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 30, 1864. New Series.---No. 26.

SPRING GOODS,
1864,
NOW OPENING
AT
Liverpool House,
Great George Street.
WILLIAM FULL
IS NOW OPENING
The First Instalment
OF HIS
SPRING STOCK,
Received per Steamer 'KEDAR,' via Halifax, consisting of
Ladies' Black & Colored Mantles, Paletots and Alexandra Jackets.
Bonnet Ribbons in all the neatest styles,
Ladies' Parasols and Parachutes,
Ladies' Kid, Silk and Thread Gloves, in great variety;
Hair Nets, Dress and Mantle Trimmings, &c &c &c
The greater part of Stock daily expected per EDWIN & LIZZIE and THERESA, from Liverpool.
Charlottetown, May 16, 1864

Charlottetown and Souris PACKET.

THE well-known fast sailing schr. CHRISTIANA, Dominick Dengle 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

NEW GOODS
AT
KINGSBURY HOUSE.
WE have received, per steamer COMMERCE, and are now opening, a portion of our SPRING STOCK, comprising—
Ladies' Fashionable Dress Materials, Mantles, Shawls;
Hats, Hair Nets, Cap Fronts, etc. etc. etc., Grey and White Cottons;
Cotton Warp, Striped Shirtings, Tickings, Canvass, etc., etc., etc.
DELANEY & WILSON.
Ch'town, May 16, 1864.

Fresh Garden Flower and Field Seed, really of the Growth of 1863!
JUST arrived from ENGLAND and UNITED STATES, a choice lot of Garden and Flower Seeds, in almost every variety; also Red and White Clover, and different varieties of Swedish and other Turnip Seeds, which with some superior Timothy and Clover Seed of Island growth, are now on sale at Apothecaries Hall, at unprecedented low prices.
T. DESBRISAY.
May 23, 1864. 4i

Saladin Hare for Sale.
TO be sold at Private Sale, at a great bargain, a very fine SALADIN MARE. She is a fast trotter, easy and gentle in harness or saddle, and works well in the Cart or Plough. She has no fault or blemish, and will be sold at a low figure on credit, the owner having no use for her. Application to be made at the "Examiner Office."
May 23, 1864.

Horse! Horse! Horse!
THE Subscriber has FOR SALE a THOROUGH BRED CART COLT, 3 years old, of the old Champion and Clydesdale breed, weighing 1500 lbs.,—16½ hands high. A better stock for the country cannot be imported.
☞ Terms liberal.
GEORGE COLES.
Ch'town, May 2, 1864.

A SEINE FOR SALE.
CAPLIN SEINE, 36 fathoms long by 3 fathoms deep, for sale by
JAMES PURDIE.
Charlottetown, May 9, 1864. 4in

Proposed Chamber of Commerce.
THE adjourned Public Meeting in connection with the formation of the Chamber of Commerce, which was to have taken place in the City Hall, on Friday the 13th inst., is postponed until FRIDAY, the 3d June, at 8 o'clock, p.m.
N. B.—As this meeting will be one of interest to all mercantile men, a large attendance is desirable.
May 16, 1864.

A few facts worth knowing.
IT'S A FACT WORTH KNOWING that R. R. MACLELLAN takes the best and cheapest Photographs in the Colony.
IT'S A FACT worth knowing that R. R. MACLELLAN is at home daily, and keeps always on hand a full Stock of Chemicals and every requisite in the art.
IT'S A FACT worth knowing that no one but an Artist can take an Artistic Photograph.
IT'S A FACT worth knowing that R. R. MACLELLAN takes the largest Photographs ever taken in the Colony, plate 12 x 14 inches.
IT'S A FACT worth knowing that R. R. MACLELLAN gives 16 beautiful Photographs for twenty shillings
George Street, May 23, 1864.

LANGUAGES.
GREEK, LATIN, FRENCH and ITALIAN, also DRAWING and PERSPECTIVE, taught by
JOHN F. NEWBERY, King-st.
TERMS—One lesson per week, £1 per quarter; Two lessons per week, £2; Three lessons, £3; and thus in proportion for a further number of lessons and longer periods.
Feby. 22, 1864.

Cloth Factory!
THE SUBSCRIBER begs respectfully to inform the public that he will continue to manufacture CLOTH, &c., at his establishment in Tryon. Wool will be received in Charlottetown by H. J. Callbeck, Agent, or at the Mill.
☞ Cloth received for Dyeing and Dressing as heretofore.
CHARLES E. STANFIELD.
May 23, 1864. tf

Encourage Home Manufacture.
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
Soap & Candle Factory.
THE UNDERSIGNED would call the attention of Importers, and the public generally, to the
SOAP and CANDLES
manufactured at the above establishment, confident that for quality and price they cannot be surpassed.
J. S. CARVELL.
Charlt'own, Feb. 15, 1864. tf

Rum! Rum!!
A FEW PUNCHEONS of superior old DEMERARA RUM for sale by
GEORGE COLES.
Also at his Brewery, Whiskey, Gin and Ale.
February 15, 1864.

M, P M & P!
75 BBLS. PORK of the above brands.
12 Tubs LARD.
☞ For sale low. Apply to
WM. DODD.
Charlottetown, March 21, 1864.

WANTED—As an indoor and out-door servant in a small family, an active and intelligent Boy of 16 or 17 years of age, to whom good wages will be given. He must understand how to manage a horse, and bring a certificate of character. Application to be made at the "Examiner" Office. [May 23, 1864.

FOR SALE.
A SMALL ISLAND in RUSTICO, commonly known as "LOBBAN'S ISLAND." Apply to
N. RANKIN, Auctioneer.
Queen street, May 9, 1864.

COLONIAL LEGISLATURE.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

WEDNESDAY, April 13.

At twelve o'clock his honor the President directed the Clerk to take down the names of the members present, and there not being a quorum, his honor adjourned the House till to-morrow at 11 o'clock.

THURSDAY, April 14.

A message was brought from the House of Assembly by the Hon. Mr. DAVIES, with a 'Bill relating to partridges or tree grouse, and to repeal certain parts of the Acts therein mentioned.'

A Bill to extend the Criminal jurisdiction of the Police Court was read a second time, committed, and reported agreed to without any amendment.

SPECIE CURRENCY BILL—THIRD READING.

Hon. Attorney General moved that the Bill to amend the Act to regulate the specie currency be now read a third time.

Hon. Mr. LORD said he had opposed the Bill when the House was in committee, and he would oppose it now, as he considered that it would have a very injurious effect on the trade, as well as on the banking institutions of the colony.

Hon. Mr. GOFF said he was not present when the Bill was discussed in committee, and was therefore ignorant of the arguments which might have been used in its favor, but as far as he understood its provisions he thought it was unnecessary. He supposed however that it was a Government measure and must be passed. He would be glad if his honor the Attorney General would explain the nature and object of the Bill.

Hon. Mr. LORD: It is a Government measure, and I suppose the supporters of the Government are bound to pass it. We, therefore, will have to put up with it. But as this House is now constituted, we are independent of the Governor in Council; we are sent here by the people, to legislate for the people, and we should not allow ourselves to be governed by party feeling.

Hon. Mr. GOFF: I was sent here by the people to support the Government; but I would not support any Government measure that I considered unnecessary and uncalled for, unless I did so on grounds of public expediency.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL: His honor who has asked for an explanation was absent, by leave, when this Bill was discussed in committee, and is ignorant of the arguments which were brought forward in its favor. It was fully debated here on that occasion, and I therefore hope there will be no necessity for going into a discussion upon it again. It is a Government measure, and it is one of that kind of measures that the Government would be expected to bring in. It is the duty of the Legislature to see that the laws which regulate the currency of the country are established upon a sound basis. If there is any defect in those laws, and if any loss should occur through that defect, we know who would be looked to and blamed for it. There is scarcely a colony in the British dominions without a law of this kind. It was represented by one of your honors in a former debate that this Bill would interfere with country people—that they are very glad to get silver—and that it would prevent them from getting it; but it does not interfere with or prevent them from taking as much as they like. On the other hand, the object of the Bill is to prevent it from being forced upon them. There is no country where specie currency is well regulated but has a law of this kind. In Great Britain it has existed for ages, and the amount is limited, I believe, to 40s. Here we take a wider range, and fix it at £6. Banking institutions may feel some inconvenience, but those institutions are within the power and under the control of the Legislature, and it should be seen that they do not obtain power which would be a loss or an injury to the subject. There is nothing in this Bill more stringent than there is in similar Acts in other countries where there are banking institutions, and as it is not to go into operation in less than twelve months, the Banks will have ample time to work off their silver if they have a large quantity of it in their vaults, and to obtain gold. A law of this kind is, I think, very necessary, and it matters not whether it was suggested by a hundred individuals or by one.

Hon. Mr. GOFF: I thank his honor for the explanation he has given. I now see the necessity for the Bill, and am prepared to support it.

Hon. Mr. DINGWELL: I did expect that the Government would give some reasons for introducing this Bill, but I must say that up to the present moment I have not heard any. I will now state some of the reasons why I oppose it. The new Bank, I understand, holds a large portion of the notes of the old Bank, and if they go and demand specie for those notes they may pay them all in silver. Soon after this Bill will go into operation, and then the new Bank can only pay £6 in silver to each individual for their own notes. Another reason is, that I think it will interfere with the interests of country merchants or dealers, because, if a creditor is disobliging, and will not take more than £6 in silver, and a man has to come to town to get gold or Bank notes for it, he will go home pretty well shaved, without going to a barber's shop. Some members of this House may be pledged to support the Government, but there are others who are independent of party, and it is their right to exercise their judgment.

Hon. Mr. BEER: I cannot see that any inconvenience to country people can result from the operation of this Bill. There is no danger of one man tendering another more silver than he wants. His honor (Mr. Dingwell) speaks as if it would be illegal for a man to take more than £6 in silver; but where is the man who would not take every farthing of his debts in silver? If the Bill were to go into operation in one or two months' time, it might interfere with the operation of the new Bank; but it will not go into operation for twelve months, and therefore they will have ample time, even if they get all the silver in the old Bank, to work it off. I do not think that any great necessity for the Bill has yet arisen, but it will prevent people from being imposed upon.

Hon. Mr. LORD: If this Bill had been brought in last year, it would not have been so objectionable, for it either could have been made in conformity with the Bank Bill, or the Bank Bill with it. The new Bank, by its charter, is to have £10,000 in specie in its coffers, and if they go to the old Bank and demand specie for their notes, they will be expected to take a large amount of silver. The only protection the new Bank has is, that this Bill will not go into operation for twelve months. If it were not for that clause, I would withdraw my shares from that Bank.

Hon. Mr. WALKER: I do not like the Bill at all, and there is nothing that proves more clearly that it is not required than the very fact that it will not go into operation for twelve months. I feel satisfied that it will be an injury, and will therefore oppose it.

Hon. Mr. HENDERSON: Before the question is put, Mr. President, I will avail myself of the privilege of saying a few words on the principle of the Bill. Notwithstanding that I am a supporter of the Government, I would take the liberty of opposing any measure that I considered would be an injury to the country; but I hope the Government will not bring any Bill here that we would feel bound to reject. I would not support a Government measure against my conscience, as one member of this House told us a few days ago that he had sometimes done. We know that Bills of this nature have been in operation in the neighboring colonies for some years; but I never heard of a petition against them, though they are more stringent than this Bill. It may seem to bear hard upon the new Bank, and I would be one of the last to throw any impediment in the way of that Bank, or do anything that would prevent it from going into operation; but the public interests must be protected as well as the interests of the Bank. I certainly never heard that there was too much silver in the country; nor do I think this Bill will make it any less. I presume that the managers of the new Bank are in town, and as this Bill has been before the Legislature for a considerable time, they might have petitioned against it if they considered that it would be an injury to that institution. They have not done so, and I therefore feel justified in supporting the Bill.

The question of concurrence was then put on a motion that the Bill do now pass, and the House divided:—

Contents—Hons. Messrs. Attorney General, Anderson, McLaren, Ramsay, Goff, Beer and Henderson—7.

Non-contents—Hons. Messrs McDonald, Lord, Dingwell and Walker—4.

So it passed in the affirmative, and the Bill was read a third time and passed.

BILL TO ESTABLISH A MARINE COURT OF INQUIRY.

Committee resumed. Section read referring to the Magisterial Courts.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL: The reference to the Magisterial Courts is not for the purpose of limiting the amount of costs which the Marine Court may have power to enforce, but merely to point out the mode of procedure. In this country there are divers Acts which give jurisdiction to magistrates and authorise them to act in various ways. The magistrates are limited to a certain amount of costs; but the Marine Courts are not limited at all. This Bill is copied from the Nova Scotia Act. They will probably have more experience than we will, and if they find anything objectionable in their Act, they will amend it, and we can take the benefit of their experience. It could hardly be expected that we would be able to define the exact limits of a Court of this kind at first; but improvements may be made hereafter if it is found to work well. It is a Court very much required, and it will not be intrusted to any but persons of character and integrity, and fully competent to see that the intentions of the Legislature are fully carried out.

Hon. Mr. ANDERSON: I think it is a very necessary Act; and if it had been passed many years ago, I believe there would not have been so many wrecks on the coasts of this Island. I remember a vessel came ashore at the western part of the Island, some years ago, and as I happened to be there, I asked some of the men if she could not have been kept off. They said "Yes, but the captain did not wish to keep her off." They said they had remonstrated with him for allowing the vessel to go ashore at a place where they would be destitute, and the captain drew a purse out of his pocket well filled with sovereigns, and said they should not want while that would last. I took down the names of some of the men, which put the captain in a great rage, and he asked me what brought me there? I replied that I came to see what brought him there. They men were soon after sent away to New Brunswick.

The House was then resumed and progress reported.

Hon. Mr. McDonald obtained leave of absence till Wednesday next.

Adjourned till to-morrow at four o'clock.

FRIDAY, April 15.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Beer, a Bill in addition to the Act to extend the criminal jurisdiction of the Police Court of Charlottetown was read a third time and passed.

BILL TO PREVENT THE DESTRUCTION OF PARTRIDGES.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Lord, a Bill relating to partridges or tree-grouse, and to repeal parts of certain Acts therein mentioned, was read a second time, and the House went into committee thereon.

First section read—

Hon. Mr. DINGWELL had no objection to the Bill in general, but could not agree to this clause as it then stood. This Bill might be in operation for a considerable time before people in general became aware of it, and a man might kill a partridge without knowing that he was violating the law. Was it reasonable that a young man who should kill a partridge, without knowing that the law was in operation, should be imprisoned for a month? Was it reasonable that a father should be deprived of the services of his son for one month for so small an offence? Or was it reasonable to expect our laws to be respected, or even tolerated if we passed such unreasonable measures as this?

Hon. the PRESIDENT said it was impossible to make every person acquainted with the laws. It must be supposed that they were acquainted with them. The Bill did not render it compulsory to commit the offender to jail. He might pay the fine, which was only ten shillings; and any father would sooner pay that than be deprived of his son for a month. Perhaps it was a long time to serve in jail for ten shillings; but if laws of this kind were not made pretty stringent, it was useless to pass them at all.

Hon. Mr. RAMSAY did not know how people in the country were to be informed of the laws. Surely his honor from St. Peter's did not expect that those who made the laws were going to carry them round to every man's door. A law was passed, two years ago, relating to trespasses in orchards and such like; and according to the same process of reasoning, a man might say, when convicted under the Act, that he did not know there was such a law, and therefore it would be hard to imprison him. If a man were allowed to plead ignorance in the one case, why not do so in the other?

Hon. Mr. GOFF said he thought the duration of the Imprisonment should have some proportion to the amount of the fine. He thought it was unreasonable to imprison a man for a month for 10s. As to people being ignorant of the law, that was no excuse; for the laws were printed in the *Royal Gazette*, and people could also be informed by the Justices of the Peace throughout the country. It might as well be said that a thief should not be punished because he did not know that there was any law against theft.

Hon. Mr. DINGWELL was well aware that ignorance of the law did not justify its transgression; but the people who would be most likely to transgress this law were far in the interior of the country, and might violate the law through ignorance. He would not object to the law if a reasonable term of imprisonment were made the penalty for its transgression. He would therefore move that the clause be amended by striking out "one month," and inserting "two weeks."

Hon. Mr. GOFF thought his honor (Mr. Dingwell) could not be aware that it was not a new law. A similar law had been in existence for many years, but the time for shooting the game was changed from the first of September to the first of October. He considered that it was as much the duty of the Legislature to protect the game as to protect the oysters, and therefore thought the Act was very proper. It was only following in the footsteps of their predecessors.

Hon. Mr. DINGWELL said the remarks of his honor (Mr. Goff) would imply that he (Mr. D.) was opposed to the Bill, but he was not. He was only opposed to the duration of the imprisonment for the infraction of the law.

Hon. Mr. HENDERSON observed, that there was hardly a place to be found under the British flag where there was such a number of Justices of the Peace, in proportion to the extent or population of the country. He thought, therefore, that there would be no great risk of the law being violated through ignorance. And, in general, there was such a good understanding between the magistrates and the people, that very few of the former would be disposed to carry out the strict letter of the law. There was always some amount of liberty or discretion allowed to magistrates; and they did, in many cases, notwithstanding the strictness of the law, assume the responsibility of exercising some discretion on the side of mercy. He would not shrink from doing so. He agreed with his honor from St. Peter's (Mr. Dingwell) that the amount of the fine and the duration of the imprisonment were disproportionate. Whatever was the intention of the House of Assembly in making it so, it savored strongly of the oppressive game laws of Great Britain. He was not there to support measures that he thought would please the people in every point of view; but he would like to see our laws bear equally on all classes. It could not be denied that the effect of the clause under consideration would bear with undue severity upon the poorer classes; for the disproportion between a fine of 10s. and one month's imprisonment was most extraordinary. He would support the amendment to make it two weeks instead of one month.

Hon. Mr. ANDERSON thought ten days were long enough.

Hon. Mr. McLAREN was of opinion that the proportion between the amount of the fine and the duration of the imprisonment should be such as to induce the transgressors of the law to pay the fine rather than go to jail. It was sometimes the case that when the fine was heavy and the duration of their imprisonment not long, parties convicted would go to jail as a sort of revenge upon the informer; but at the same time he thought that the duration of the imprisonment imposed by the clause then under consideration was out of proportion to the amount of the fine.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL said he was not present when the clause under consideration was read; but he understood from the remarks of some of their honors, what their objections were. With these objections he did not altogether agree. In this country we had no game laws. It was open to the poorest as well as the richest man in the Colony to kill game, if he can do so without trespassing on his neighbour's property; but it was not so in Britain. There, a man had to pay a very high licence fee before he would be allowed to kill game. The preservation of the game in this country was as much for the benefit of the poor as the rich man, and we should do that which would be likely to carry our intentions into effect. He had heard it said, many years ago, when he was a young lad, that in twenty or thirty years there would not be a partridge found on the Island; but it was not so, and he thought the extent of cultivation was not as likely to destroy them as some people supposed. They would find sufficient shelter in groves and even in cultivated fields, and it was well worth while to endeavour to preserve them. The fine imposed was very small, but there was great force in the remark made by his honor from New Perth (Mr. McLaren), that if the imprisonment were made too short there would be less chance of the fine being paid. He would allow the magistrates a discretionary power to imprison for a term not exceeding one month. Persons who would break these laws were generally vagrants, who would take delight in setting the law at defiance.

Hon. Mr. HENDERSON remarked that in Great Britain a man dare not to kill game, even if they should eat half of his own grain. He did feel on the subject; and while he would like to meet the case of the reckless adventurer with the stern front of the law, he would not at the same time like to do anything that would bear hard upon, or harrass the poor.

Hon. Mr. GOFF was sorry to hear his honor (Mr. Henderson) speak in the manner he had done of the laws of Great Britain. He had always considered the laws of Great Britain just,—the most perfect in the world, but the laws of Britain might not suit here. Every man here had a right to make use of wild game; but at the same time it was the duty of the Legislature to see that that privilege was not abused. He was willing, however, to alter the term of imprisonment so as to give the Justices of the Peace a discretionary power. There were many persons who would think nothing of paying ten shillings for the sake of having a day at shooting game, but the poor man would have to go to jail for a month.

Hon. Mr. Dingwell then, by leave, withdrew his motion, and, on motion of the Hon. Mr. Beer, the clause was amended, giving the magistrates a discretionary power to imprison for a period not to exceed one month.

The House was then resumed, and the chairman reported the Bill agreed to with some amendments.

A message was brought from the House of Assembly by the Hon Mr. Longworth, to return the Savings Bank Bill, and to inform this House that the House of Assembly had agreed to the amendments made to the said Bill.

Also, by Mr. Brecken, with a Bill in addition to the Act to incorporate the town of Charlottetown; and a Bill to incorporate the Grand and Subordinate Temples of the Independent Order of Good Templars of Prince Edward Island.

Adjourned till to-morrow at 11 o'clock.

SATURDAY, April 16th.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Beer, a Bill in addition to the Act to incorporate the town of Charlottetown was read a second time, and the House went into committee thereon.

Hon. Mr. LORD: I do not think this Bill requires much discussion. I believe it passed in the other House unanimously. I am of opinion, however, that it will give importers of flour a great deal of trouble, and perhaps it will be of just as little service as the law for the inspection of fish. People are almost certain to be deceived by that law, for it is not properly carried into effect. Perhaps they inspect one barrel in 30 or 40—not even that if the weather is cold. However, I think it will be well to pass the Bill, for it may be of some service if a large quantity of flour should be imported and the barrels deficient in weight.

Hon. the PRESIDENT: I think a law of this kind is really necessary. I cannot speak from experience, but I have heard many persons complaining of being imposed upon by barrels of flour which they had purchased being deficient in weight. I think there should be some regulations to compel traders in flour to see that the weight was in the barrels before they sold them.

Hon. Mr. RAMSAY: I believe a law of this kind is necessary, though, like his honor the President, I cannot speak from experience, as I never bought any flour; but I have heard many persons complaining of being deceived, not only in the quantity of the flour in the barrels, but also in the quality. I have been told that the top of a barrel is sometimes good and the remainder filled with corn meal or chalk; and I have been told by a commission merchant, since I came to town, that there is a deficiency of 20 or 30 lbs. in many of the barrels which he sells. There is evidently a fault somewhere, but I do not say it is with the importer.

Hon. Mr. LORD: I do not think it is contemplated to have the quality of the flour inspected; if it is, the Government should be very careful who they select to perform the duty. It would require a person of a great deal of discrimination to distinguish between No. 1 and No. 2. I think the object in view would be gained much better by compelling the vendor to have the flour weighed in the presence of the purchaser, for then the purchaser could see for himself; but by the proposed plan the inspector would probably be paid for doing nothing, as it is very likely that he would not weigh more than one barrel in twenty or thirty, as they do with fish.

Hon. Mr. DINGWELL: I do not rise to oppose the Bill, for I think it is necessary, as many of the barrels of flour are deficient in weight; but I think the quality should also be inspected. It should also be seen that the inspector did his duty—that he actually inspected the flour; and I would render him liable to a fine if he neglected it. If the purchaser saw the inspector's mark upon a barrel, he would be thrown off his guard, for he would take it for granted that it had been inspected; so that if the law were not faithfully carried into effect, it might be an injury instead of a benefit. I have no great objection to the Bill, but I believe its operation will be confined to Charlottetown. I would rather make it a general law, to extend to the whole Island, for a man having inferior flour would send it to the out-ports, and the law, instead of being a benefit would be a decided injury to the greater part of the Island.

Hon. the PRESIDENT: This Bill merely extends the power of the Corporation of Charlottetown, giving them authority to appoint an inspector of flour. It will be put in operation under their own by-laws. It will not prevent a general Bill from being brought in for the whole Island.

Hon. Mr. LORD: It will be better for the town as it is, for it will induce more country people to come to town for their flour, and then they will purchase other articles too.

Hon. Mr. ANDERSON: If it is necessary for the port of Charlottetown, why not for other ports? If flour is condemned in town, it might be sent to some other part of the Island.

Hon. Mr. BEER: After this year, there will be no necessity for it, for the law relating to the fraudulent marking of merchandize will extend to the whole Island, and a person selling barrels of flour deficient in weight, or inferior in quality to that represented by the marks upon them, will be liable to prosecution.

Hon. Mr. RAMSAY: I do not agree with his honor who has just spoken, with regard to the Act relating to the fraudulent marking of merchandize; for under that Act the vendor will only have to give the purchaser a written paper stating that he does not warrant the mark on an article to be correct, and then where is the purchaser to look for redress? I think there should be a general Act for the Island, and for the express purpose of having flour inspected and the weight and quality marked on the barrels.

Hon. Mr. WALKER: Nearly all the flour that comes to the Island has been inspected. We might ascertain whether the weight was in the barrels, but I do not know how we could define the quality. However, I will support the Bill, for I think it is necessary; though, when flour is imported bearing the brand of a respectable establishment, it is a sufficient guaranty that the quality is what it is represented to be.

Hon. Mr. DINGWELL: I believe there is far more injustice practised in the quality of the flour than in the weight; and if the Bill would provide for the inspection of the quality, I think it would be of some service.

Hon. Mr. WALKER: Persons purchasing flour can see for themselves and examine the quality, and they are perhaps as good judges as any inspector that could be appointed.

Hon. the PRESIDENT: The Bill is merely to extend the power of the City Corporation. The manner of inspecting the flour and the fees of the inspector are left entirely under the control of that body.

Hon. Mr. HENDERSON: I think it is a very necessary and proper Act. There is no doubt but the merchants can protect themselves, and in the end I believe it will be a benefit both to them and the purchasers. It may cause a little trouble at first, but if people are getting into the habit of putting less than the proper quantity of flour into barrels, and thereby deceiving those who purchase it, the sooner the practice is stopped the better.

Hon. Mr. LORD: I do not think there is a merchant in town who has imported flour which was deficient in weight because he could get it at a cheaper rate. I like to carry out what I think is fair, and I do not think any of the flour imported here is deficient in weight except it is some that has been brought a long distance by railroad. Barrels which have been handled and knocked about a great deal may have lost two or three pounds each.

Hon. the PRESIDENT: I would like to see an Act that would extend to the whole Island, and I think the quality of the flour should be examined as well as the weight in the barrels ascertained. I knew a person to purchase some flour, and when he ascertained the quality of it, he would not take it off the wharf. He got a miller to examine it, who said it was not flour at all, but barley meal, and as he refused to pay for it, he was sued and had to pay the expenses. Where there is a deception like that practised, there should be some remedy.

The House was then resumed, and the chairman reported the Bill agreed to without any amendment.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Lord, the Bill relating to partridges or tree-grouse, and to repeal parts of certain Acts therein mentioned, was read a third time and passed.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL stated that application had been made by the auditors of the Public Accounts to be allowed to take them back for the purpose of examining certain alleged errors which had been brought to their notice, and which they were desirous of correcting; and his honor moved that the Clerk of this House be authorised to return the said accounts to the auditors for that purpose. The errors, said his honor, are not of any great consequence. I observe one with regard to molasses; but it appears to be only a clerical error, as the amount of duty is calculated and carried out right. There is also an apparent error of £10 on the duty on tea. It was thought, when it was first examined in the House of Assembly, to be a real error; but on a more close examination, the amount of duty was found to be right, though it might appear as an error on the face of the accounts. Again, on the duty on coffee, there is a slight error, and which I believe is a real error, though a very small one. The amount of duty on green and roast coffee is different, and it is not very clearly shown how much of each was imported. In the article of tobacco there is a similar error. The duty of six pence on manufactured and four pence on unmanufactured is not very clearly distinguished. Then there is an error of £12 in the Impost Accounts of New London, but which, as well as some others of minor importance, is noticed in a table of errors (for every error which the auditors detect is carried out in a separate table), and this table does not appear to have been referred to by the House of Assembly. The auditors are desirous of having an opportunity of examining those errors, and I see nothing very objectionable in complying with their request.

Hon. Mr. LORD: Is it customary, your honors, after the Public Accounts have passed through the auditors' hands, and have been laid on the table of this House, to hand them back to them for correction? I do not think there is any precedent for it. I never knew of an instance of the kind before. His honor the Attorney General says the errors are very slight—that they are merely clerical errors; but I have been told that the accounts have been mystified and cooked up, and that they are wrong from one end to the other. Why have they been laid on the table in such a state as that? What a cry was raised, a few years ago, when a slight error was found in Col. Swabey's accounts, when that gentleman was in the Public Lands Office; and what do we find now?—a cooked-up set of accounts. It was not for want of time, for nearly two months elapsed between the end of the financial year, and the meeting of the Legislature; and now we are asked to allow them to take the accounts back to patch them up, so as to go down a little better with the country. What has been done with the £2514 expended by the Land Office, and how is it that it costs 45 per cent. to collect money in that office? I would like to see the figures, for I cannot tell what has become of the money. There have not been any new roads opened on the Government property, nor any extraordinary expenses incurred that I am aware of. However, in regard to those accounts, I am astonished that they should have been laid on this table before they were examined by competent men. Where was Mr. Colonial Secretary? Why had not he a peep at them?

Hon. Atty. Gen.: I did not rise, your honors, to state that the auditors of the Public Accounts were guilty of a neglect of duty, or to accuse them of incompetency, nor yet to excuse them for making errors, but merely to examine the matter, and to explain the errors, some of which are merely clerical—others only apparent. If there are any real errors which would make a difference in the revenue they are yet to be shown. It is the duty of this House, and the peculiar duty of the Opposition, to examine the accounts. I do not know for what other purpose they are laid before us. The Opposition should see that the vouchers are correct.

Hon Mr. LORD: They are not before us.

Hon. Atty. Gen.: Yes, they are before us. They have been on the table for the last fortnight, and it is really surprising that the members of the Opposition, particularly his honor who is engaged in mercantile pursuits, did not discover those errors, and speak out on so popular a subject. I do not want to make a thrust upon his honor, but it is truly surprising that those accounts have been on the table so long and he has not looked into them, or if he has, that he did not discover those errors. I think his honor is guilty of a very great dereliction of public duty. The auditors themselves made the request to be allowed to take back the Accounts for the purpose of examining and correcting the errors which have been said to exist in them. We appointed men to that office whom we supposed to be competent, and I do not think the Government can be accused of partiality in that respect, for we allowed the auditors who were in office when we obtained the reins of Government to remain; and when they retired we supplied their places with men as competent as could be found; but I suppose they are liable to make errors, as all men are in making up accounts. With regard to the gentleman who fills the Land Office,—

Hon. Mr. LORD: I did not make any charge against him. I only asked for the vouchers.

Hon. Atty. Gen.: I cannot understand his honor in making those allusions. The vouchers have been on the table for the last fortnight, and if the accounts of any of the public officers are satisfactory, they are those of the Public Lands Office. They are a credit to that officer, to the Government, and to the Colony, and I only wish he was as liberally paid as he deserves to be. I was not prepared to go into a discussion on the accounts of the Commissioner of public lands, for the errors I rose to speak of had no connection with them; but if your honors think proper to appoint a day for the House to go into committee on them, I have not the least objection, and I will be prepared to defend them.

Hon. Mr. LORD: I did not accuse that officer of making a false charge, but I want to know how it is that it costs 45 per cent. to collect money in that office.

Hon. Atty. Gen.: I rise to a point of order. There is no question before this House respecting the accounts of the Commissioner of public lands, and it is quite wrong to get up in this sudden way and snap up an objection to the accounts of any public officer. If his honor desires fair play let him take the proper course—let the accounts be referred to a committee of the whole House, and then let his honor make as much noise as he likes, but to make such assertions in this manner is quite improper.

Hon. Mr. LORD: I have no very great objection to sending back the accounts.

Hon. Mr. WALKER: His honor the Attorney General has charged the Opposition with a dereliction of duty, for not examining the accounts; but one member of the Opposition, who is now absent on leave, did examine them, and has a list of the errors in his drawers. I do not object to returning the accounts for correction.

Hon. Mr. DINGWELL: I do not wish to make political capital out of small errors in any of the public documents; and I believe there are no very material errors in those accounts as his honor the Attorney General has said. But I doubt very much if it would be right for his honor the President to allow them to leave the House and go into the auditors' hands after they have been laid upon this table. I am as anxious as any person to see the suggestions of his honor the Attorney General carried out; but I think it would be a very dangerous precedent, and that it would place his honor the President in a very dangerous position. Therefore, I think the example of the Speaker of the House of Assembly is the safest course to pursue. Besides the errors are so numerous that I believe it would be impossible to correct them in the same book, so that new accounts would have to be made out; and that being the case, it would be no service to return these. The errors may not be very serious, but they are very numerous—so numerous are they that the chairman of the committee on the accounts in the House of Assembly found that he could not report. It is our duty to see that his honor the President is not placed in an awkward position by any act of ours.

Hon. Mr. HENDERSON: I would support the chair by all means, and I am glad to see that gentlemen of the Opposition are willing to do the same. But I am sure that all mercantile gentlemen know that there are sometimes great difficulties connected with complicated accounts. I know something about military accounts, and I know that it is sometimes very difficult to make them out correctly; but at the same time I would not stand up here to apologise for any public officer neglecting his duty. I dare say it is sometimes very difficult to make up those accounts where there are different rates of duty on manufactured and unmanufactured articles, and the quantity of each not very clearly set down. However, if it is consistent with Parliamentary usage, I see no great objection to returning the accounts to the auditors for correction, so that they may send them here in a proper manner as they should have done before.

Hon. Mr. BEER: A good deal of irrelevant matter has been brought into this debate, and I think it comes with a very bad grace from his honor from Prince County (Mr. Lord) to say that the Public Accounts have been "cooked up." The only inference that can be drawn from that assertion is, that there had been an attempt to make the revenue appear either larger or smaller than it really is; but there was nothing of the sort, for the sum total is correct. There will, no doubt, be a committee to examine those accounts, and I see no objection to handing them back to the auditors for correction; it will be a caution to them to be more careful in future.

Hon. Mr. GOFF: I do not see any impropriety in handing back the accounts to the auditors for correction. The duty was raised one penny a pound on tea, and on some of the tea imported it was calculated at the former rate; hence the error of £10. It is certainly the duty of the House to see that no corruption has been practised in collecting the duties, and I am satisfied that there has been none.

Hon. Mr. ANDERSON: There may be errors in the accounts, but I have not heard anything to induce me to believe that they were intended to deceive either the Legislature or the public.

The question of concurrence was then put on the Hon. Attorney General's motion, and the House divided:—

CONTENTS:—Hon. Messrs. Attorney General, Anderson, McLaren, Ramsay, Goff, Beer, Henderson, and Walker,—8.

NON-CONTENTS:—Hon. Messrs. Dingwell and Lord,—2.

Hon. Attorney General presented a petition of the ministers, churchwardens, and vestry of St. Paul's Church, Charlottetown, praying concurrence in passing a Bill to facilitate the recovery of pew and other rates in said church.

Adjourned till Monday next at 11 o'clock.

MISCELLANEOUS.

IS IT WELL?

When life's honey dew is wasted,
When its purposes seem dead,
When its bitterest fruits are tasted,
And its harshest lesson said;
When hope sitteth cold and tearless,
With a bruised and broken wing,
And we stand alone and fearless
What the future years may bring;

When we've gone with faltering footsteps
Down beside the sea of change,
And in eyes that once were sunshine
Read a meaning new and strange;
When with pallid lips we've uttered
The farewell forevermore,
Never asking, never wishing
Second greeting from the shore.

Is it well to sit down moaning
O'er a strangely troubled past,
When the billowy waves have swept us
To a footing firm and fast?
Nay, God helping, God upholding,
God remembering all our cries,
Let us rise and and journey eastward,
Where the land of promise lies.

THE MICHIGAN ELOPEMENT.—Some time since we noticed the fact that a woman of nearly forty had eloped from Bedford with a hopeful boy of nineteen. Our readers will, perhaps, recall the main facts of the case, and will accordingly be able to appreciate the final scene of the comedy, which we now present them. Soon after the discovery of the guilty parties, the grieving husband took up his march to recapture his erring spouse. He was quite unsuccessful, we learn, in his efforts to pursuade the lady to return to his bosom, although he spoke to her in words never so eloquent, never so winning.

After much diplomacy on each side, with great plottings, a coupromise was effected, whereby the male darling of yore should