

thought the time also was material. Some proposed the 1st January, 1849—others the 1st September, 1848, because by that time the harvest of the United States and Canada would be ascertained, and dealers could know how to import. He (Mr. Rae) thought the first of October would be the better date, because the propriety of continuing the relaxation did not depend on the abundance or scarcity in other countries, but on our capability or incapability to supply our population with stuffs of the growth of the Colony; and as our harvest was not well known till September, the 1st October, 1848, was, in his opinion, the best time. He felt sympathy for people who had not bread stuff, but none for gentlemen who could eat no bread unless made of superfine American flour.

[Much more discussion took place upon this subject, but we have not room to report it,—after which the resolutions printed above were agreed to.]

Roads and Bridges.—Hon. Mr. Coles suggested to the hon. members of the several districts, the necessity of reporting on that service, in order that the contracts may be let, and the people get to work, and by that work gain wherewith to enable them to purchase seed to put in the ground next month.

A few remarks were offered, when it was agreed that the report should be made to-morrow.

FRIDAY, March 7.

Responsible Government.—Mr. Whelan moved for leave to present the draft of an Address to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, requesting copies of any Despatches transmitted to England, by the late Governor since the last Session, on the subject of Responsible Government,—and a copy of any Despatch that may have been received from Earl Gray subsequent to 16th June, 1847.

Mr. Palmer moved to strike out the words: "since the last Session," and—"subsequent to the 16th June, 1847."—The amendment was agreed to, and the Address ordered to be engrossed.—Messrs. Whelan, D. McDonald, and Palmer were appointed a Committee to wait on His Excellency with the same.

The Fisheries.—Mr. Whelan as chairman of a Special Committee appointed to report by Bill or otherwise, on the Fisheries, reported a Bill relative to the granting of bounties for the encouragement of Cod Fishery. In regard to the Fishery Reserves, the hon. member observed that the Committee had a Bill in course of preparation, but he believed it would not be submitted this Session.

Crown Lands and Mail Conveyance.—Mr. Thornton, as chairman of a Special Committee appointed to wait on His Excellency with an Address to Her Majesty relative to the lowering the upset price of Crown Lands, reported that His Excellency was pleased to say he would forward the same. The hon. member also reported that His Excellency, in answer to the Address of the House, relative to the securing a Packet for the conveyance of the mails to and from Pictou, was pleased to say, that he would attend to the same.

Land Question.—Mr. D. McLean obtained leave to introduce a Bill, relative to the settlement of the Lands of this Island. Bill read a first time and its second reading ordered for to-morrow.

The House were occupied in Committee during the afternoon sitting, and until the hour of adjournment, on *Ways and Means*.—The same Committee sat again on Saturday during the forenoon. We have not space, however, to report the resolutions agreed to.

THE EXAMINER.

MONDAY, APRIL 10, 1848.

THE REVOLUTION IN FRANCE.

THE extraordinary degree of interest excited by the intelligence of the late Revolution in Paris, will be taken as a sufficient apology for the extent of space we have devoted in our present No. to the insertion of several articles bearing upon the subject, to the exclusion of some of our legislative reports.

While we, in common with the majority of our fellow subjects in the Provinces, are perfectly content with the form of government guaranteed to us by the constitution of the Mother Country, and satisfied that the principles upon which that Government is based, when fully and honestly developed, are not irreconcilable with the growth of a people's liberty, in the most enlarged and rational sense of the term, or not inimical to the advancement of their prosperity,—we are nevertheless not disposed to conceal from our readers the exultant feeling with which we have hailed the triumph of the Parisians over a Government so corrupt and treacherous and despotic as that which so lately disgraced the Court of St. Germain's, and of which nothing now remains save the record of its crimes and the mischief it entailed. At the storm which has so lately burst upon the House of Orleans—supported as it has been by some of the cleverest men in France (so far as worldly

wisdom can establish a claim to the superlative), and represented by a Monarch who has lived long enough in the world, under a variety of the most remarkable vicissitudes, to have gained for him not only a European but world-wide fame for wisdom and sagacity,—at the storm, we repeat, we are not at all surprized. If any thing was likely to awaken surprise, it was the patience—the endurance of the French that kept the elements of social strife so long quiescent. Doomed every day to witness the workings of a foreign policy which degraded their national character, and aroused the reproaches of other countries,—maddened at the spectacle of an old man on the threshold of another world, intriguing to establish his family on a throne, which was given in trust to him by a free people, and of which he had proved himself unworthy,—compelled to drive their thoughts back into the depths of their souls, lest their bodies should be given over to rotteness and the worm,—their every movement watched—their press shackled,—their men of mind and heart condemned to a dungeon or a grave because they would dare exercise the freedom of thought,—the memories of their old men yet dazzled by the splendour of the republican arms under Napoleon, and their young men panting in the solitude of their hearts for an opportunity to rival their sires in deeds of military skill and daring,—it is indeed one of the miracles of the age that a people constituted as the French, quick, vivacious and chivalrous—enamoured of Liberty in all her forms—for years the footstool of a bad Ministry and an ambitious King (not ambitious for his country's sake but for his own),—should have so long delayed a struggle for that achievement which has driven the richest King in the world from his dominions with a solitary five-franc piece in his pocket—with all the trappings of his ill-used power, and all the tools of his intrigues—an achievement that has cost so little, and promises to be so glorious in its results, not only to the French, but to the entire family of Europe: for if we read aright the incidents which have followed the Parisian Revolution, with lightning-like rapidity, we cannot fail to conclude that the spirit of the *Marseillaise* is not to be found indigenous to the banks of the Seine.

We have hinted that this French revolution is not unacceptable to us, since it further enforces the principle which has long been gaining ground in Europe, that a people have the undoubted right to displace Monarchs as well as Ministers, when their feelings and their interests require them to do so, and put in their places men who will more advantageously discharge the duties of Government, though under a different form and different designation.

We would further observe that—although we have no wish at present to see Republican, take the place of British, principles (for Monarchy and its institutions we venerate)—the people of Britain as well as of the Colonies may safely imbibe a portion of the democratic spirit, without checking the ardour of their attachment to the throne and person of our gracious Sovereign; and by turning their thoughts to the triumph of the Parisians they may learn the advantages and the virtues of that spirit, without suffering their minds to be corrupted by the excesses which were the consequence of an attempt at its suppression. Had Louis Phillippe and his Ministry governed France as an enlightened nation ought to be governed, the Frenchman's democracy would not, perhaps, have interfered with his allegiance to the Bourbons.

THE ELECTION AND CURRENCY BILLS.

These Bills have at length passed through their second reading in the Assembly, and will shortly engage the attention of the Upper Branch of the Legislature. That one or both will undergo some alteration in that Body, is not at all improbable. But whatever may be the alteration, or whatever the fate of the Bills—we sincerely trust "their honours" will be a little more sparing of their eloquence in dealing with them than some members of the Assembly have been, whose prosy and fruitless harangues have seriously retarded the transaction of other business, and have made the Session appear one of the most dull and tiresome it could be possible for us to experience.

The introduction of the Simultaneous Polling plan is the only new feature of any consequence in the Election Bill. It is true that Mr. Palmer, with the aid of his adherents, made a desperate attempt to increase the amount of a candidate's qualification; but notwithstanding the vapouring and insolence of a certain few about their majority in the Assembly, the debate on the Election Bill showed that Mr. Palmer does not enjoy the entire confidence of the party he attempts to lead—on

that ultra Toryism has not so firm a foothold in the present House as some of the old sticklers for the Official Clique professed to believe. The Liberal party voted to a man against increasing the qualification—they voted against it on principle; for none but a fool would assert that their influence or their number in the Legislature could be more affected by the change than that of their opponents; for we are well assured that if the Two Hundred Pound scheme were to go into operation it would exclude from the House of Assembly as many of the one side as of the other.

It is a very favorite practice with some persons in the Assembly to give vent to sarcasms and allusions respecting the poverty of others—the meanness and vulgarity of which would disgrace the commonest scold, and raise a blush on the face of a fishwoman. But we may be one day tempted to narrate the history of those self-sufficient persons, and point to the dunghill whence they have sprung; and, if we mistake not, we might ornament the picture we could draw, by putting a ferry or a cook-house in the back-ground.

On the Currency Bill, Mr. Palmer and his allies were no less shamefully beaten. The amendments proposed by Mr. Maclean—who displayed throughout the debate a knowledge of Finance infinitely superior to that of the two worthies who took upon themselves to lecture Earl Grey—were carried triumphantly. Some of these amendments are important, and will, when we have more leisure and space at our disposal, receive an attentive consideration.

The following paragraph, which we take from the *Bermuda Royal Gazette*—received by last Friday's Mail—will shew that the saddle has been at last put upon the right horse. Our Charlottetown Officials chuckled amazingly when Judge Reddie's suspension was, in the first instance, held to be unwarrantable; and Governor Reid was declared to be such another arbitrary man as Governor Huntley, who had suspended an Executive Councillor for giving, on the floor of the House of Assembly, the most convincing proof of his unfitness for the station which he attempted to fill, by descending, in his observations in reference to Her Majesty's Representative—to the style of invective supposed to be peculiarly characteristic of the low-born, uneducated, and innately vulgar man.

ST. LUCIA.—SUSPENSION OF JUDGE REDDIE.—The Commission of Inquiry having reported to his Excellency the Governor-in-Chief their belief, founded on the evidence, that Mr. Reddie was the author of the "Polycarp Letters," his Excellency has been pleased to order the Suspension of Mr. Reddie from the office of Chief Justice, until her Majesty's pleasure shall be known. Assuming that the newspaper reports are at all to be relied on, we look forward, with some curiosity, to the view which her Majesty's Government will take of this "Inquiry" and the evidence taken by the Commissioners.—*Barbados Liberal*, Jan. 15.

THE VULNERABILITY OF TORYISM IN HIGH PLACES.

—We observe by an article in the *Halifax Sun* that, in the Legislative Council of Nova Scotia the secession of one member only (Mr. Rudolf) from the cause of Toryism, has had an effect as wonderfully convincing upon the minds of the other late heroic Tories of that Body, as the desertion of Ney from Louis to Napoleon had upon the troops which the brave Marshal had vauntingly led forth against the ex-Emperor; and these converted worthies of the old *regime* have freely followed the inviting example of wise and justifiable desertion from the Standard of sinking Exclusiveness to manifest their prowess under the Banner of growing Liberality. The consequence has been, that the cause of Liberalism has ever since been as triumphant in the Higher as in the Lower House; and the President of the Council, like another Louis, has thought proper wisely to resign his throne—his chair we mean,—and one—the Hon. Michael Tobin—has been elevated to the vacant seat, who, we feel assured, will at all times be found discharging the duties of his important station with such dignity and impartiality as fully to justify the wisdom of his appointment.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—On Monday evening, the 27th ult., DR. CONROY delivered a lecture to a crowded audience at the old Court House, on the *Philosophy of Light and Heat*.

MARRIED.

On Thursday Evening, by the Rev. David Fitzgerald, Mr. EDMUND MAWLEY, to Miss SARAH BAGG, both of Charlottetown.

DIED.

On Monday, the 3d inst. at his residence, Ten Mile House, St. Peter's Road, Mr. Henry Mooney, aged 78 years. He was a native of the Parish, Donagh, County Monaghan, Ireland, and emigrated to this Island, with the Rev. John McDonald, in 1830; and from that time up to the hour of his death he enjoyed the respect of all classes in the community, which was evident on the day of his funeral, it being one of the largest assemblages of people ever seen in the Island, on such an occasion. His children, grand children, and great grand children, number in all 74.