

tical adversaries would have a decided majority. The majority of the House of Assembly finding, therefore, that they could effect no satisfactory arrangement with the Lieutenant Governor, determined to adhere to their original resolution of transacting no further business with His Excellency, and requested to be prorogued on the 26th instant. In compliance with their request, the Legislature was prorogued, when the Lieutenant Governor delivered a speech, from which the following are extracts:

In the second and third paragraphs of the Speech His Excellency observes:

"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 undersigned beg to invite your attention to the extract from the confidential Despatch transmitted by the Speaker, already alluded to in this communication, and desire to ask whether or not, under that Despatch, His Excellency was authorised to introduce into the administration of affairs in this Island the principles of Responsible Government, without waiting to communicate with Her Majesty's Ministers, inasmuch as the majority had agreed to make those "permanent provisions and establishments" alluded to in the following paragraph from the Governor's Speech:—

"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."

The next paragraph of the Lieut. Governor's Speech, which the Undersigned desire to bring under the consideration of the Society, is the following:—

"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."

From the statement of facts, relating to the conference, above given, it will be perceived, that an arrangement for the Colonial Secretary and Treasurer, such as the Assembly was disposed to make, met with the approbation of the Lieutenant Governor. As regards the Attorney General, although any claim which that Officer may be considered to have was not pressed by His Excellency on the consideration of the gentlemen conducting the conference, he nevertheless expressed himself satisfied with the offer which was made in reference to him; and it does seem a singular proceeding that His Excellency should now claim a retiring allowance of £200 a year for an Officer whose full salary has been fixed by a Bill, passed in the present Session, and sanctioned by His Excellency, at £150 per annum.

With reference to the statement contained in the last quoted paragraph of His Excellency's Speech, to the effect, that the Officers for whom pensions are claimed have been in the service of the public for "periods ranging from thirty-five to twenty-two years," the undersigned are unable to conjecture how His Excellency could have fallen into such an error, as the records of the Colony place the date of their appointments at periods not nearly so remote.

With respect, in the first place, to the Colonial Secretary: The Hon T. H. Haviland, the incumbent of that office, came to this Island upwards of thirty years ago, to fill the post of Provost Marshal, at a salary of £100 sterling per annum. In 1830, he was appointed Treasurer, at a salary of £500 currency per annum, for which, during his incumbency, he paid the then Governor's Nephew a yearly gratuity of £100, for relinquishing his claim to that office. In 1840, he was appointed Colonial Secretary, Registrar of Deeds, and Clerk to the Legislative and Executive Councils, when he resigned the Treasury, in favour of the present incumbent, and procured the appointment of his son, though not then of age, to the office of Provost Marshal,—a sinecure, the salary of which was last year disallowed, with the sanction of Her Majesty's Government. Mr. Haviland has likewise received (and continues to draw) from the Imperial Treasury, for a period of more than twenty years, a retiring allowance as Naval Officer, of £180 sterling, equal to £270 currency, which retirement is entered "nil" in the Blue Books of the Colony, for the years 1845—46—47, and '48.

As respects, in the next place, the Treasurer, this Officer was appointed in 1840, and the Attorney General was called to his situation in 1829:—So that it does appear these officers have not those very superior claims to consideration, in the event of their relinquishment of Office, which His Excellency would seem to think they possess; and it ought to be borne in mind that neither

of them sacrificed any "advantage or profession" for the purpose of accepting his appointment—a circumstance which, in the Governor's opinion, would entitle him to consideration.

In justification of the course taken by the House of Assembly, they have adopted an Address to Her Majesty the Queen, stating the reasons for which they have declared a want of confidence in His Excellency's Government; passing, however, conditionally, a Civil List Bill, in which provision is made for those public officers whose salaries were formerly defrayed by a Grant of the Imperial Parliament—on a scale commensurate with the extent and circumstances of the Colony. Copies of this Address and Bill are herewith respectfully enclosed, together with a Memorial or Address to the Honourable the House of Commons, soliciting on behalf of the people of this Island, in their struggle for constitutional liberty, the protection and support of that august Body, whose influence and power have been ever exercised in favour of the oppressed—whose voice is heard above the clamours of faction, and with whom the designs of Colonial Cliques can be of no avail. The undersigned are instructed to request, that these Documents may be laid before the House of Commons by a member of your Society, at his earliest convenience; and for the information of the Society, the copy of an Address to the Queen is likewise enclosed, pointing out to Her Majesty certain omissions and inaccuracies which have occurred in the Annual Blue Books of this Colony,—together with a copy of his Excellency's Speech at the prorogation of the Assembly, and some of the Newspapers published in the Island.

In conclusion, the Undersigned beg to apologize for thus trespassing on your attention with so extended a communication. They trust, however, that the importance of the duty with which they have been charged, will plead their excuse with your Society. They are induced to encourage the hope, that, though they may not have satisfactorily performed that duty in the short time allotted to them on this occasion, they have at least given such a statement of facts—so well corroborated as many of them are by the public documents emanating from the Assembly—as cannot fail to prove the soundness of the position assumed by the Lower House of the Legislature, and the absolute necessity for the introduction of that change in the Government which it has been the duty of the House to demand.

We have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient

Humble Servants,

GEORGE COLES, Chairman,
WILLIAM W. LORD,
BENJAMIN DAVIES,
ALEXANDER RAE,
EDWARD WHELAN.

Committee Room, H. A. March 28, 1850.

The following is the Address to the House of Commons which accompanied the preceding Letter. The details of the Civil List Bill, and the Address to the Queen, have been already given to our readers:—

TO THE HONOURABLE THE HOUSE OF COMMONS OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND, IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED.

The House of Assembly of the Island of Prince Edward, in Session now convened, most respectfully desire to solicit the attention of Your Honourable and august Body to an Address to Her Majesty the Queen, which they have deemed it their duty to adopt during their present Session, in consequence of the refusal of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor of this Colony to comply with the wishes of the House of Assembly, and to carry out what they believe to be the true intentions of Her Majesty, and of the Right Honorable the Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, in regard to extending to this Colony the principles of self Government in the management of its local affairs, in common with other dependencies of the Crown in North America.

The House of Assembly beg likewise to submit for your consideration a Bill which has passed both Branches of the Legislature, to provide for the payment of expenses on the Civil establishment of this Island, in the event of the principles of self government, of which they are now desirous, being put in operation. In the arrangement of the details of this Bill, the House of Assembly have been actuated by a due regard for the faithful and independent management of the Public Service, and by a wise economy of the People's Money.

The House of Assembly trust that the Address and Bill herein referred to, of which copies are respectfully enclosed, will be received as evidence of an anxious desire on their part to meet the wishes of Her Majesty's Government, and of those of Her Representative in this Colony.

Too often misled by vacillating and contradictory Despatches, and their power too often rendered nugatory by the exercise of secret and unfair influences by interested parties in the Colony, who, unfortunately, have been too long permitted to interpose their selfish designs between the interests and opinions of the people and the gracious wishes of the Sovereign—the House of Assembly appeal to your Protection, relying upon your well-known attachment to the principles of constitutional liberty, which have been recently so

clearly and satisfactorily explained by the First Minister of the Crown—and to your power and readiness to secure for the humblest class of Colonists in the Empire the inalienable rights of British Subjects; and they are induced to hope that, through your prompt and generous interference in their behalf, they may be no longer deprived of a participation in all those advantages which a full extension of the British Constitution is calculated so confer, and which cannot fail to strengthen the ties that bind us to our common country.

House of Assembly, March 26, 1850.

The foregoing communication cannot fail to excite a lively interest in the minds of the public. While its tone is temperate and respectful—as the tone of such a document ought to be—it very clearly points to the fact, that His Excellency has by no means the best side of the story in his relation of the differences which unfortunately occurred between him and the majority of the Assembly. There are several important facts connected with the conference or negotiation on the part of the Lieutenant Governor and the leaders of the majority, that have not yet been made public. We are in possession of these facts, and we shall give them publicity as soon as possible, in order to shew that His Excellency has been ill-advised, to say the least, in not remodelling his Council in conformity with the wishes of the Assembly, and acceding to the liberal terms proposed by the majority—particularly as the members of his Council, by their resignation, interposed no obstacle to the satisfactory termination of the whole affair—instead of assuming the style of the Dictator, reprimanding the Assembly—charging them with an abandonment of their legislative duties, and holding them responsible for the consequences. We are happy to know that the majority are made of sterner stuff than they are supposed to be, in certain quarters; and we feel well assured, that when they again meet, they will not be inclined to deal so generously towards those public officers for whose interests His Excellency appears to be so solicitous.

HONOR TO WHOM HONOR IS DUE.—Though the Legislative Council rejected the amendment to the Address, which was designed to pledge that Branch of the Legislature to the support of Responsible Government, yet, it must be acknowledged, they have redeemed their credit by passing the Civil List Bill, which distinctly recognizes, in even stronger terms than those of the amendment, the right of the Colony to the introduction of the new System. Perceiving the Upper House, then, thus mindful of public opinion, we must forgive and forget their past *apparent* opposition to the principles of Reform.

In order to make room for the several interesting articles of intelligence, and the lengthy letter from the Corresponding Committee of the House of Assembly, which appears in our paper to-day, we are obliged to suspend the publication of the Debates. They will, however, be resumed in our next.

DIED.

At her residence, Kent Street, Charlottetown, last evening, after an illness of more than twelve months, Mrs. Thomas Collings, aged 52 years. Her Funeral will take place from her late residence to-morrow at 3 o'clock, p. m.

On Thursday evening, Jeremiah Kehoe, aged 90 years; a native of the County Wexford, Ireland. Funeral at 1 o'clock to-morrow.

TEMPERANCE INN.

THE Subscriber having lately removed from Crapaud, and taken the large and commodious House owned by Mr. John Breen, in Kent Street, adjoining the Premises of Mr. John Scott, Coach-maker, begs to inform his friends and the Public that he intends establishing a TEMPERANCE INN, with a PROVISION STORE attached, where every accommodation will be afforded to the Public in the best style, and at the most reasonable rates.

Cash paid for good PRODUCE.

JOHN COGHLAN.

Kent Street, March 30, 1850.

TO LET.

WHAT pleasantly situated Mansion in the vicinity of Government House, and now in the occupation of the Hon. the Chief Justice, consisting of Twenty-one highly finished apartments, with Coach House, Stable, Kitchen, Flower Garden, and a never failing Spring of Pure Water in the Premises.

Possession given on or about the 18th May next, apply to

DAVID WILSON.

Richmond Street March 30.