
1 do Gloves and Hosiery	5 casks Hardware
1 do Haberdashery	4 cases do
1 do Shirts, Collars, Braces &c.	1 do Cutlery
	1 crate Coal Scuttles and Zinc Buckets
1 do Shawls and Mufflers	60 chests Tea, cheap and good
1 do Jewellry, Pomatum and Soaps	5 casks Soda
2 do India Rubber Shoes	
3 Bales Brown Cottons	

—— ALSO ——

Crushed and Moist Sugar, Molasses, Coffee, Rice, Mustard, Starch, Blue, Raisins, Currants, Spices, Glass, Putty, Nails, Leather, Buckets, Brooms, Soap, Candles, Manilla Rope, Plough Mounting, Iron, all sizes, Sheet Iron, &c., &c.

Charlottetown, Dec. 15, 1862.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND FASHIONABLE

Tailoring Establishment!

CHARLES BELL,

QUEEN SQUARE.....CHARLOTTETOWN,

ANNOUNCES the arrival of his FALL and WINTER GOODS, which are all of the newest designs at present in the Market. Every Department of the Woollen Drapery Trade is amply represented in his Establishment. His GOODS are decidedly of the Newest and Best Class manufactured; they have been carefully selected from the best Wholesale Houses in Britain for his trade, and have been purchased for CASH, which is a very important article in the market at present.

CHARLES BELL is, therefore, in a position to give his customers the very best value, and can, at the same time, confidently recommend the article he sells. He enumerates a few leading articles as follows:—

West of England and Yorkshire CLOTHS; Heavy Beavers, Whitneys and Pilot COATINGS; Doeskins; Cassimeres; English and Scotch TWEEDS; Velvet, Silk, Valentia, and Marseilles VESTINGS; Prince Edward Island Homespuns;
Twilled and Shirting FLANNELS; Gentleman's Shirts and Collars; Shetland and Lamb's Wool UNDER CLOTHING; Scarfs, Ties, and Mufflers; Fur, Cloth, Wool & Kid Gloves; Braces, Socks, Umbrellas, and Trunks; Fur, Cloth, Glazed, Reversable, and other WINTER CAPS; Silk Felt, Wool, and Glazed HATS; FURS—Russian Dog, Siberian Lamb, Nutria, and Muskrat, etc., etc.

The best assortment of TAILORS' TRIMMINGS ever imported to this Island, in Coat Linings, Sleeve Linings, Vest Backs and Linings, Coat Canvas, Padding, Wadding, Coat and Vest Braids and Bindings, Buttons of all kinds, and other

TAILORS' TRIMMINGS,

Too numerous to mention.

Ready-Made Clothing.

This Branch of his Trade is unusually large at present. Owing to the depression of the times persons requiring Suits will get them at very REDUCED PRICES.

MOURNING,

and all other orders for Clothing promptly attended to, and good fitting Fashionable Articles guaranteed.

☞ Gentlemen who have been in the habit of getting their Clothing made up, through Tailors choosing their Cloth and Trimmings for them, from the different Stores, would find it to their advantage to examine the Stock of Cloths and Trimmings, and enquire the prices for making up at this Establishment, before they purchase elsewhere, as they can save time and money, by getting all the articles required

At the lowest rate in One Place.

The principle recognized and practically carried out at this Establishment is Speedy Sales and Light Profits, for CASH.

The LATEST FASHIONS are always secured

Charlottetown, Oct. 27, 1862

FALL CONSIGNMENT.

Ex "GAZELLE."

THE Subscriber respectfully intimates to Wholesale Purchasers that he has received per above Ship, a Consignment of the under-mentioned GROCERIES, all which were purchased for Cash, he is therefore confident no one in the City can give better value:

8 Casks small still Whiskey, Glenlivet,
6 Hhds. DeKuyper Genova,
100 Cases do do
4 Quarter casks old Port Wine,
50 Chests Congo TEA, (warranted),
30 Boxes 3 Crown Soap.

N. RANKIN, Queen Street.

November 17, 1862.

A Schooner of 50 Tons.

I HAVE the Spars, Standing and Running Rigging, Blocks, Patent Windlass, Chains and Anchors, Boat and other small gear, second-hand, which I will sell low, and take Freight in exchange. They can be seen here.

—— ALSO ——

100 Pine Ash-bound FISH BARRELS.

GEO. W. HOWLAN.

Cascumpec, Feb. 9, 1863.

Hardware.

THE Undersigned is landing, per EDA MARIA, from BOSTON and from ENGLAND,—

EAGLE PLOUGHS,
EAGLE O. PLOUGH MOUNTINGS,
HORSE NAILS,
POWDER AND SHOT.

ALFRED PHILLIPS.

Charlottetown, Oct. 13, 1862.

LABRADOR HERRINGS.

THE UNDERSIGNED has in Store a quantity of choice Labrador Herrings for sale.

J. S. CARVELL.

March 2, 1863. 6m

POETRY.

SPRING.

Joy, for the hoary Winter-king
Hath fled with all his stormy band,
Scared by the first blythe shout of Spring
At parley oe'r the rugged land;
Joy, for the gentle Spring appears—
Her smiling face just dash'd with tears—
To rule the broad old earth!
From the mild south she breathes, and lo!
The hard ice loosens, melts the snow,
And flowers her dewy footprints strow—
Beauty's perpetual birth!

From day-dawn unto waning night,
Heaven breathes its seasonable calms;
Morning along the Eastern height,
Breaking the mist with rosy palms;
Noon, when the white clouds melt as dreams,
And the large smile of Godhead beams
In sunshine from above;
Pale Eve, when dews in twilight fall;
Night, with her argent glories;—all
To spring, and to each other, call
In the sweet voice of Love!

Woods, late with barren branches seen,
Swinging grey mosses to the wind,
Are flush'd with all soft tints of green,
Where leaf-buds pierce the gnarled rind;
Some blossoms on the may have burst
'Mongst the old berries, ere the first
Red lead-tufts greener shew;
The chestnut lifts its waxen cone,
The birch-tree's yellow buds are blown,
And the broad elm is overgrown
With bunches white as snow.

How rich a green the meadows wear,
Kindled with stars of white and gold,
Where, to the sun and dewy air,
Kingcups and daisy-buds unfold;
The violet scents its sylvan nook,
A fragrant thought in Spring's rich book!
Wild honeysuckles run
In budding trails about the woods,
And, 'mongst the thorn's empurpled buds,
The pilewrot wreathes its gilded studs,
That whiten in the sun.

What welcome to the Spring is shown!
Rich-sounding peans fill the sky!
The cuckoo's mellow monotone
Answers the wryneck's herald cry;
The storm-thrush sings 'mid flying showers;
The lark's voice, hush'd in gloomier hours,
Rings down the wind from far:
Hark! the swift swallow's lively cries,
Whilst our old guest 'neath snowy skies—
The robin—pipes from morning-rise
To evening's latest star.

Then welcome, Spring, who bounteous hours
Crown earth with riches night and day;
Parent of April, weeping showers,
Impassion'd June, and dove-like May!
Bright spirit! shall our hearts not bear
Sweet memories of thine early care,
Thro' Summer's glowing prime,
And bless thee for each promise kind,
When the brown harvest-sheaves we bind,
And fruits fall down without a wind,
In merry Autumn time!

A WELCOME.

BY THE POET LAUREATE.

Sea-kings' daughter from over the sea,
Alexandra!
Saxon and Norman and Dane are we,
But all of us Danes in our welcome of thee,
Alexandra!
Welcome her, thunders of fort and of fleet!
Welcome her, thundering cheer of the street!
Welcome her, all things youthful and sweet,
Scatter the blossoms under her feet!
Break, happy land, into earlier flowers!
Make music, O bird, in the new-budded bowers!
Welcome her, welcome her, all that is ours!
Warble, O bugle, and trumpet, blare!
Flags, flutter out upon turrets and towers!
Flames, on the windy headland flare!
Utter your jubilee, steeple and spire!
Clash, ye bells, in the merry March air!
Flash, ye cities, in rivers of fire!
Welcome her, welcome the land's desire,
Alexandra!
Sea-kings' daughter, as happy as fair,
Blissful bride of a blissful heir,
Bride of the heir of the kings of the sea—
O joy to the people and joy to the throne,
Come to us, love us, and make us your own:
For Saxon or Dane or Norman we,
Teuton or Celt, or whatever we be,
We are each all Dane in our welcome of thee,
Alexandra!

THE WIFE OF SEVEN HUSBANDS.

A LEGEND OF ANCIENT LONDON.

(Conclusion.)

Martyn dreamed all night of the lovely widow, and rose next morning at the first break of dawn, and betimes to visit the widow. In due time they were married and lived very happily.

It chanced, however, that, as they were sitting together silently one evening upon a stool or settle (in shape something like a modern settee, only with quaintly carved frame and elbows,) gazing upon the dying embers of a wood-fire, that had been piled up between the brazen dogs on the brick hearth, that Mrs. Alice fetched a sigh.

'Why dost sigh, sweetheart?' said her husband; 'art not happy?'

'I knew not that I sighed, dear Martyn,' she said, 'Certes it was not for lack of happiness, for I am right happy.'

'I am glad to hear thee say so, and think thou sayest sooth — if I may at all judge from mine own heart—for I am happier than I ever yet have been.'

'And so, in truth, am I, Martyn — for I *am* happy now; and, indeed, I never knew happiness till I knew thee.'

'Nay, now thou art surely cajoling me, sweetest. Meanest thou, thou were never happy ere now?'

'I say, till I knew thee, never—never!' As she said this with great stress on the word, *never*, Martyn, whose arm was girdling her, felt her shudder strongly, and he shook too.

After a short pause, he resumed, 'Didst thou, then, not love thy other husbands, Alice?'

'Love them! No, Martyn — no; I hated them—hated them with a deadly hate.' And at these words her face grew lividly pale, and her eyes fixed on her husband's with a strange and snake-like glistening, that his marrow thrilled again, and his heart beat thick. He spoke to her, however, in a meek voice, and said—

'Why didst thou hate them so, Alice?'

'Because that they were drunkards and faithless, Martyn; and, therefore, I hated them so; and, therefore, were it possible thou shouldst be such, I should even so hate thee, much, very much as I do now love thee.' She uttered these words in a tone of deep tenderness, and fell weeping on his neck.

He strove, both by caresses and assurances to soothe her; but it was sometime before he could do so. The conversation was not resumed, and they retired to bed. But Martyn's mind continued very restles, and he lay awake long after his wife had gone to sleep; he could not dismiss her words from his brain, nor efface the impression they had made thereon; and, after turning the matter over a great many times, he came to the resolution that he would see a little more into the matter. At last he fell asleep, but it was only to wake soon from a wild dream. He thought him and his wife were still sitting on the low settle, as they had been that evening; and that their faces were lit up, as they then had been, by the fitful glimmering of the dying embers—that *her's* wore the same livid hue, and her eyes glistened in the same snake-like manner, that had then so frightened him; and that they were fixed, as then, upon his, and, though her look was most shocking, that he was fascinated by it, and could not move away his glance from her's; and her face kept growing paler and paler, and her eyes grew brighter and brighter, and more and more terrible; and he grew sick and sicker at heart, and felt a reeling in his brain, and a choking in his throat; and still he could not turn his eyes from her. And, behold! her long black curls, that hung about her neck and shoulders, seemed of a sudden, and yet slowly, to become instinct with life; and, one by one, they uncurled themselves—some moving their ends to and fro, and up and down, as he had seen leeches do in a vase when they sought to fix their heads somewhere—others, again, twined themselves round the carved rail-work of the settle—while others, arching and stretching themselves out, twisted round his neck so tightly that they nearly throttled him. He woke up in alarm and agony, and found his wife's long hair, indeed, around his neck—and her arms, too; and her head was lying on his chest, and she was sobbing violently. He asked her what ailed her; and she said she had a dreadful dream, all of which that she could recollect, was, that she had seen him murdered.

Martyn slept no more that night; and, the next morning, he rose betimes, and, pretending business, he went out at an early hour. Business, however, he had none. He walked forth at the Cripplegate, and strolled through the Finsburie fields, and so away into the country, without any fixed determination or even knowledge of where he was going. It was a drizzly day, too; but he seemed unconscious of it, though he was soon drenched to the skin. But he kept walking about, thinking over the scene of the last evening, and all the stories he remembered to have heard of his wife from the day he first saw her, and all other stories he could remember ever to have heard respecting witches and their cunning, till he began to hold his wife for one in real earnest; or, if she was not a witch, she certainly was something else of an unusual nature, but *what* he could not just then bring himself to decide. Still he felt that he was not, somehow or other, safe with her, in spite of all her fondness for him; and reflecting upon her expressions of deep hate for her former husbands, and the cause whereto she had ascribed that hate, he conceived a design to try her love which he determined to carry into immediate execution. It was long after sunset when he returned home, and he went straight to bed, pleading cold and weariness. The next day he sat all the forenoon with his wife; but, in spite of her kindness and attention, he could not overcome the disagreeable feeling that was upon him. He remained reserved, and almost sullen; and, at last, Mrs. Alice seemed infected with the same manner. At noon he left his house, and went straightways to Master Andrews, who lived not far off, with the purpose of inducing from him a recital of some of those marvellous tales wherewith he had, on a former occasion, regaled him. His purpose was, however, so far forestalled; for when he came there, he found he had some friends with him, and, of course, he was not anxious to make his wife's conduct matter of public talk. He sat, therefore, the whole evening nearly in silence; for which, however, they made full amends by their boisterous and drunken noise. He sat as late as any, and left them with the full determination of putting his plan into effect that very night. On his way home he trod casually upon a piece of apple rind lying in the path, and, slipping, fell into the mire, for it had been raining all that day too.

At first he was not a little put out; but, after a little reflection, remembering that this very mischance might be made serviceable to his scheme, with disordered dress, bending knees, drooping mouth, and half-closed eyes (assuming, as much as he could, the bearing of a drunken man), he presented himself at his door. His wife, although it was late in the night, had sent the servants to bed, and had herself sat up for him—a mark of attention that some very loving wives do, at times, pay to their husbands, often more to their annoyance than comfort. In the present instance, however, nothing could have happened more to Lessomour's wish. The moment his wife saw him, her face flushed even to darkness, and her black eyes widened to a great size, as she said in a tone half of anger, half of dread, 'Why, Martyn, what is this? what has befallen thee?'

'I've been with some friends, my love,' he replied, speaking thinly.

'Martyn! Martyn!' she answered, and bit her lip, and shook her head, 'a-get thee to thy bed; I will follow quickly.'

He went accordingly; but it was some time before she did follow him, and she lay down by his side without speaking a word to him. He pretended to be asleep, though he did not really sleep all that night; nor more, he thought, did she—for she tossed about, and seemed very restless, now and then muttering to herself; as soon as morning broke, she rose, and dressed herself, and left the room. The whole of that day he staid at home, feigning to have a bad headache. She was very attentive to him, but in no way hinted at his conduct the foregoing evening. In two or three days he repeated the experiment, and with nearly the same success, saving that Mrs. Alice

(Continued on the last page.)

COLONIAL LEGISLATURE.

COUNCIL CHAMBER,

SATURDAY, March 21st.

PETITIONS.

Presented by the Hon. Mr. Dingwell.—A petition of John Kenedy, mail carrier, stating that on account of the Post Office having been removed, he had to carry the Mails further than he had contracted for, and praying remuneration.

By Hon. Mr. Anderson.—A petition of divers inhabitants of Prince County, praying for a grant for a Grammar School.

By Hon. Mr. Walker.—A petition of John Johnston, Rolla Bay, praying renumeration for a horse lost while in the service of the Government.

By Hon. Mr. Ramsay.—A petition of A. E. Holland, postmaster, St. Elenor's, praying increase of salary.

A number of petitions were also received praying aid for roads, bridges and wharfs.

The Committee of privileges and elections was then resumed.

Evidence relating to the vote of Samuel Nicholson read. Voted for Mr. McGowan; voted on 50 acres, Lot 59.

Mr. McGOWAN remarked that it was a valuable fifty acres. That it possessed a valuable mill stream. Philip Beers, one of the witnesses, had a mill on the same stream, and had driven a profitable business for 30 years; but said that a mill could not be built on Nicholson's farm. He did not know why Mr. Beers should say so, unless he was influenced by private motives. Probably he did not wish to see a mill there which would draw custom from his own.

Hon. Mr. McDONALD was surprised that any gentleman would attempt to throw doubt on the oath of Philip Beers. It could not be said that he was influenced by party motives, as he had voted for Messrs. McLaren and McGowan. The petitioning candidate had said that it had a valuable mill stream, but he (Mr. McD.) considered it an injury to the farm. One witness had said it was not worth more than £50; another said £50 or £60. Surely that was *prima facie* evidence enough to throw doubt on the vote.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL—The mill stream may be valuable at some future time, and no doubt the man took it into account when he voted; but we must consider the present value. Taking all the evidence into consideration, I cannot say that the property is worth £100.

Hon. Mr. BEER—The evidence shows that there are 15 or 20 acres clear. Twenty acres at £3 an acre would be £60; then there is a dwelling house worth £15, a stable £6 or £8, which would make upwards of £80. Then there is a mill stream, sufficient to drive any machinery. I think the whole property is worth £100.

Hon. the PRESIDENT.—We must decide in accordance with the evidence, and that shows very clearly that the land is not worth £100.

Hon. Mr. YEO—The witnesses are interested parties. I know the land on Lot 59 is generally good. When the improved land, the buildings and the mill stream are all taken into account, we must consider the property worth £100.

Hon. Mr. LORD.—I have known Mr. Beers for a long time, and I place a great deal of dependence on his testimony. I do not think the statement of the petitioning candidate, that Mr. Beers has been driving a thriving business there for thirty years, is correct. I do not think he has made anything. I am certain that the mill stream is an injury to the farm.

Hon. Mr. ANDERSON — I certainly think the mill stream is an advantage. One of the witnesses says a mill might be built there.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL.—Adding the value of all the improvements together, I make the whole amount £99. Then there are £18 of the purchase money not paid, which must be deducted. From the evidence, it appears that the mill stream does not enhance the value of the property.

Hon. Mr. WALKER.—Three of the witnesses value the property at £50 or £60. It cannot be said that they are strong partizans, as in some other cases.

Hon. Mr. RAMSAY.—I have no personal knowledge of the property. I am quite a stranger in King's County, and can only decide by the evidence before us. I think the evidence shows very clearly that the property is not worth £100.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL submitted a resolution, to the effect that there was not sufficient evidence before the Committee to establish the validity of the vote of Samuel Nicholson.

The question being put thereon, it passed in the affirmative.

The evidence relating to the votes of Angus McIntosh, Donald Nicholson, John Parrish, and Laughlan McKinnon, was read.

The evidence was found insufficient to establish the validity of the above named votes, and the Committee resolved accordingly.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

Hon. Mr. Dingwell presented a petition of the Minister and Congregation of the Presbyterian Church, Bay Fortune, praying for an Act of Incorporation. Laid on the table.

The Committee of privileges was then resumed.

The evidences relating to the vote of Donald Ross was read.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL.—This is another of those cases on which the evidence is very contradictory. One witness says he would not give £25 for the improvements. Another says £30 is the extreme value. A doubt is raised by those witnesses. Another witness says he would give £100 down for the farm. Another says if it were mine I would not take less than £100 for it. I am not satisfied that it is a leasehold farm. Why was not the lease produced? £2 an acre would be a high price for freehold land. Where the evidence is so very contradictory we must exercise our own judgment. It is probable that the witnesses on both sides are strong partizans and have gone to extremes. I do not think the evidence will warrant us in coming to the conclusion that the land is worth £2 an acre.

Hon. Mr. ANDERSON—The evidence is very contradictory. The first witness values the improvements at £25, but he only passed along the road. What could he know about it? Another passed along one side of it; he believes it is a leasehold. Another witness says it is well situated, and he considers it worth £100. Another says he would not take £100. I consider the last two the best witnesses, as they appear to have been acquainted with the land.

Hon. Mr. HENDERSON—I was struck with the stress laid by the witnesses upon the circumstance of the land being well situated. I would like to know if firewood is very valuable in that locality. I observe, too, that the house is a frame house. I have built two dwelling houses and two barns, and I know something about the expense of building them. I consider that a barn built in the common way, and of the ordinary size, will cost £1 for each foot of the length. I think we may assume that he has a lease, or that would have been one of the points assailed.

Hon. Mr. McDONALD—So it is.

Hon. Mr. HENDERSON—I do not remember hearing anything about a lease in the evidence.

Hon. Mr. McLAREN—I cannot say whether this man has a lease or not; but I know they are all leaseholders in that settlement, and if he is an exception he is the only one. There is good wood on this farm, but on many of the farms in that locality there is none. I think it was on that account that the witnesses valued it so high. The land is as good as any in that settlement.

Hon. Mr. DINGWELL — I did not think there would be much discussion on this vote. I thought the price of land was pretty well established yesterday. We condemned a vote on 50 acres of Freehold land, and surely we cannot say that leasehold is worth more.

Hon. Mr. RAMSAY — I do not know much about the price of land in King's County; but I know a tract of 1000 acres in Prince County, which has been in the market for 10 years at £40 per 100 acres, and none of it is sold. It is as good land as there is in the Colony.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL submitted a resolution to the effect, that by the evidence before the Committee it did not appear that the property of Donald Ross was sufficient to qualify him to vote.

The question being put thereon, it passed in the affirmative.

The evidence relating to the vote of William Blacket, polled for Mr. McDonald, was then read.

Hon. Mr. McDONALD—I think it is very evident that there is no evidence to damage this vote. There is only one witness on it. He says, I will not swear positively that the property is not worth £100. He says it was offered for £75, and in his cross-examination he says £70; so his testimony is not very reliable. I think this farm would have sold for £100 15 or 20 years ago, and surely it has increased some in value since then.

Hon. Mr. BEER—There appears to be only one evidence on this vote, Mr. Robertson. He says the farm was offered for £70. That is throwing a doubt upon it.

Hon. Mr. YEO — I do not think land is increasing in value. I have known land sell for £1 sterling an acre years ago which would not bring more than 15s or 16s now.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL—I am willing to uphold the rule that when a doubt is thrown upon a vote the opposing Candidate has to prove it to be good. But when we examine this evidence we can hardly say it raises a doubt. The witness says that a farm alongside of it was sold for £75. That is no evidence; he will not say positively that the property is not worth £100. If he thought it was not worth that amount, why not say so.

Hon. Mr. BEER — I cannot think that wilderness land, denuded of its timber, is worth £1 an acre. The witness says he thinks it is worth about £70.

Hon. Mr. DINGWELL — We have been scrutinizing votes on 50 acres of land and trying to make good votes out of them. This farm contains 100 acres; it is within a few miles of one of the best harbours on the south side of the Island.

Hon. Mr. LORD — I had doubts about it being worth £100, because I thought it was far away from a shipping place; but when I hear that it is within a few miles of a shipping place, my doubts are removed. Firewood will be valuable there for shipping.

Hon. Mr. YEO—His Honor who spoke last says wood is valuable there, but the evidence says the timber is all taken off. This Committee cannot say that wilderness land, when all the wood of any value is taken off, is worth £1 an acre.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL — We are not valuing the land. The question is, has there been sufficient doubt thrown upon the vote to call upon the other party to prove it good. A man is brought to raise a doubt on the vote, and he says he will not swear that the property is not worth £100.

Hon. Mr. BEER. — In my opinion, sufficient doubt is raised by the witness when he says it is 100 acres of unimproved land, without any timber.

Hon. the PRESIDENT.—The witness says the timber is taken off, but he says it is covered with all kinds of wood. He means, I suppose, that all that is fit to make square timber for exportation is taken off. He says there is a person living on the land. He must have some kind of a house to live in.

Hon. Mr. ANDERSON.—I understood the evidence to say that the adjoining land is of a similar description, and that it is not worth more than £70 or £75.

Hon. Mr. WALKER.—I bought land near the same place myself. Wood is very valuable there. I know the property is well worth £100.

Hon. Mr. HENDERSON. — I think a doubt has been raised by the witness, and there is no evidence on the other side to show that the vote is good.

A resolution was submitted to the effect that it did not appear, by the evidence before the Committee, that the vote of William Blacket was sufficient in law.

The Committee divided:

CONTENTS—Hon. Messrs. Yeo, Anderson, Beer, McLaren and Henderson—5.

NON-CONTENTS—Hon. Messrs. Palmer, Walker, Dingwell, President, Ramsay and Lord—6.

The President then resumed the Chair, and the House adjourned.

MONDAY, March 23.

Committee of Privileges and Elections resumed.

Evidence relating to the vote of Donald McDonald read.

Hon. Mr. McDONALD.—I do not think the Committee can place much confidence in the first witness. He holds some office from Government. He went to McDonald's on purpose to see his farm. He values the house at 5s. It must be a very poor house indeed. The other witness says there is a good house on the place.

Mr. McGOWAN.—I believe the character of the first witness cannot be assailed. I was not aware that the circumstance of a man holding a Government office would make him swear to what was not correct. I think those who hold Government offices are among the most respectable of the inhabitants. If the witness did go to see the farm, I do not know that it was a crime.

After some desultory debate, the Hon. Attorney General submitted a resolution to the effect that the vote of Donald McDonald was not sufficient in law.

The question being put thereon, it passed in the affirmative.

The evidence relating to the vote of James Campbell was then read.

Hon. Mr. GOFF.—This was considered as good land as any on Lot 54. The Government price is £60. There are about 15 acres clear; the house has been well described by the witnesses. There is a new barn on the place. Campbell voted under a lease; I believe he is about purchasing from the Government.

Hon. Mr. LORD—I suppose it is like the case of a party who went to the Land Office, two or three days before the election, to get his deed, to enable him to vote; but when the deed was taken to His Excellency, he refused to sign it. I do not state this as a fact, but I heard that it was the case, and I believe it is true. I believe that a number of deeds were placed in the hands of parties two or three days before the election. I suppose Campbell's was one of those that lay in the office without His Excellency's signature; and therefore he voted under a lease. The lease was better than the deed, for the deed would give no right to vote till the man had it in possession for 12 months.

Hon. Mr. BEER.—There are from 10 to 12 acres clear, and there is a barn recently put up, but the house is not worth anything. When I add the value of the whole together, I cannot make it more than £60.

Hon. Mr. YEO did not think the land was worth £100.

Hon. Mr. LORD — What does his Honor know about land down in King's County? I am surprised that any gentleman should attempt to value land that he knows nothing about. I hope I shall not hear such an assertion again.

Hon. Mr. YEO.—My hon. colleague appears to think that no person knows anything but himself. What are we to judge by if not by the evidence before us?

Hon. Mr. DINGWELL—I hope your honors will recollect that we are not sitting here as partizans. We should give the matter calm consideration. I think his honor from the second district of Queen's County has given a very clear statement of the case, and I do not know how any of your honors can say that the property is not worth £100.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL—Suming up the whole improvements — valuing the clear land at £3 an acre, and that cut down at £1, — and then subtracting £60 for the purchase money, I have a balance of £85. It has been said that the first witness, A. C. Stewart, is a public officer, and that he was sent to value the land. That must not depreciate his evidence. If there was no person at the Sheriff's Court who was acquainted with the land it was the duty of persons concerned to send a man to value it.

Hon. the PRESIDENT—I think persons should be found to give evidence who were acquainted with the property, without sending men from Georgetown for the purpose of valuing it. I look with suspicion upon evidence of that kind. I do not think it is fair to take the Government price as the value of the land. The Government only put such a price on the land as would pay the cost and working expenses. The land may be worth more.

Hon. Mr. LORD.—I agree with his honor the President in regard to the land sold by the Government. The Government price should not be taken as the value of the land. Some farms were sold by the Government at Belfast for £40, for which the parties would not take £300. The farm under consideration has been held under lease, and occupied, for twenty-one years; and if it is not worth £100, he must be a very idle man. I believe it is worth a great deal more. If we say it is not worth £100, we condemn the man's oath. The hon. member from Belfast may smile, but a man's vote should be considered good, when he has sworn to it, till it is proved to be bad. I would take some man as evidence who was acquainted with the property. What could a man tell by walking along the road when the farm was covered with snow?

Hon. Mr. BEER.—I think the calculation of his honor the Attorney General is very fair. This is a part of the land which, when it was bought by the Government, was held up to ridicule by an hon. member in the other end of this building as a frog swamp. However, I believe it is a good farm; but it is a leasehold, and I think it has been clearly shown that the improvements are not worth £100.

Hon. Mr. McDONALD.—It was decided on a former occasion that when a doubt was cast on a vote by one witness, there should be more than one to remove the doubt, and to establish the validity of the vote. In this case there are two witnesses who say that the property is worth £100. A. C. Stewart merely goes along the road for the purpose of valuing the farm. He says the house is a quarter of a mile from the road, and he values it at 5s. What reliance can your honors place upon such testimony? It has been shown by the evidence that there are 15 acres clear, which, at £3 an acre, would be £45. Then there is a new barn, say £25. The house is surely worth 5*l*. The farm is 1¼ mile long. There is a great deal of valuable juniper timber on it, and I suppose Campbell takes it to market, for he is known by the name of *Juniper Jim*, (laughter). One witness says he would give 100*l* for the farm, and another says that Campbell was offered 140*l* for it. So I think there can be no doubt about the validity of this vote.

Hon. Mr. HENDERSON.—Where there is heavy juniper timber there is generally a tendency to swamp. I would like to know whether the 25 acres ready to stump is the result of chopping down heavy wood.

Hon. Mr GOFF—I think the timber was destroyed by fire.

Hon. Mr. HENDERSON.—That is just the thought that struck me. Land is generally injured very much by burning.

Hon. Mr. WALKER. — One of the witnesses is nearly related to me, and I do not think he would state anything that was not correct. I go by the evidence, and I think it has been very clearly shown that this farm is worth 100*l*.

A resolution was submitted, to the effect that the vote of James Campbell was not sufficient in law, and it passed in the affirmative.

The evidence relating to the vote of Patrick Brenan was then read.

The above named vote was polled for Mr. McDonald, and marked "objected by McLaren" in the poll book. Some discussion arose as to whether it could be scrutinized by Mr. McGowan. It was agreed to pass it over for the present, and consider it at a future time.

The President then resumed the Chair, and the House adjourned.

MONDAY AFTERNOON.

Committee of Privileges resumed.

The evidence relating to the vote of Timothy Dunoval was read.

Hon. Mr. McDONALD. — The first witness, Richard Westaway, does not know how many acres there are clear, supposes from 10 to 20. He values the farm at 40*l* to 70*l*. He only considers the value of the improvements. John Collins lives within half a mile of the place, but does not know how many acres are cleared, supposes from 15 to 20. He values the farm at 50*l* to 70*l*. Then James Smith says there are from 20 to 25 acres cultivated. I was surprised to hear that it was a log house. No person would think it was by looking at it from the road. One witness says the property is worth 120*l*. I think there can be no doubt about this voter's qualification. The evidence shows that it is worth at least 120*l*.

Hon. Mr ANDERSON—The first evidence says that there are from 10 to 20 acres clear, and that the remaining part is chiefly barren. He would not give 70*l* for the property.

Hon. Mr. McGOWAN.—Your honors will bear in mind that there is only a small log house on the farm. It could be put up for 8*l* or 9*l*. One of the witnesses says the greater part of the land is barren. They are all in arrears for rent in that neighbourhood.

Hon. Mr YEO.—A barn 40 by 30 can be built in our part of the country for 40*l*, and I am sure it is of more value than a little log house that a man would easily build in two days.

Hon. Mr. HENDERSON. — I think it will require a stretch on our part, corresponding to that made by some of the witnesses, to arrive at the conclusion that this property is worth 100*l*. It should be borne in mind that the first evidence says there is back rent due on the farm, and that has not been disproved by any of the other witnesses.

Hon. Mr. YEO.—I was agent for that Lot for a considerable time, and I did not get any rent out of it.

Hon. the PDESIDENT.—We have nothing to do with back rent. We have no evidence about that. It appears by the evidence that there are from 20 to 25 acres clear. If we say 20, at 3*l* an acre, and 40*l* for the buildings, that will make 100*l*. Whether the buildings are worth 40*l* is hard for us to decide from such meagre evidence; but if the man has from 20 to 25 acres clear, I think he should have a vote.

Hon. Mr. LORD.—There may have been some reason for not paying rent to my colleague when he was agent for that Lot. I believe he had no power to give leases. If the man has supported a family on the farm for 20 years his improvements must be worth something.

Hon. Mr. YEO.—His Honor who spoke last says I had no power to give leases; but as far as this man was concerned it made little difference whether I had or not, as he had a lease from Lewellen. To my knowledge the property is not worth more than £50.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL.—When the evidence is so very contradictory we must endeavour to separate what is probable from what is improbable. Westaway says the quantity of land clear is from 10 to 20 acres. Well, we cannot say whether it is 10 or 20. He has a dwelling house and some out-houses; the whole is valued at from £40 to 70*l*. Collins says there are from 15 to 20 acres clear, so there may be 20 consistent with both witnesses. He says 70*l* is the outside value. Smith says there are 20 to 25 acres clear. Now, if we allow that he has 20 acres clear, at 3*l* an acre it would be 60*l*. Then say 35*l* for the house and 5*l* for the barn and we have 100*l*. I am not disposed to shave too close, and when it comes so near the amount required, I would give the elector the benefit of the doubt.

Hon. Mr. LORD.—I never heard it said before that the soil on the Island was not worth anything, but it appears that nothing but the bare improvements are to be taken into account. The soil, then, is not worth anything but what the poor man puts on it by his hard labour.

Hon. Mr. YEO.—I know Smith, the witness, very well, and I would not take his word or his oath. Collins and Westaway are honest men.

Hon. Attorney General proposed the following resolution:

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Committee that the vote of Timothy Dunoval is sufficient in law.

The Committee divided:

CONTENTS — Hon. Messrs. Attorney General, President, Ramsay, Walker, Dingwell and Lord—6.

NON-CONTENTS—Hon. Messrs. Yeo, Anderson, McLaren, Beer and Henderson—5.

So it passed in the affirmative.

The evidence relating to the votes of Nicholas Murphy and Matthew Young, both polled for Mr. McDonald, was read and found sufficient to establish their validity.

The evidence relating to the votes of Alexander McLeod, John McLeod (Wm.'s son), Roderick McSwain and John McLeod, all polled for Mr. McGowan, was read. That on the two first named was found insufficient to establish their validity. The other two were sustained.

The President then resumed the Chair and the House adjourned.

TUESDAY, March 24th.

Committee of privileges and elections resumed.

The evidence relating to the vote of Andrew Foley, polled for Mr. McDonald, was read and found insufficient to sustain his vote.