

left, and has defended at the tribune, with vigour and talent, the opinions advocated by *La Reforme* newspaper.

General SUBERVIC is a general of Napoleon's creation, and won a name in the great campaigns of that period, in all which he served. He has had the charge of several important posts, in which he has evinced his military skill; and in the Chamber of Deputies he has always sat in the ranks of the most decided oppositionists. No one is therefore surprised to see him in the post which he occupies to-day, though it is scarcely conceivable that a man fashioned by imperial despotism should be a suitable apostle for republicanism. However, the people will find a sure guarantee in the honor and morality of General Subervic, which has never been questioned.

M. GOUDCHAUX is a banker of the second, or even third, order in Paris, and is only known by being the holder of very decided liberal opinions, which have been the cause of bringing him forward. He is also well known by the constant assistance which he gave to the *National*.

M. ALBERT is merely a mechanic who has been called into the Provisional Government—and this is a politic measure. Besides, why should not Albert furnish his share of experience and his patriotism in the republican administration. His exemplary conduct, and remarkable skill in his profession, had already gained him the esteem of his employers and the confidence of his fellow-workmen, of which he has received a proof in his nomination to the *Council de Prudhommes*, an excellent institution for preserving order between man and master. In these late events Albert has shown courage, presence of mind, and a devotion which rendered him the equal of all his colleagues in the council.

General BEDEAU is now in his 44th year. From the school of St. Cyr he was appointed to the staff, and served successively in the 8th Cuirassiers, in the Lancers of the Royal Guards, in the 2nd Regiment of Horse Artillery, and in the 13th of the line. Aide-de-camp of Generals Ferrier, Gerard, and Schramm, he made the campaigns of Belgium in 1831 and 1832, and for the last twelve or fourteen years has been among the most active and distinguished of the young African generals. After Lamoriciere, Changarnier, and Baraquay d'Hilliers, he is considered by the army as the very best and most popular officer in France.

CAVAIGNAC, the new governor of Algiers, is nephew of the General Viscount Cavaignac, son of the conventional deputy, and brother of the famous republican of the *Amis du Peuple*. He is now in his 46th year. A scholar of the Polytechnic, and of the famous School of Artillery at Metz, he distinguished himself at Medeah, Bouffarik, Cherchell, and all through Africa, not merely by the most daring intrepidity, but the most scientific knowledge of his profession. It was the opinion of Clauzel, Bugeaud, De l'Etang, Vallee, and other competent authorities, that the army of Africa did not contain a better officer.

M. CREMIEUX, the Provisional Minister of Justice (deputy for Chion), was a formidable opponent of the late ministry. He exposed all its vices and its weaknesses. He demanded, on the discussion of the game law (originated in the peers), the suppression of the article which exempts the crown lands from the severe provisions of that enactment; but although successful in the deputies, the upper chamber restored the obnoxious clause. M. Cremieux's parliamentary career has been one of the most important and honourable; and, in short, he was a leading member of the opposition.

M. BETHMONT is a lawyer who sprung from the ranks of the people; and he certainly will not be likely to forget his origin at a time when the great object of the republic is to organise the well-doing of the people. M. Bethmont has not been a prominent character in the house; and, though he voted with the opposition, no one could foresee that he would become so decided a radical, a change that probably surprised himself as much as it did his friends. Nevertheless, should any one prophesy the future, judging from his past career, they could foresee nothing that would not be favourable to the present state of feeling in France, for the high position he holds in society is entirely owing to his very honourable character and most distinguished talents.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

PARLIAMENTARY SUMMARY.

MONDAY, April 3d.

The Speaker, who was, since Wednesday, confined to his lodgings from indisposition, being able to come out to-day, the House met at 3 o'clock, and then resolved itself into a Committee of the whole on the further consideration of the

Election Laws.—Considerable progress was made, without any important discussion occurring, when at an earlier hour than usual, in consideration of the health of the hon. Speaker, the chairman, on motion, reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

Team Boat.—Mr. Rae remarked that [he had some time since given notice in the order book, relative to the throwing open the Ferry across the Hillsborough to public competition, in order to the raising a revenue from the same. The hon. member gave notice to the House that he would go into the question to-morrow, not wishing longer to keep the Speaker in his chair. The House then adjourned.

TUESDAY, April 4th.

The House, in Committee, had been engaged during the whole of the day on the Election Bill, upon which, at the evening hour of adjournment, the Chairman reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

Ways and Means.—Mr. Thornton moved that it be made an order of the day to go into Committee on Ways and Means to-morrow, and then, at seven o'clock, the House adjourned.

Colonial Building.—Previous to the adjournment, Mr. Rae informed the House that last Session he, with five other members of the House, were named a Committee to join the Commissioners appointed to superintend the erection of the Colonial Building, but from that time to this no meeting had ever been held. He understood that the accounts had all been presented, and some of them were enormous—one in particular, so much so that he could never agree to the payment of it. He therefore wished to have his name taken off the Committee, and that of some gentleman of Charlottetown substituted in its place.

Mr. Palmer said he had taken much pains to get the Commissioners and the Committee together by posting notices and otherwise. He and the hon. Mr. Coles were all that attended the meeting to-day. He (Mr. P.) did not think the hon. member (Mr. R.) gave sufficient reason for withdrawing, and could assure him that he would have opportunity to make his objections to the accounts before they would be discharged, as there would be a final meeting.

Mr. Thornton thought that the hon. member who wished to withdraw from the Committee had stated a very strong reason why he should not be allowed to do so.

Hon. Mr. Coles said, his name stood first on the Committee, and he was going through the accounts. He believed there was no strong objection to the accounts except in one instance, which one he supposed, was the cause of the alarm of the hon. member, and a few others.

WEDNESDAY, April 5.

Election Bill.—The House immediately, succeeding the reading of the journals, went into Committee on further consideration of this Bill.

Mr. D. McLean moved an amendment to the effect, that no individual should be eligible to represent a constituency who had not resided in the district for which he offered himself, twelve months previously.

Mr. Coles thought he could perceive the motive the hon. member was guided by: he finds himself getting unpopular, even at home, while those at a distance are taking up his lost ground. It is not at all probable that the motion will be supported, for in this matter it would be arbitrary, and restrain the people from electing the man of their choice, be his residence wherever it may.

Mr. Douse thought the hon. gentleman who just sat down, was making too much of the matter, for he (Mr. D.) could not for a moment imagine that the hon. member who submitted the amendment could be serious: for it was quite in opposition to the practice of the Imperial Parliament, where an Englishman may be found to represent an Irish constituency, or a Scotch one.

Mr. D. McLean said if his hon. colleague judged of his (Mr. D. McL's) unpopularity from the recent election, he thought the position assumed untenable, inasmuch as half the votes were not polled.

Hon. Mr. Coles said, had the Election not closed so soon, he had not the shadow of a doubt but he should have been in a majority of 600, and his Election last Spring, when every exertion was used to keep him out of the House, plainly shows whose popularity is falling and whose is rising, as the oppositor of the hon. member and others could not prevent him again taking his seat.

On the question being put, the motion only found one more than the mover and seconder to support it.

Several divisions took place on the qualification clause, which ultimately was left at £50. as before. The House, during the whole of the morning and a part of the afternoon sitting, was engaged on the Bill, when it ultimately was agreed to, with a variety of amendments.

THURSDAY, April 6.

Currency Bill.—The House met punctually, and immediately after the Journals were read, went into Committee on the Currency Bill:—Mr. Whelan in the chair.

Considerable discussion ensued on the proposition of Mr. D. McLean, to open a Credit of Exchange in London, by the Island Government, so that when individuals applied to the Treasury here for specie to remit to England they might be supplied with a Bill of Exchange in place thereof. The hon. member contended that if this was agreed to, it would render unnecessary the negotiation of a loan. The motion having been lost, the hon. member then moved that provision be made, empowering the Government to negotiate a Loan whenever they may see the necessity to do so.

A great variety of opinions prevailed as to whether this motion should pass, or whether it should be amended so as the loan should be raised at once, to be in readiness, as soon as the alterations in the Currency would go into operation;—others contending that no Loan at all would be required.

Mr. D. McLean said as there seemed so many opin-

ions, he would take the sense of the Committee, in the first place, on his motion as to whether power should be given to the Government to negotiate a Loan if required: which having been put, passed in the affirmative.

Some hon. members saw the difficulty that might arise from this—the Government might not see the necessity of negotiating a loan till the Treasury was exhausted, and before the loan could be negotiated and made available, Prince Edward Island might be in a bankrupt condition.

Mr. Palmer strongly urged the necessity of a loan being negotiated forthwith, and was sure that if such was not now agreed to, they would have to do it before the Session closed.

Mr. D. McLean thereupon moved that a loan be obtained previous to the Treasurer commencing to pay in specie; to which Mr. Rae moved an amendment "to be obtained when necessary;" and the question being put on the amendment, it passed in the affirmative.

In the afternoon sitting, the Bill was gone through, no other part of it having been discussed except that which provided for the payment of a Clerk to the Treasurer, whose services, hon. members contended, would be found necessary when the new arrangements came into operation. The clause was ultimately carried, and the amount of the Clerk's salary fixed at £100.

Insolvent Debtors.—Mr. Rae introduced a Bill to amend the Insolvent Debtors Act, which, on motion of the hon. member, was read a first time, and its second reading ordered for to-morrow.

Ways and Means.—On motion of Mr. Thornton the House went into Committee on Ways and Means: Mr. Le Lacheur in the Chair.

Flour, &c. Duty Free.—Mr. Thornton, moved the following resolutions:—

RESOLVED, That it is the opinion of this Committee that the several rates and duties imposed and levied under the Act of 10th Vic. cap. 3, entitled "an Act for raising a Revenue," be continued for one year from and after the first day of May next, save and except as expressed in the following resolutions.

RESOLVED, as the opinion of this Committee, in the present scarcity of Agricultural Produce in this Colony, there shall not be any duty imposed on Wheat Flour, Corn and Corn Meal, and Oatmeal, Bread, Biscuit, Rice, and Pulse of all descriptions, which may be imported into this Island prior to the first day of January next.

Dr. Conroy would not agree to the admission of Bread stuffs free of duty beyond the first of September next.

Mr. J. Longworth considered the time of little consequence; for if the Island should be favoured with a good Crop this year, foreign produce would not come in.

Hon. Mr. Coles rejoiced to hear the motion for admitting Bread Stuffs duty free. He knew the Government had been censured for not listening to the prayer of a Petition signed by fourteen Members of the House last year, during the recess, who had guaranteed to indemnify the Government, should it allow the duties on Bread Stuffs to be taken off; but, he would ask, how did the Government know but that the House might be dissolved before another Session commenced. If the House had placed a discretionary power in the Executive Government, he had no doubt that Flour and other bread stuffs would be allowed to come in duty free.

Dr. Conroy knew the time when the Executive was not so cautious upon other matters, but there was some Members of that body who did not care what they did to serve a tyrant and fool.

Hon. Mr. Coles said there was a majority in the Council at that time, men of independent spirit and worth, whom the indecent language of the hon. Doctor could not injure.

The hon. Speaker said he could only express his regret that the Government did not then admit Flour duty free, on the guarantee of a majority of the members of the House. They would have been perfectly justified, had they done so. The country now feels the effect of the Government's non-compliance with the prayer of the Petition referred to. He would not go for a longer time than September, because many persons might take the opportunity to import a winter's supply, and thus injure this Island.

Mr. Montgomery said that as a farmer it might be taken for granted that he would not do any thing to injure the farming interest; yet, from the great distress existing, and which, he believed, was in a some degree brought about by the circumstance of many settlers not having sufficient seed to put into the ground last spring—and this year he was afraid the scarcity in that respect would be more severely felt—he should therefore vote for the original motion.

Mr. D. McLean observed that one good crop would cause prices to become low again. It was very remarkable, he said, to see Flour more than 2d per lb., and as recently as the last fall twelvemonths it was as low as 1½d, and in Canada it was something less. He did not think, therefore, that it should come in duty free for any length of time.

Mr. Rae believed that in the present circumstances of the country,—scarcity already existing in several districts—the duties on Indian Corn, Indian Corn Meal, Rye, and Pulse, &c. should be taken off; but not on Flour; because the people in the country who were in want would be well satisfied, could they obtain a sufficiency of the cheaper bread stuffs. Two additional reasons moved him to vote for continuing the duty on Flour: first, that the imported flour was consumed chiefly by those who did not think Island flour good enough for their palates. Second, that those in debt for rent, or to the Stores, could not get a remunerating price for any other article raised on their farms. He