

ty himself. He would in the Address which he (Mr. Coles) expected to be adopted, see the true and undisguised aim and meaning of the majority of the House; and would distinctly be given to understand that they did not mean to transact business with a Government in which the people had no confidence.

Mr. POPE seconded the proposed amendment.

Mr. YEO denied that the public meetings to which the hon. member for Queen's County (Mr. Coles) had referred, as demonstrations on the part of the people, of their desire for the introduction of Responsible Government into this colony, could justly be considered as offering any such evidence. He ascribed the meetings of the people on those occasions to other causes than their persuasion that Responsible Government would be for the general good. He denied that the individuals composing such meetings represented a tithe of the respectability and intelligence of those sections of the country in which they were held. Such was his opinion of the generality of them, formed from what he had heard of them from such sources as he deemed most worthy of being relied on; and with respect to those held in his own immediate neighbourhood, he did not believe that there were more than twenty or twenty five voters among them. On the authority of some of the newspapers of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and from all that he had gathered in conversation, whilst lately passing through the latter Province, he declared that he had read and seen enough fully to convince him that the people of those Provinces were heartily sick of their experiment, and longed for nothing more than to be rid of their Responsible Governments, which were fast leading them to the verge of ruin. With respect to the state of our finances, and the amount of public money now in the Treasury, he could see nothing to boast of on that score, as the hon. member for Queen's County (Mr. Coles) had done. When the majority had locked up the public chest, the money could not be taken from it; but what had by that means been retained in it, could not certainly be regarded as so much saved to the country, for it would yet have to be expended in those public services from which it had been withheld.

Mr. WARBURTON, in answer to his colleague, Mr. Yeo, emphatically insisted not only upon the respectability and intelligence of the majority of those composing the meetings which he (Mr. W.) had thought proper to call for the purpose of testing their estimation of his conduct, as their Representative, in the Legislature—with reference to the question of Responsible Government, but also upon the indisputable unanimity of their verdict in favour of the course which he had pursued in conjunction with the majority of the House. The hon. member also further insisted, that not only had he had the satisfaction to see elicited by the meetings which he had himself called, a complete triumphant expression of public opinion in favour of Responsible Government; but that the very meeting, called by his honorable colleague (Mr. Yeo), as an avowed enemy of the measure at which he (Mr. Warburton) had confronted that gentleman at his own door, surrounded by all over whom he could hope to exercise influence or control on the printed Resolutions which had been sent out to him (Mr. Yeo) from Charlottetown, but which were submitted to the meeting as written out by an individual in the pay of Mr. Yeo, he beat him five to one.

To be continued.

The Negotiation,

BETWEEN THE LIEUT. GOVERNOR AND THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

ADDRESS

Of the Assembly to His Excellency touching the conditions on which Her Majesty's Government purposes to concede the system of Responsible Government and to surrender to the Legislature the disposal of the Crown Revenues of this Colony. May it please Your Excellency.

The House of Assembly having had the honor of your Excellency's Despatch,

from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, dated 31st January, 1851, laid before the House by your Excellency, together with your Excellency's Message accompanying the same, wherein the terms are set forth in compliance with which Her Majesty's Government purposes to surrender to the Local Legislature the disposal of the Crown Revenues of this Colony, and sanction the establishment of Responsible Government—they beg respectfully to assure your Excellency of their readiness to provide for the payment of the Civil Establishment of the Colony, in accordance with the Civil List Bill of last year, and to suppress the objectionable clause of that Bill, alluded to in the said Despatch.

The recommendation of the Colonial Minister, to a "fair provision being made for existing holders of office, entitled to such compensation" has received the dispassionate consideration of this House, as will be seen by the annexed Resolutions, and the House of Assembly cannot believe that the Officers particularly mentioned, namely, the Attorney General and the Colonial Secretary, come within the terms of his Lordship's recommendation.

They deem it their duty at the same time frankly to state to your Excellency, that it is the unanimous opinion of the House, that the creation of a Pension List in this Colony would be utterly repudiated by the great body of its inhabitants.

When the system of Responsible Government was conceded to the other Provinces in North America, and on their assumption of the payment of their Civil Establishments, the concession was accompanied by the surrender of great Imperial Interests, including millions of acres of valuable Crown Lands; and in New Brunswick particularly, when that Province undertook the charge of its Civil List, before Responsible Government was conceded to it, amongst the relinquishment of other interests, the Imperial Government surrendered to the disposal of its Legislature money to the amount of more than one hundred thousand pounds, Crown Revenue, then in the Chest. On the change of Government taking place in two of those Provinces, namely, Canada and Nova Scotia, application was made to their Legislatures respectively, for to provide pensions for the principal office holders under the former system of Government. Those Legislatures, however, refused the application, except in one instance, and Her Majesty's Government no longer pressed the claims of those individuals on whose behalf it interposed. The instance referred to, is that of Sir Rupert D. George, who had held the office of Provincial Secretary, in Nova Scotia, for upwards of forty years, and whose conduct in the Public Service was unexceptionable. The House of Assembly of Nova Scotia were constrained to vote a Pension to the gentleman in question because, having left England to fill his situation, he came within the terms of Lord John Russell's Despatch of 16th October, 1839, which "announced the rules thereafter to be observed in Prince Edward Island, as well as in the other Colonies, in reference to the tenure of office." The House of Assembly would respectfully call your Excellency's attention to this Despatch, as being directly applicable to the Officers for whom Pensions are now claimed.

While thus offering this allusion to

the other North American Provinces, the House of Assembly here, cannot help reminding your Excellency that the Revenues and Lands proposed to be surrendered to this Colony are comparatively unimportant, undeserving of great consideration; and that a part of those Revenues, namely, the Permanent Duties, belongs of right to this Colony, as being intended to be applied to the service of its Roads, Bridges and Ferries.

Independantly of all these considerations and of the reasons which compel the House of Assembly to refuse the application for Pensions, the House take the liberty of respectfully suggesting to your Excellency, that it was their constitutional right to have the Executive Council of this Island so constructed as to represent their views, without negotiation and without price.

Nevertheless, should your Excellency consider as insufficient and unsatisfactory the reasons contained in the accompanying Resolutions and in this Address, the House of Assembly, actuated by an anxious desire to meet, as far as possible, the views of Her Majesty's Government and those of your Excellency, and to bring to a termination a negotiation, the further continuance of which cannot fail to prove detrimental to the welfare of this Colony—will be prepared to relinquish their demand to the surrender of the ungranted Crown Lands, out of which Her Majesty's Government may provide such compensation as they may deem the Attorney General and Colonial Secretary, on a reconsideration of their claims, justly entitled to.

MESSAGE from His Excellency the Lieut. Governor by Mr Secretary Haviland, in answer to the above Address.

A. BANNERMAN, Lieut. Governor.

The Lieut. Governor has received the Assembly's Address, with the Resolution which accompany it. He observes, they hail with heartfelt gratitude the gracious concession of Her Majesty's Government, to the long entertained and earnestly expressed wishes of the People of this Island, on the subject of Responsible Government.

It will not be the fault, therefore, of the Lieut. Governor, should that system of Government, which, it seems, is so earnestly desired by the People, be longer withheld. Its introduction depends on the Assembly, who expect the Lieut. Governor will exercise, with impartiality and candor, the discretion with which he is invested, in arranging the necessary details: He is ready to do so, when the Assembly give him the opportunity, admitting, as he does, that, on that subject, he may act with discretionary powers. But the Assembly must admit also, that the Lieut. Governor has no discretionary authority to yield the conditions on which Responsible Government is to be conceded, and the Crown Revenues surrendered. The only discretion left to the Lieut. Governor was, to endeavor to arrange amicably which of two sums, the Chief Justice's Salary was to be fixed at. On that subject, the Lieut. Governor will express his opinion by and by; but, before he does so, and before noticing the proposal of the Assembly to surrender the proceeds of the sales of the ungranted lands, a proposal to which the Lieut. Governor will presently advert, He is desirous to notice one point in the Assembly's Address, to which they seem to attach great importance. They say—"They deem it their duty, at the same time, frankly to state to your Excellency, that it is the unanimous opinion of the House, that the creation of a Pension List in this Colony, would be entirely repudiated by the great body of the inhabitants of this Colony." His Excellency deems it to be his duty, as frankly to state to the Assembly, that they are unnecessarily alarmed; for he knows, that Her Majesty's Government never dream of creating a Pension List in this Colony. On the contra-

ry, while they demand, on the part of the Crown, before its Revenues are surrendered, compensation which they consider to be justly due to two individuals, they leave to the uncontrolled discretion of the Assembly, the amount of Salaries to all functionaries holding office, or who may hereafter be appointed to office, in this Colony, with the exception of such as are permanently fixed by Statute. Notwithstanding the unanimity which prevails in the Assembly on this subject, (which is always so desirable in the popular branch of the Legislature,) and notwithstanding the care and anxiety to watch over the interests of those whom they so worthily represent.

The Lieut. Governor will now proceed to notice the suggestions about the ungranted Crown Lands, from the sales of which, the Assembly propose compensation (not Pensions, he observes,) should be given to the Attorney General and Colonial Secretary. The Lieut. Governor did hope that the Assembly had suggested some mode which would enable him to fulfil, if not the letter, at least the spirit of his instructions, and he naturally directed a return to be made of the source of revenue derived from the sale of ungranted lands, for the last five years; that return is now before him, and the average is £108 5s. 3d., currency per annum.

The Lieut. Governor will now proceed to the Attorney General's case, and the offer made to him to continue in that office. It is very gratifying to the Lieut. Governor to find the high estimation which, by such a proposal, that gentleman must be held by the Assembly, and, as the Lieut. Governor understands, by the community at large of this Colony, and such being the case, if the Assembly are prepared to provide a permanent Salary for that gentleman, so long as he shall continue Attorney General, equal to the compensation which Her Majesty's Government consider him entitled to, the Lieut. Governor will immediately communicate with the Attorney General: But he cannot well see how the Attorney General can be expected to hold a seat, politically speaking, in the Executive Council, nor will the Lieut. Governor press on that gentleman, any arrangement which may be contrary to his feelings.

In the case of the Colonial Secretary, the Lieut. Governor to sure that the Assembly will expect Her Majesty's Representative to observe the Christian maxim of "doing as he would be done by," and to presume that no one is guilty until he is proved to be so. But of this, the Assembly may be assured, that, if Mr Haviland has received or been paid any fees, sum or sums of money illegally, the Lieutenant Governor will adopt such measures as will secure their being refunded, and lay the proceedings before Her Majesty's Government. The Assembly refer the Lieutenant Governor to Lord John Russell's Despatch, of the 16th October, 1839, and the case of Sir Rupert George, in Nova Scotia. The Lieutenant Governor has only to remark, that his instructions are imperative, from the Government, of which Lord J. Russell is the head, and that the same Nobleman is now Colonial Minister who conducted the arrangements in Nova Scotia, and who is fully aware of Mr Haviland's being in the receipt of a commuted allowance, as late Naval Officer in this Island, where he has been for 35 years.

In regard to the case of the Chief Justice's Salary, the Lieutenant Governor believes it to be unprecedented in any of the other Colonies; but having stated the facts in his Message to the Assembly, of the 31st March, he can only express his opinion, that of the two sums, alluded to in Earl Grey's Despatch, the larger one should be the Salary of the Chief Justice, but any discretion which has been left to him, will, he fears, prove of little avail, when the Civil List is voted, should the same unanimity prevail on the subject of the Chief Justice's Salary, as exists on the subject to which he has before alluded.

A. B.

April 7, 1851.

(Continued on 6th Page.)

Franklin said:—"When I see a house well furnished with books and new papers, I find intelligent children; but if there are no papers, the children are ignorant, and no profigate."