

resembling gold, and on his nose he wore a pair of silver spectacles, for Duncan was short sighted.

So Duncan came to the rescue for ninety and three days, and dwelt in the City, and sat himself down at the large feet of John the Publisher, for the twenty and ten pounds.

Now John the Publisher was exceeding glad because of Duncan the Battering Ram, whom he called the Sub, for John was no writer and his paper was barren, and he had not to pay Duncan.

This I write unto thee, O EXAMINER, thou purifier of the Institutions of the Country, and ask thee to print it on the pages of thy record.

EBENEZER.

The Examiner.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 1850.

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

On Monday afternoon and evening the House of Assembly again went into Committee of the whole on the state of the Colony. After several hours spent in debate, the following Resolutions were reported to the House, and adopted:—

(Moved in Committee by Mr. COLKA.)

WHEREAS the last House of Assembly came to the following Resolutions:

Resolved, as the opinion of this Committee, that the overcharge of five shillings sterling for Marriage Bonds, in the account of Fees submitted to this House by the Colonial Secretary as Private Secretary's fees, is a charge not authorized by the Law of the Island; and that the sum of five shillings for Tavern, Pedlar, Ferry Licences, and retained by him, ought to have been paid to the Treasury of this Island.

Resolved, that the copies of the Blue Books laid before this House during the present Session for the years 1846, and 1847, being the first ever submitted to this House, are inaccurately filled up—defective in many instances in point of fact, and wanting in many important particulars necessary to enable Her Majesty's Colonial Minister to form a full and correct judgment of the affairs of this Colony, and particularly of the amount of Salaries received by some of its Public officers, inasmuch as certain fees drawn by the gentleman holding the office of Private Secretary and Accountant aeral in Chancery, are in no wise referred to in any of the said Blue Books, and that the fees or emoluments given to the same gentlemen, who holds and forms by deputy the office of Clerk to the Legislative Council, do not appear; and under the Return of the Attorney General, no fees for Crown Prosecutions appear in either of the said Blue Books; and that under the head "Returns of Jails," &c. question No. 20, which asks, "Is there any insane person in confinement?" it is answered by the then Sheriff, "Abercrombie Willock, confined by attachment for non payment of Costs, is non compos mentis, and should be removed to a Lunatic Asylum;" whereas it has never been determined by any competent authority that the said Abercrombie Willock is of unsound mind. Resolved, further, that it is the opinion of this House, that if the Blue Books continue to be drawn up in the same careless and inaccurate style as those referred to, they are calculated greatly to mislead, instead of informing the mind of the Secretary of State for the Colonies."

Resolved, As the opinion of this Committee that the foregoing Resolutions be adopted.

Resolved, That as His Excellency has been pleased to decline furnishing to this House, in conformity with their request, copies of certain Documents relating to the Public Service, and a return of Fees drawn by certain Officers of Government, the House of Assembly are unable to proceed in their contemplated investigation of the unauthorized retention of Fees by the Officer acting in the double capacity of Colonial and Private Secretary, and that a Committee be appointed to prepare an Address to the Queen, praying Her Majesty will cause the wishes of the House of Assembly to be complied with in this respect.

(Moved in Committee by Mr. WHELAN.)

Resolved, That it be recommended to the House to appoint a Committee to report on the practice of Land Agents or other persons giving Leases and Deeds, as well for Land that is mortgaged or bound by Judgments in the Supreme Court, as for Land that has been seized and levied upon by the Sheriff under Writs of Execution from Her Majesty's Supreme Court of Judicature, with power to send for persons, papers, and records.

Resolved, That it is expedient to appoint a Committee to prepare an Address to the House of Commons, directing the attention of that Honorable Body to the Address forwarded by this House to Her Majesty the Queen, in reference to the question of Responsible Government and to the suspension of Business of this House with His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, and soliciting the powerful influence of the House of Commons with Her Majesty's Government in Britain on behalf of the claim put forth by this House to a full participation in all the Political Rights of their fellow Subjects in the other Colonies and in Britain.

(Moved in Committee by Mr. SPEAKER)

Resolved, That the terms on which Wilderness Land in this Colony have been generally leased, are such as seriously to retard the prosperity of the Colony, and therefore to call for the intervention of the Legislature.

Resolved, That the House of Assembly in 1839 came to the Resolution that the Assessment of Wilderness Land is not by any means adequate to make the proprietary claimants reduce the price or rent of Wilderness Land, because such tax then was not over one twenty fifth part of the rent generally demanded by them for Wilderness Land, and that the truth of that Resolution is proved by the experience of the last eleven years, as the rents demanded by the Proprietors have not, save in some very few instances, been reduced.

PROROGATION OF THE LEGISLATURE.

Yesterday, at half-past two o'clock, the Houses of Legislature were Prorogued till the 25th of April, the House of Assembly having requested to be prorogued at that time, as, in conformity with their Resolution, they could transact no further business with the Lieut. Governor. His Excellency was received at the entrance of the Colonial Building by a guard of the 97th Regiment, and was accompanied to the Legislative Council by his Aides-de-Camp, several Members of the Executive Council, the Officers of the Guldare, the Honorable Judge Peters and the Rev. Doctor Jenkins, in their robes, together with many other gentlemen of the Town. The following Speech was delivered by His Excellency:—

Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council;

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly;

It has been intimated to me by the Speaker of the Assembly that it is the wish of the House to rise this day, alleging that under present circumstances they can do no further business.

The Journal of the Assembly informs me that the House has passed a series of Resolutions, from which it appears that it supposes I am fully authorized to put into immediate practice the principles of Responsible Government.

The Assembly is mistaken in this supposition. I have no such authority.

The Despatches from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, which have been laid before you since the commencement of the Session, point out that while his Lordship has not expressed any determination to advise Her Majesty to refuse the concession of Responsible Government, if it should appear that it is the real wish of the inhabitants of the Colony in general, certain permanent provisions and establishments must precede its adoption.

Her Majesty's Government feel it their duty not to assent to any terms which shall involve substantial injury to existing holders of Office. It is impossible to surrender the Crown Revenues unless the Salary of the Chief Justice be secured to him by permanent Law, so long as he shall continue in office, and I am happy to understand, that on this point, an arrangement satisfactory to all parties has been agreed upon.

But there are also other Officers whose emoluments have been hitherto partly derived from Imperial funds, whose claims must form a necessary part of the compact. It is obvious that the claims of each individual to a continuance of the emoluments of his office, must be affected by the greater or less length of the period for which he may have held it, and by the circumstance of his having sacrificed any other advantage, profession or occupation, for the purpose of accepting it, or otherwise. The adjustment of these details has been left by Her Majesty's Government to my discretion.

After mature consideration, I have come to the conclusion that it is only necessary to make permanent provision for three of these gentlemen, in the event of their relinquishing their offices, namely, the Attorney General, the Colonial Secretary and Registrar of Deeds, and the Treasurer; whose services extend over periods ranging from thirty five to twenty two years. I think that the whole charge to be borne by the Colonial Revenue for their pensions need not exceed the sum of £600 currency per annum.

Had the Assembly, instead of prematurely calling upon me to change the whole of the Executive Council, complied with these preliminary conditions, I should then have been enabled to report to Her Majesty's Government, that the obstacles which existed to the surrender of the Crown Revenues, being removed, the time had in my opinion arrived, when the control of the Revenues of the Crown should be transferred to the Colony; and further, to recommend that I should be authorized to take the necessary steps for the introduction of the system of Responsible Government into this Island.

The Assembly has however thought fit to pursue a different course, and has refused to grant the Supplies necessary for the Government of the colony, abandoning also the discharge of its legislative duties at a time when matters of high importance, not only to this Island, but to the British North American Provinces generally, are before it. I sincerely regret this, because I fear that the Colony may suffer deep and lasting injury from these proceedings.

THE PROROGATION.

Before this sheet can reach our country subscribers the news of the prorogation of the Legislature will be known in every settlement of the Island. The cause of that singular procedure will likewise be partially, if not generally known. It will be our business, however, to explain it thoroughly—to enquire how far the Assembly has been right in the part it has taken to bring about this momentous crisis in our local affairs—and to see the public be not misled by unfair representations and unjust aspersions, whether they come officially or otherwise, which we have reason to apprehend will be freely circulated against the Representatives of the People. On this business we do not now purpose to enter. The explanation and enquiry are of that importance which makes it necessary on our part to bring to the task calmer feelings and a cooler judgment than the heat of party controversy will now permit. All that we will at present suffer ourselves to utter is, that we believe the House of Assembly have pursued the only course which a due regard for their honour, independence, and the public interests, will be found to warrant. They are before the bar of public opinion—when their case shall be fairly stated, we do not doubt that an approving verdict will be given them at that tribunal.

THE MAILS.

The Courier, with the English, Colonial and American Mails, arrived in Charlottetown at half past eleven o'clock last night. The Niagara, the first March Steamer from England, arrived at Halifax on Thursday last. The following are the only items of news we have noticed worth copying.

Lord Denman resigned the office of Chief Justice of the Queen's Bench, on the 1st instant, and Lord Campbell has been appointed his successor.

The question of Voting by Ballot was moved in the House of Commons by Mr. H. Berkeley, on the 7th instant, but was lost on the division by a majority of 55—for the motion 121; against it 176. Although defeated, the friends of the Ballot were so pleased at the result, that they received the announcement of the numbers with cheering.

Parliament will adjourn for the Easter holidays from the 26th instant to the 8th of April.

The Earl of Carlisle is appointed the successor of Lord Campbell, as Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.

Her Majesty has offered a reward of £20,000 to any one who shall effectually relieve the crews of Sir John Franklin's ships, the Erebus and Terror; £10,000 to any one who shall relieve any of the crew, or who shall convey such intelligence as shall lead to the relief of such crew; and £10,000 to any party or parties who shall first succeed in ascertaining their fate.

UNITED STATES.—Dr. Webster was put on trial for the murder of Dr. Parkman, at Boston, on Tuesday. The prisoner pleaded not guilty. It is supposed the trial will last several days.

A Steamboat called the "Orline St. John" took fire in the Alabama River, on the 5th instant, and about 50 lives, with property to the amount of \$600,000, were lost in consequence.

MARRIED.

At Cardigan, on the 5th instant, by the Rev. Hugh Ross, Mr. Ebenezer M'Donald, to Miss Flora Ferguson, both of that place.

At the Manse, Belfast, on the 12th instant, by the Rev. Hugh Ross, Mr. Donald M Leod, to Miss Catherine M'Donald, both of Murray Harbour Road.

At the Manse, Belfast, on the 12th instant, by the Rev. Hugh Ross, Mr. Norman M'Pherson, of Wood Islands, to Miss Ann M Donald, of Orwell.

On the 13th ultimo, by the Rev. W. H. Cooper, Mr. John Campbell, of Emore River, to Jane Ellen, daughter of Mr. John Robinson, late of Charlottetown, now of Lot 12.

NOTICE.

ALL Persons indebted to the Subscriber, either by Note of Hand or Book Account, are requested to pay the same without delay, or proceedings will be taken against them without distinction of persons.

JAMES O'RIELLY.

March 27. 3 in.

TO be Sold by Auction, on WEDNESDAY the 10th day of April next, at the Old COURT HOUSE Charlottetown, at TWELVE o'clock noon, if not previously disposed of, by private Contract, the FARM of

MEADOWBANK,

at Elliot River, Lot 31, comprising 320 acres of excellent Land, about 30 of which are in a high state of cultivation, with Dwelling House, Barns, Threshing Machine, &c., thereon, now in the occupation of the Subscriber.

For a Plan of the Property, and other particulars, enquire at the Office of James Peake, Esquire, Charlottetown.

JAMES B. COOPER.

Meadowbank, Lot 31, March 20, 1850.