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. XIV. Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Monday, May 16, 1864. New Series.---No. 24.

A FIRST RATE OPENING FOR SPRING.

To Farmers, Merchants, Shipbuilders, Tanners, and Mechanics.

THE UNDERSIGNED has been instructed by the owners to offer FOR SALE, or RENT, several VALUABLE FREEHOLD and LEASEHOLD PROPERTIES and FARMS in BELFAST and other parts of the Island, in good heart and ready for cropping this Spring, for which good valid titles and immediate possession can be given.

Also—Several BUILDING LOTS in that most advantageous mercantile situation, "SUMMER HILL," adjoining Montague Bridge, 10 miles from Georgetown, where close on to 150,000 bushels of produce are annually shipped, nearly all paid for in cash. Americans and other speculators purchase here, and ship for Great Britain, the United States, &c. &c. &c.

A number of Stores, Wharfs, a Meeting House, Post Office, and a Temperance Society established for sometime, with many Grist and Saw Mills, and Cloth Works in the vicinity; where also any quantity of all kinds of Lumber can be had, in trade, at low rates. "SUMMER HILL" property is the only Freehold one for sale in the place, which renders it most desirable for the above class of Artisans, now so much wanted in this little village in its infancy.

A STORE, and Dwelling in it, capable of holding 15,000 bushels of produce, with a double Wharf and site for Lime Kiln, will be sold cheap or let, the 1st May next.

Buildings will be erected, if desired, and at moderate rent to good tradesmen, members of any Temperance Society, who will meet with every encouragement, and trade taken in payment.

A Temperance Hall and Farmer's Club will shortly be erected at Summer Hill. Close on to £70, in cash and material, has already been raised for this purpose, with a free site for any extent the building may require.

The inducements held out to temperance men to settle down in this locality ought to cause the Lots for sale there to be purchased at an early day. Such a good chance, on such easy terms, seldom occurs. And, indeed, some of these Lots are already looked for.

A Temperance Hotel or Boarding House is now much wanted in this locality.

☞ Plans, particulars, and any other information can be obtained by calling at the office of Messrs. Ball & Son, Surveyors and Land Commissioners, Charlottetown; W. Sanderson, F. P. Norton, Thos. Annear, Georgetown; Jas. Broydrick, Campbelltown; F. W. Hughes, *Examiner Office*, Ch'town; and to the owner of "Summer Hill" property.

P. STEPHENS,

Orwell Cheap Store—from A Needle to an Anchor.

April 4, 1864.

Delegation Meeting.

THE undersigned, nominated and deputed delegates, on behalf of the oppressed and suffering tenantry on Townships numbers 48, 49, 50, 35 and 36, most respectfully request all tenant organizations, who have unfurled the banner of Freedom, and emphatically repudiate arbitrary, intolerable and tyrannic propositions of resident and absentee proprietors, and consequently intend withholding the further liquidation of rent and arrears of rent, until a compromise be effected, upon compatible, honourable, equitable and satisfactory principles, to appoint and depute three discreet delegates for each Township throughout this colony, to meet at the "North American Hotel," in Charlottetown, on Thursday, the 19th day of May instant, at 11 o'clock a. m., precisely, for the purpose of taking into consideration and deliberating upon ominously important measures in connection with the respective tenant organizations in progress in this slave-holding Colony. Therefore, the object in contemplation being the formation of one concentrated federal tenant organization, the *basis* being unflinching fidelity, loyalty, union, sympathy and action, which inevitably must ultimately contribute to the tranquility, harmony, contentment and prosperity of this much neglected Island, &c.

Leonard Wood,	George F. Adams,
Robert Stewart,	Edward Grant,
John Lousley,	John Grant,
James B. Gay,	James Millar,
Samuel Lane,	John Mooney,
John W. Acorn,	James M'Quaid.

ALEX'R McNEILL, Secy.

Lot 49, April 15th, 1864. 3in

A. McNEILL,

Manager of the Charlottetown Reading Room and Merchants' Exchange.

BEGS respectfully to inform his friends and the public that he has opened an Office as

Ship and Merchandize Broker,

in the Reading Room Buildings, up-stairs, corner of Queen and Water streets, opposite the Bank.

☞ For Sale, on arrival of Spring vessels—Flour, Tea, Sugar, Molasses, &c.; samples of which will be kept at the Office for inspection.

Parties wishing to charter vessels, also owners and captains wanting freight, will please call and register particulars in the books of the office kept for that purpose.

Entries and Clearances, Charter Parties, Bills of Lading, Manifests, Agreements, Indentures, &c, filled up and furnished at shortest notice.

Charlottetown, P E Island, 9th May, 1864.

Charlottetown and Souris PACKET.

THE well-known fast sailing schr. CHRISTIANA, Dominick Deagle Master, will run between Charlottetown and Souris this Summer, calling at intermediate Ports.

For Freight or Passage please apply to W. W. Lord & Co. Charlottetown; John McLean, Souris; Ronald Walker, Grand River; Thos. Cameron, Georgetown; D R Stewart, Murray Harbor; J C. McMillan, Wood Islands.

May 9, 1864. tf

International Steamship Company.

Two Trips a Week.

THE Splendid sea-going STEAMERS "NEW ENGLAND," Enos Field, Master, and "NEW BRUNSWICK," E. B. Winchester, Master, will leave Reed's Point Wharf on Monday and Thursday mornings, at 8 o'clock, until further notice.

FARES:

From St. John to Eastport,	$1 50
" " Portland,	4 00
" " Boston,	5 00

By Steamer and Railway to Boston, 6 00

☞ All fares and freights payable in New Brunswick currency.

J. S. CARVELL, Agent.

April 16, 1864. tf

Flower Seeds! Flower Seeds!

M. W. SKINNER

per Steamer "HEATHER BELLE," THIS MORNING, in addition to a large assortment of FRESH GARDEN SEEDS, a large variety of

CHOICE FLOWER SEEDS.

☞ An early call will secure a choice.

For sale at the CASH DRUG STORE of

M. W. SKINNER.

Charlottetown, P. E. I., May 7th, 1864. rw pro 2in

CHARLES BELL, Merchant Tailor,

QUEEN STREET,

Charlottetown, - - P. E. Island,

Has on hand a general assortment of

CLOTHS,

DOESKINS, TWEEDS,

CASSIMERES, and VESTINGS,

suitable for the

PRESENT AND COMING SEASON,

which he is prepared to make up to order at the SHORTEST NOTICE.

March 28, 1864. 5in

ROYALTY LOTS.

TO LET, for such term of years as may be agreed on, and either in whole or in part, that BEAUTIFULLY SITUATED FARM, belonging to the Subscriber, fronting on the Mount Edward Road, and lying about a mile from Charlottetown. It contains about 70 acres, 40 of which are improved and in a high state of cultivation. On the premises are two large barns.

For terms, &c., apply to

JOHN LONGWORTH.

Charlottetown, Oct. 26, 1863.

RARE OPPORTUNITY!

Valuable Real Estate.

THE subscriber is authorized by the Misses Stewart to offer FOR SALE those most VALUABLE BUILDING LOTS, situate on the West side of Queen Square, directly opposite the City Hall, having a frontage on Queen Street of about 119 feet, and on Grafton Street of about 80 feet, together with the DWELLING HOUSE and premises thereon, now occupied by Mrs. Cairns as an Hotel. This property is so well known that further description is unnecessary; suffice it to say, that those Lots far exceed in value any building Lots to be had in this City, situate as they are in the very centre of trade, within a few steps of all the public buildings, the Post Office, City and Legislative Halls, and commanding a view of the Harbour, Rivers and surrounding country, which for beauty and extent is unsurpassed; and as a situation for an Hotel, which the intended speedy completion of the Railroad from Pictou to Truro will render an enterprize not more of necessity than of sure and great remuneration, is not to be equalled in the Island. This property will be sold in one entire Lot, or will be divided to suit purchasers. Terms easy.

For further particulars enquire of W. A. Johnstone, Esq., Queen Square.

May 2, 1864. 6w

A Freehold Farm

FOR SALE.

CONSISTING of 175 acres of FRONT LAND, in a high state of cultivation, with a good DWELLING HOUSE, BARN, COACH HOUSE, THRESHING MACHINE, and all other requisites suitable for a Farm. Also, One hundred acres of WOOD LAND, in the rear, situate on the South side of Bilton River, about seven miles from Charlottetown, and quite near two Public Wharves, for shipping Produce, &c. The above property is well worth the notice of any person wishing to purchase a good Freehold Property, being the Estate of the late J. C. WRIGHT, Esq. Time will be given for two-thirds of the Purchase Money. Enquire at the Office of Henry Palmer, Esq., or at the residence of the Subscriber in Prince Street.

CATHERINE WRIGHT, Executrix.

Ch'town, April 25, 1864. 4m

Pasture Lot for Sale.

TO be sold by PRIVATE SALE, that beautifully situated PASTURE LOT, No. 42, in the Royalty of Charlottetown, having a front of Six chains on the Western side of the Mount Edward Road, and extending back by parallel lines Twenty chains to the property of G. W. Deblois, Esquire, and directly fronting the residence of the Honourable Colonial Secretary. It will be sold together or in Acre lots to suit intending purchasers. Should the above not be sold by Private Sale before the 2d day of MAY NEXT, it will then be offered by Public Auction on the premises.

A Plan of the Property can be seen at the Office of the Hon. Dr. Young, or at the Office of

WILLIAM FORGAN.

May 7, 1864. rw mon & pro

Freehold Property for Sale.

THE front of the Farm owned by the late JAMES ANDERSON, Esqr., consisting of THIRTY ACRES, (more or less,) and in possession of the undersigned, is now offered for Sale. The property is so well known that scarcely any description is needed. It has a front on St. Peter's Bay of Twenty-five chains, and not more than a quarter of a mile from the entrance of the Harbor, and abundance of sea manure heaps up on its front every season, which can be brought on the farm very conveniently by means of an excellent slip in the bank, through which a horse can bring any load. The road once known as the "Old Ferry Road" leads from the road which runs to the Harbor, and passes by the rear of the above land, leading to the Bay, and thus fitting it for a business place, especially a fishing situation. The whole of the above is in a high state of cultivation, and can be kept so by the abundance of manure thrown up on its front by the sea.

The above Property will be sold by PUBLIC AUCTION, on the Twenty-first day of JULY next, at the hour of One o'clock, by the undersigned, on the premises.

CHARLES ANDERSON.

St. Peter's, April 18, 1864.

The Great Land Commission a failure!

Procure free land while you can.

THE Subscriber has THREE FARMS on Lot 15, which he offers to sell on reasonable terms. There is a portion of each of those Farms cleared and under cultivation; they front on the shore, where abundance of sea manure can be had. A Building Lot or two in Charlottetown or Summerside would be taken as a payment. For further particulars apply to the Hon. W. W. Lord, Charlottetown; Mr. P. Brown, Summerside, or to N. J. BROWN.

Brown's Mart, Egmont Bay, Feby. 29th, 1864.

SALE OF Valuable Freehold Property,

TO be Sold by PUBLIC AUCTION, at the Colonial Building, in Charlottetown, on the Fourth day of MARCH next (1864), at the hour of Twelve o'clock, noon, by virtue of a Power of Sale contained in a certain Indenture of Mortgage, dated the Tenth day of December, 1860, and made between the Honorable William Forgan, of the Royalty of Charlottetown, and Susan Kemys, his wife, of the one part, and Daniel Hodgson, of Charlottetown, aforesaid, of the other part, and by said Daniel Hodgson assigned to me,—All those Tracts, Pieces or Parcels of Land, being Pasture Lots Numbers Nineteen (19), Twenty-six (26), Thirty-four (34), and Forty-two (42), in the Royalty of Charlottetown, aforesaid, as the same are delineated and laid down on a certain Map or Plan of the said Royalty made and now kept in the Office of the Registrar of Deeds and Keeper of Plans for the said Island, reference being thereunto had will more fully and at large appear.

For further particulars and terms of Sale, &c., apply to the Subscriber or his Solicitor.

Dated at Charlottetown this 31st August, A. D. 1863.

WILLIAM H. HOBKIRK.

Joseph Hensley, Solicitor.

THE above Sale is POSTONPED until WEDNESDAY, the 15th day of June next, A.D.1864, at the same place, and at twelve o'clock, noon. Dated the 29th February, A.D. 1864.

WILLIAM H. HOBKIRK.

Joseph Hensley, Solicitor.

POWDER MAGAZINE!

IT is requested, in consequence of the intended sale of the lands heretofore known as the Barrack Ground, that all depositors of Gunpowder in the Magazine will remove their property within one month from this.

THOMAS ALLEY,

Superintendent of Public Works.

May 4, 1864. 2in

POETRY.

AMONG THE SAND-HILLS.

From the ocean half a rood,
To the sandhills long and low
Ever and anon I go,
Hide from me the gleaming flood,
Only listen to his flow.

To those billowy curls of sand
Little of delight is lent,—
As it were a yellow tent
Here and there by some wild hand
Pitched, and overgrown with bent;

Some few buds, like golden beads,
Cut in stars on leaves that shine
Greenly, and a fragrance fine
Of the ocean's delicate weeds,
Of his foam'd and silver wine.

But the place is music-haunted,
Let there blow what wind soever;
Now as by a stately river
A monotonous requiem's chanted,
Now you hear great pine woods shiver.

Frequent when the tides are low,
Creep for hours, sweet sleepy hums,
But when in the spring-tide comes,
Then the silver trumpets blow,
And the waters beat like drums;

And the At'antic's roll full often,
Muffled by the sand-hills round,
Seems a mighty city's sound,
Which the night-time serves to soften,
By the waker's pillow drown'd;

Seems a salvo—state, or battle's—
Through the purp'e mountain gaps,
Heard by peasants; or, perhaps,
Seems a wheel that rolls or rattles;
Seems an eagle wing that flaps;

Seems a clap of thunder, caught
By the mountain pines, and tuned
To a marvellous gentle sound,
Wailings, where despair is not,
Quieting the heart's deep wound.

Still, what winds there blow soever,
Wet or shine, by sun or star,
When white horses plunge afar,
When the pallid froth lines shiver,
When the waters quiet are.

On the sand-hills when waves boom,
Or with ripples scarce at all
Tumble, nor so much as crawl,
Ever do we know of whom
Cometh up the rise and fall.

Need is none to see the ships,
None to mark the mid-sea jet,
Softening into violet,
While those old pre-Adamite lips
To the heaps beyond are set.

Ah! we see not the great foam,
That beyond us strangely rolls,
Whose white-winged ships are souls,
Sailing from the port called Home,
When the signal bell, Death, tolls.

Ah! we see no silver shimmer,
And we catch no hue divine,
Of the purpling hyaline,
From the heaving and the glimmer,
Life's sands bound us with their line.

But by sounds unearthly driven
Through life's sand-hills, we may be
Sure that a diviner sea
Floweth to our hearts from heaven,
Ebbeth to eternity.

COLONIAL LEGISLATURE.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Tuesday, April 5.

USURY BILL.

(*Continued.*)

Hon. Mr. Dingwell: I do not know who introduced the Bill, nor do I care. I will support a measure that I think fair between man and man, no matter who introduced it.

Hon. the President: If we pass the Bill, with the amendment, I do not see what will be the use of it. Merchants can already charge what rate of interst they like, as far as the law is concerned, on Promissory notes and Bills of Exchange payable within three years. Money-lenders cannot charge more than six per cent., the rate proposed by the amendment, for money secured upon real estate, and what then will be the use of the Bill? It may be some little use to merchants, as it will enable them to charge more than six per cent. on Promissory notes and Bills of Exchange which are not payable within three years. That is all the benefit that can possibly arise from it.

Hon. Mr. Lord: Does his honor the President then intend to support the Bill without the amendment?

Hon. the President: I have said that I do not see any use in enacting a law which is already in force in this Colony. I think it will appear most ridiculous to pass the Bill with the amendment.

The question having been put on the amendment, and lost, it was then put on Mr. Dingwell's motion, and passed in the affirmative.

The House was then resumed, and the chairman reported the Bill agreed to with an amendment.

The President being about to put the motion, "that the report of the Committee be now received."

Hon. Mr. McDonald rose and said—There is a manifest contradiction in the title, preamble, and clauses of the Bill. The title of the Bill is "An Act to repeal the Usury Laws." The preamble says that money should be lent without any restriction as to the rate of interest; and one of the clauses of the Bill provides that parties, in lending money, shall be restricted to six per cent. The Bill, as far as I can understand it, will just leave the law as it was before, and as I am not in favor of leaving the Bill as it is, I therefore move, that the report of the Committee be received this day three months.

Hon. Attorney General: I shall oppose the motion, because I think the Bill will be some benefit even in its present shape.

After some further desultory debate, the Attorney General moved an amendment that the Bill be referred back to the Committee, for further consideration, and the question having been put thereon, it passed in the affirmative. The Bill was then referred back to the Committee, and a slight alteration was made in the preamble.

Adjourned till to-morrow at eleven o'clock.

Wednesday, April 6.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Walker, a Bill "to incorporate St. George's Lodge, No. 866, of Free and Accepted Masons, Georgetown, Prince Edward Island," was read a second time. The House then went into Committee thereon, and after some time spent therein, Mr. Walker, the chairman, reported the Bill agreed to without any amendment.

On motion of Hon. Mr. McLaren, the Bill "to incorporate the Minister and Trustees of the Presbyterian Church, Valleyfield, Lot 57." was read a second time, and the House then went into Committee thereon.

Hon. Mr. Dingwell observed that three out of nine was a very small number of the trustees to constitute a quorum, and moved that the word "three" be struck out and "five inserted.

After some desultory debate, the motion was agreed to. The Bill was reported from committee agreed to with an amendment.

Hon. Mr. Beer presented a petition of certain merchants and others of Charlottetown, praying for a reduction of the duty on crushed sugar. Also a petition of Alexander McKenzie, confectioner, praying for the same object.

Adjourned till 4 o'clock, p. m.

AFTERNOON SITTING.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. McDonald, the Bill "to amend the Act to incorporate the Union Bank of Prince Edward Island" was read a second time. It was then committed to a committee of the whole House, and reported agreed to without any amendment.

Hon. Attorney General, on rising to move the second reading of the Bill to continue and amend the Act to Incorporate the Bank of Prince Edward Island, said:—This Bill, your honors, or one similar to it in its provisions, was brought before the Legislature last session. It was passed by the House of Assembly, but did not meet with the concurrence of this House, inasmuch as it contemplated not only an extension of the charter of the Bank in regard to time, but also gave power to increase its capital stock. Some of your honors thought it was designed to prevent the Union Bank, then in contemplation, from going into operation; but as the latter has now gone into operation, or is about doing so, it will have a fair chance amongst capitalists, and I, therefore, think there cannot be any reasonable objection to passing this Bill now, particularly as it provides that it shall not go into operation till the first of January, 1865.

The Bill was then read a second time, and committed to a committee of the whole House.

Hon. Mr. Beer: When a Bill for the same object was before the House, last session, it was not favourably entertained, because it was considered that the effect of it would be, that it would prevent the new Bank from going into operation. If the old Bank had obtained power at that time to increase its capital stock, the result would be that many persons, instead of running the risk of becoming shareholders in the new Bank, would take stock in the old Bank, which was in successful operation; but as a great portion—more than half—of the stock of the new Bank is now subscribed, the objection is, in a great measure, removed, and I will therefore support the Bill.

House resumed,—Bill reported from committee agreed to.

Hon. Attorney General, by command of His Excellency the Lieut. Governor, laid before the House the Report of the School Visitor for the Western section of the Island. Also, by like command, the Impost Accounts for the port of Charlottetown, and the several outports of this Island, for the year 1863. Also, the School Visitor's Report for the Eastern section of the Island, for the year ending 31st March, 1864.

Hon. Atty. General also presented a petition of T. Desbrisay, W. R. Watson, and M. W. Skinner, praying for a reduction of the duty on patent medicines.

His honor, on rising to present this petition said, I dare say the reduction of the duty on patent medicines will be worthy of consideration. The reason why so high a duty is imposed upon them is, that the greatest portion of them are of foreign importation; and as we are not permitted to make differential duties, the Legislature has been induced to tax them pretty high on that account. I dare say some of those patent medicines are very valuable, as the petitioners say, and I wish they had drawn a distinction, and informed the public which were good and which were bad. Perhaps it will be advisable to reduce the duty on those medicines, and I will concur in doing so, except on Holloway's pills and ointment. I would impose the highest duty on them, for notices of them are stuck into every new-paper you take up. They are thrust before your eyes and disguised in such a manner, that you cannot tell what they are till you read them. I had an idea of issuing a prospectus of a new paper from which all notices of patent medicines, particularly Holloway's pills and ointment, should be excluded, and I am persuaded that it would obtain an immense circulation.

On motion of the Hon. Attorney General, a Bill "to amend the Act to change the constitution of the Legislative Council by rendering the same elective," was read a third time and passed.

Adjourned till to-morrow at eleven o'clock.

Thursday, April 7.

On motion of Hon. Mr. McDonald, the Bill "to amend the Act to incorporate the Bank of Prince Edward Island" was read a third time and passed.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Beer, the Bill "to amend the act to incorporate the Bank of Prince Edward Island" was read a third time and passed.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. McDonald, the Bill "to incorporate St. George's Lodge, No. 866, of Free and Accepted Masons, Georgetown," was read a third time and passed.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Dingwell, the Bill "to incorporate the Minster and Trustees of the Presbyterian Church, Valleyfield, Lot 57," was, as amended, read a third time and passed.

PETITION FOR ALTERATION IN LICENCE LAW.

Hon. Mr. Beer presented the following petition.

"To the Honorable the Legislative Council of Prince Edward Island, in Colonial Parliament convened:

"We, the undersigned inhabitants of Prince Edward Island, beg leave respectfully to call the attention of your Honorable House to the necessity of some further amendment of the existing Licence Law.

"Your petitioners are of opinion, that before granting Licences to sell intoxicating liquors, or the *renewal of licences already granted*, the parties applying for the same should, in all cases, be required to obtain the consent of a majority of the inhabitants of the School District in which such liquors are intended to be sold, at public meetings convened for that purpose; and that no store licences should be granted authorizing the sale of spirituous or malt liquors, wine, or cider, in less quantities than one quart.

"And, as in duty bound, your petitioners will ever pray."

(Signed) G. W. Millner,
Charles Young,
J. W. Morrison,

And nearly two thousand others.

Hon. Mr. Beer, on rising to move that the petition be laid on the table, said: It is necessary, at present, in applying for a renewal of a tavern license, to obtain the consent of a majority of the inhabitants of the school district; but it is not required that a public meeting should be called for that purpose. Hence the practice prevails of taking round a document from house to house, and it is thought that signatures are sometimes obtained by improper means. The petitioners are of opinion that if a public meeting were called for that purpose, and people were allowed an opportunity of discussing the matter and freely expressing their sentiments, it would be better known whether a tavern was required in the settlement or not. I think the practice of taking round a paper from house to house is highly objectionable. Many persons in a district may not desire to have the licence renewed, and if they were allowed an opportunity of stating their views at a public meeting, others might see the matter in a truer light, and be induced to withhold their consent.

Hon. Mr. Dingwell: It is very probable that some alteration will be made in the licence law; but I do not approve of calling a public meeting to obtain the consent of a majority of the inhabitants of the district before a licence could be renewed. It is not a matter of great importance, and I think people would be better employed at home than attending public meetings for that purpose. It is, no doubt, necessary to keep the traffic in intoxicating liquors under proper restrictions, but I do not think people would attend meetings for that purpose.

Hon. Mr. Henderson: When petitions were presented on the same subject formerly, I abstained from making any remarks, thinking it was not the proper time to do so. I thought there would be an opportunity given at a future day; but as some remarks have been made on the opposite side, I will claim the privilege of making a few observations also.

Hon. Mr. Dingwell: I wish to know what his honor means by the 'opposite side? Does his honor consider that I am opppsed to temperance because I expressed an opinion with regard to calling public meetings?

Hon. Mr. Henderson: The term is a common phrase, and I used it because his honor did not appear to think the prayer of the petition was deserving of notice; but his honor knows that when a man sees the name of a respectable neighbor to a petition, and not knowing the arguments which may have induced that neighbor to give his signature, he would be more likely to append his name than he would be at a public meeting where all parties could be heard, and the statements of each other understood. And if the inhabitants do not feel such an interest in the matter as to induce them to assemble for that purpose, it will be evident that they do not desire a tavern, or if they do, it is their own fault if they do not get it.

Hon. Mr. Dingwell: There is not much difference of opinion between his honor and myself, except this, that I think a man can be consulted at his own house as well, if not better, than at a public meeting, where, perhaps, flowery speeches are made—perhaps a glass of grog given—and men's minds excited. No, a man's own house is the best place to form a deliberate opinion. I am not setting up an argument in opposition to temperance. I am as great an advocate for temperance as any member of this House, and I would support any measure that I thought would promote so desirable an object.

Adjourned till four o'clock, p. m.

AFTERNOON SITTING.

SPECIE CURRENCY BILL.

(Committee resumed.)

Hon. Mr. Dingwell: I am not aware that any inconvenience has ever arisen from payments having been made in silver on this Island. I never heard it objected to. I do not know how it may be in town, but people in the country are well satisfied to have their debts paid in silver. I have no particular interest in the Bill, and I am not anxious to pass it; for I do not think there is any necessity for it. If silver is not a legal tender to a higher amount than £9 I am afraid it will interfere with, and have an injurious effect upon, the money matters of this colony.

Hon. the President: No doubt the gentleman who introduced this Bill had some reason for it, though I am not aware of any myself. The only complaints I have heard in the country about silver is, that it is too scarce. People in the country would sooner have silver than Bank notes, particularly those who lay up money, for the mice will not eat it, as it is too hard for their teeth. In the country, there is some difficulty experienced in getting change; but perhaps the Bill may be required in town, and I will not oppose it, though I have not heard any particular reasons for introducing it.

Hon. Mr. Beer: I am not aware that any actual necessity has arisen for the Bill yet. I think it has been introduced in anticipation of that necessity. It is well known that Bills of this kind are in operation in almost all other places. In the old country, a man cannot be compelled to take more than £2 in silver. Similar Bills were introduced into the neighboring colonies three or four years ago. But though silver, under the operation of this Bill, will not be a legal tender to a higher amount than £6, yet it will not prevent a man from taking £100 if he choose to do so. Suppose a gentleman is going to leave the Island, and wishes to take £100 or £200 with him, and he should go to the Bank and demand gold for that amount of notes. The Bank is not compelled to pay gold, and may force him to take £50 or £100 in silver. Would that not be a very great hardship? Nothing of the kind, as far as I am aware, has arisen yet; but such occurences may, and very likely will, take place if a Bill of this nature is not passed.

Hon. Mr. Lord: I am of the same opinion with regard to this Bill as I was before. I speak on public grounds, and as a person having an interest in both Banks, and I say it is a pity this Bill should have been brought in as a Government measure, particularly at the present time. Suppose we had £10,000 in specie in the new Bank, and had only £2000 or £3000 of that amount in gold; and suppose parties came with the bank notes and demanded the last named amount in specie: If they would not take silver, what would the Bank do? Why, they would be compelled to close their doors, or take the benefit of the clause in the Act which allows them to suspend specie payment for three months. Public confidence in the Bank would be lost, and it would be destroyed. I am surprised to find that so many gentlemen from the country in the other end of this Building, and who have an interest in the Bank, should allow this measure to pass without giving it their opposition; but it is a Government measure, and I know what it is to be a supporter of the Government. I have supported Government measures contrary to my own conscientious convictions, for we are bound to support a party; but we have no right to introduce measures not asked for by the people, particularly one so preposterous as this, for even some of the merchants in town do not see a pound of silver in a week. But I will sit down, for I know that what I say will have very little effect.

Hon. Attorney General: I did not expect, your honors, that we should enter into a discussion of the principle of this Bill again, as it was discussed on a former occasion; but I think little need be said except to recall to your honors' minds the principle which governs the circulation of money, to show us that a measure of this kind is necessary in all places where there are persons engaged in business transactions. His honor who has spoken last attributes sinister motives to the hon. member who introduced the Bill; but I wish his honor was, for I doubt very much if he is, as free from interested motives as that hon. gentleman. I believe his honor is a shareholder in the Banks, and I do not think such imputations come with a very good grace from him. His honor says that in a party Government a man is bound to support his party, and he makes a very humble confession when he says he has done so "contrary to his own conscientious convictions." These are novelties to me. I have supported a party Government for many years, and I know that a man can retire from a Government which he thinks is acting improperly, or passing any unconstitutional measure. If he does not do so, he becomes a guilty party to the act. I would not have made such a self-abasing acknowledgment as that, neither would I have made these allusions if his honor had not been so extremely personal in his remarks. Now, it is surely the duty of the Government to see that the laws which regulate the specie currency of the colony are established on a sound basis. In almost all the other British colonies there are laws of this kind. Some of your honors appear to think that this Bill will be the means of withholding silver from men who want it, but the measure is of the very opposite nature. It provides that no man shall be forced to take more than a certain amount against his will; and not only so, but it will protect people from loss, for they are more liable to lose by dealing in silver than in gold. Silver of depreciated value might be imported by the Banks, and people compelled to take it if they were not restrained by law. I remember that some years ago a sum of money, amounting to £500 or £600, passed through my hands as a solicitor, all in silver. It took me nearly a day and a half to count it, and I never was so tired of anything in my life. I would rather give a guinea than undertake such a job again. And it is not only the personal inconvenience, but the actual loss to which parties may be subjected if there is no Bill of this kind passed. The Banks, by their acts of incorporation, are obliged to have a certain amount of gold in their vaults. (Hon. Mr. Lord—"No; it is specie,—and silver is specie.") Very well; if they are allowed to import any kind of silver, they may, and very likely would, import silver of a depreciated value. There is a new coin in Canada of an inferior value, and there are various coins which are not of the same value in all the Colonies. They might import those coins here; people would be compelled to take them, and would lose by them. If men want silver, and if it is more useful to country people than gold or Bank notes, they have only to ask for it and they can get it; but this Bill is to prevent it from being forced upon them. If people prefer dealing in silver, they can still do so. There is nothing in this Bill to prevent them from doing so, any more than there is to prevent them from dealing in gold or diamonds. It will prevent the Banks from importing depreciated silver. Without a law of this kind, a gentleman might come from England with a letter of credit to the Bank of Prince Edward Island, or any other Bank in the colony, and might be compelled to take £100 or £200 in smooth six-pences, which would not be taken in England except by weight. Some person will be the first to discover that a Bill of this kind is necessary by being subjected to some inconvenience which will cause him to speak out; and are we to wait till a number of persons suffer before we introduce a Bill to prevent it? I do not see why any person should object to the Bill unless they are frightened by their own prejudices.

Hon. Mr. Lord: After all that has been said by his honor the Attorney General, I am not convinced that there is any necessity for this Bill. His honor is looking at what may take place in the distant future; but I feel that this Bill should not have been introduced without having been asked for by the people. I have never heard any complaints, except in one single instance. As to being compelled to support Government measures, I do not think his honor need have said so much about that, for I believe we all go a little too far at times to support a party.

Hon. Mr. Walker: I am at a loss to conceive what necessity there was for this Bill; and what will be the consequence of it? If a man has a quantity of silver on hand, and has a sum of money to pay at the Bank, what will he do with it—who will give him Bank notes for it? It has been said that there is a law of this kind in England—that silver is not a legal tender for over £2; but it should be remembered that the Bank of England notes are a legal tender everywhere. Again, it has been said that there is a similar law in the neighboring colonies. Well, what if there is? They can do as they like, but we must look at what is for the benefit of our own colony.

Hon. Mr. Henderson: I have been leaving this discussion to your honors who have most to do with mercantile matters, and are therefore better able to speak on this subject. I have been informed by respectable parties that there is a large amount of depreciated silver in circulation in the other colonies, and no doubt much of it will find its way here if there is not something to prevent it. I have taken a number of quarter dollars myself which have been refused by several persons. I believe there is a considerable quantity of depreciated silver in circulation, and this Bill will prevent a large quantity of it from being forced upon any individual. Certainly it cannot be said that this Act will be very stringent, for in England no greater sum than £2 is a legal tender. In the neighboring Colonies £3 or £4 is the most that a person can be compelled to take, but here we make it £6. I do not, then, see any great objection to the Bill, though I have not heard that any great necessity has arisen for it yet; but suppose a man wants to take a tour through the neighboring colonies or the United States. As our Bank notes are not a circulating medium there, he would have to go to the Bank to get specie, and if he were forced to take a lot of depreciated silver, would it not be a very great hardship? A Scotch miser, it is true, would rather have silver than Bank notes; but there is nothing to hinder any person from taking it in preference to notes if he choose to do so. I think I am justified, therefore, in supporting the Bill, independent of its being a Government measure.

Hon. Mr. Walker: His honor speaks of the value of silver, but the Bill before us has nothing to do with that. It only refers to the quantity of it. The Banks would be careful not to take depreciated silver.

Hon. Mr. McLaren: I believe this Bill is based upon sound principles; and why should not Banks be regulated by law as well as other institutions. They will not be obliged to take depreciated silver, and why should any person be obliged take it from them? As to being bound to support Government measures, the members of the Opposition are, to all appearance, as much bound to oppose every Government measure that is brought forward as we are to support it.

Hon. Mr. Lord: I think we are quite justified in giving our opposition to such measures as this, for it is not required by the country.

Hon. Mr. McLaren: If we refuse to pass this Bill, we must profess to be wiser than all the other colonies around us.

Hon. Mr. McDonald: Some of your honors appear to be afraid that if this Bill is not passed, we will be inundated with silver from the neighboring colonies; but I have never heard of an instance of anything of the kind yet. His honor the Attorney General says this Bill is for the purpose of preventing silver from being forced upon people—that it is to keep them from being burdened with it; but I have yet to learn that any of our farmers or tradesmen have, or ever had more of it than they could find use for. If any of them are in that unfortunate condition, they will probably have some trouble in getting clear of it after this Bill passes. I have done a small business myself for some time, but I never had to make remittances in silver, neither had I more at any time than I could make use of in my own business. On the other hand, I have frequently experienced some difficulty in getting silver to make change. I do not think the Bill is required, and I shall therefore oppose it.

Hon. the President: I have no particular desire to pass this Bill; but I see it was passed by the House of Assembly unanimously, or at least it passed without any division, either on the first, second, or third reading. One of your honors referred to the hon. gentleman who introduced the Bill, and it was said that he was forced to take a large amount of silver at the Bank; that, it was said, was the reason why this measure was introduced; but I have ascertained that such was not the case. He was not paid one shilling in silver on the occasion referred to; therefore his honor who made those allusions was laboring under a mistake, and the Bill could not have been introduced for any reasons of that kind.

Hon. Mr. Lord: Even if it did pass the other House unanimously, that is no reason that we should pass it here.

Hon. Mr. Dingwell: Times change, your honors; but when I was a young man, and was in the habit of trading to Newfoundland, payments were all made in silver. The dollars were put in bags and removed from one place to another in wheelbarrows. I do not say that such is the case now; but if it should happen again what would we do with it here? It might be a legal tender in Newfoundland, and if it would not be taken here to a higher amount than £6, would it not cause a great deal of inconvenience? This might happen when this law cold not be repealed. I think we should, therefore, pause before we interfere with the specie currency of the country. If a man in the coutry should contract a debt to the amount of £20 and have silver to pay it, he would think he was quite safe; but if he had to come to town and change it for notes, and perhaps have some difficulty in getting it changed too, would it not be a great hardship? If there had been a petition presented to the Legislature asking for such a law, I would not oppose it; but I will not allow anything that I think will be an injury to the country to pass, no matter who or what party brings it forward, without raising my voice against it.

Hon. Mr. Henderson: I would heartily concur in the patriotic sentiments expressed by his honor who has just sat down; and I confess that I would have been better satisfied if this Bill had been the result of a petition to the Legislature, showing that there was an absolute necessity for it; but the very fact that such laws are in operation in the neighboring colonies is sufficient to show that there is some necessity for the measure here. And if any contingency should arise such as his honor has alluded to, if this law should become oppressive, even in the days of our children, unless our constitution is swept away by some commotion, it can be repealed. I think, therefore, that we are quite safe in passing the Bill at the present time.

Hon. Mr. Beer: If silver were even as plenty now as it was in the days when his honor from St. Peter's (Mr. Dingwell) used to take it from Newfoundland in large bags, I do not see that any inconvenience could result from the operation of this Bill. People could take as much of it as they pleased, but they would not be forced to take it against their will. The banks are bound to respond to their notes in specie, which is considered to be gold, and the Bill simply provides that they shall not take advantage of any parties by tendering to them a large amount in silver.

The question of concurrence was then put on the clause under consideration, and the committee divided:—

Contents—Hon. Messrs. Attorney General, President, Beer, Henderson, Anderson, and McLaren,—6.

Non-Contents—Hon. Messrs. Dingwell, Walker, Lord, and McDonald,—4.

So it passed in the affirmative,

Progress was then reported, and the House adjourned till to-morrow at 11 o'clock.

NOTES OF THE SESSION.

No. 9.

ORANGEISM—(*continued.*)

Friday Afternoon,
9th April, 1864.

Hon. Mr. Coles. He had, when the House was adjourned in the morning, been upon his legs for the purpose of making a short reply to the hon. member for the Fourth District of Prince County (the Hon. James C. Pope), who had, strangely enough, presumed to twit the hon. member for the Second District of King's County (the Hon. Mr. Whelan) because he was not always as punctual in his observance of the hour appointed for the meeting of the House, in a morning or an