

COLONIAL LEGISLATURE.

House of Assembly, Saturday, March 5.
 Several petitions were presented. In supply, several resolutions for the public services were agreed to. The consideration of the amount to be assigned to the Controller of Customs and Navigation Laws and the fitting up of the House, deferred until the Governor's message shall have been discussed. Among other appropriations £2000 were voted for the purchase of a schooner of 500 for inland mails, and £1000 at the disposal of the Government for steamers; £60 to the keeper of the Colonial Building; £5 for public postage; £25 for the fitting up of the House; £100 for the Colonial Building; £100 for a packet to convey the mails between Georgetown and Placoya during the time that the steamer "Hesperus" is out of service; £500 for the purchase of two additional row commissioners. On the estimates for repairs and alterations at Government House, a desultory conversation took place, and a variety of objections were expressed by the several members who addressed the House. Hon. Mr. Palmer suggested the propriety of Government receiving tenders for a lease of a house for the residence of the Lieutenant Governor, and the letting the present one for about ten years, or converting it to some public use, such as a law fitting up of the House, or of the Industry, for that period, by which time it would have become so rotten and worn out that it might be pulled down and a new one erected with the money saved by the sale of the present one. An suggestion thrown out by the Hon. Col. Secretary, as to the propriety of the Government purchasing a piece of ground near the House, for the foundation of the late Colonel Lane, was generally approved. £200 were voted for expenses of Crown prosecutions; £60 for the three law Sheriffs.

MONDAY, March 5.

Several petitions were presented to the House. By Mr. McIntosh—Petition of R. Barry Turner.

By Mr. Wightman—for Wharf—Peter MacCallum for remission of duty on damaged goods. Inhabitants of the District of St. Andrew's, for building a Bridge.—David McLeod, Murray Harbour, for payment of a Bridge.—James Murray, for a grant of £1000 for the purchase of a new School, for aid to a new School House, site of which was altered by the new Act.

By Mr. Wightman—Sundry Mill owners asking House to impose a toll of 4d per ton on all logs, &c., floated through Mill Dams.

By Mr. Duncan Stewart for payment of certain money on the petition of Mr. Coles. This petition was withdrawn.

By Mr. Wiart at South side, Murray Harbour also withdrawn, on motion Mr. Warburton.

By Mr. Hugh McDonald, Esq., controller of navigation Laws for an office or means to render them efficient.

Hon. Mr. Longworth, Mr. Cooper, and Mr. McIntosh thought that the granting of this petition would be a second time, after contrivances are demanded the same, some Hon. Member stated that although the salary was only £15 the commission was £100.

Hon. Mr. Haviland's inhabitants of Georgetown for an additional Block or T to their Wharf and for a Bonded Warehouse.

Hon. Members seemed agreed that they should have a Warehouse such as is kept in Georgetown, Charlotte. But Hon. Mr. Coles did not think a Bonded Warehouse such as is in other places would be so beneficial as the system of giving Bonds for duties.

By Mr. Haviland—Inhabitants of Georgetown for a Fire Engine, some Hon. Members said it would be a luxury. Mr. Haviland replied, he stated that had a precedent already the first Fire Engine for Charlotte town was paid for by Government.

By Mr. Peter M-Phee and Hepburn for payment for repairing Roads and Bridger.

Hon. Mr. Whelan moved for a call of the House on Tuesday afternoon, after contrivances to consider the paying of Legislative Councillors.

Hon. Mr. Whelan in moving that the Bill for regulating the proceedings in controversial petitions be read a second time, after contrivances was principally a consolidation of the two Acts 7th and 11th Victoria, except that the time was intended to be extended, and there were a few verbal alterations.

The Bill for the establishment of a Normal School, and an amendment of the Free Education Act, was read a third time. Hon. Mr. Longworth said that this Bill was a measure of necessity, some regulation being made to secure the payment of the fees to teachers. That, under the present system, the parents were not to be kept in arrears merely for the winter, and before the expiration of the time when the fees would become payable, removed from the place without notice. Others who were of the opinion that the master would remove their children from one school to another, and thus evade their obligations, to the pecuniary loss of the teacher and the retardation of the pupils, who could not improve under such circumstances; and suggested that the Bill lie over till to-morrow, when some measure could be adopted to obviate the evil.

Hon. Col. Secretary had no objection to the Bill being deferred till to-morrow, and was of opinion that the trustees had the power to compel the payment of the fees. When the Bill first introduced, it was intended to have brought forward a measure for the establishment of schools on the principle of the ragged schools existing in England, and which were of every great utility, but the Secretary of the Board of Education considered that there were difficulties in the way. If we cannot, however, do this, we must have a measure which will send the children whose parents were too poor to pay the fees, or would not send their children to school, to some place of education, and on such certificate the teacher should receive the fees from the Treasury. By this means, the Board of Education would be enabled to ascertain they spend most of their time, to the annoyance of the public and their own great injury. The Bill was deferred till to-morrow.

The Bill regulating the proceedings on controverted Elections was read a third time, and passed with some trifling amendments.

Five bills were received and in supply, viz:—£20 to Messenger of Executive Council. £50 for Coroners' Inquests. £150 for Buoya and Beacon. £100 for Boards of Health. £20 for interest on the loan of £1000. £50 for the Beutones. £—for contingent expenses of the Legislative Council and Assembly. £—for making the new wharf, and £—for the Beutones. £60 to two Attorneys of Public Accounts. £50 to Superintendent of Public Works. £5 to Market Clerk in Georgetown. £1000 for the Registrar of the Colonies.

On the motion to appropriate sums on account of the public pews in the different churches—Mr. Muirhead wished to know why it was that the members of the different denominations were to receive but £7; while the members of that communion were in a very small number, and the other denominations explained that far more accommodation was afforded by that church than any other, and that, as the Province owned the pews, the sum given was not the property of the church, but of the Province. £100 to two Attorneys of Public Accounts. £50 to Superintendent of Public Works. £5 to Market Clerk in Georgetown. £1000 for the Registrar of the Colonies. On the motion to appropriate sums on account of the public pews in the different churches—Mr. Muirhead wished to know why it was that the members of the different denominations were to receive but £7; while the members of that communion were in a very small number, and the other denominations explained that far more accommodation was afforded by that church than any other, and that, as the Province owned the pews, the sum given was not the property of the church, but of the Province. £100 to two Attorneys of Public Accounts. £50 to Superintendent of Public Works. £5 to Market Clerk in Georgetown. £1000 for the Registrar of the Colonies.

Hon. Col. Secretary proposed a vote of £100 to be granted to the Government, for the amount having been paid by him to Mr. Stark, the Visitor of Schools, for the purchase of a horse, wagon and sleigh. He stated that, from the terms of the contract, he had written to him requesting that a competent person be sent out to the Island, an impression was conveyed that Mr. Stark was not to be paid, but that the additional to his salary. Mr. Stark, on his arrival, discovered that such was not to be the case; and then Sir Alexander considered himself bound in honor to pay the salary, but that he had only £100 in his travelling fees. And the (Hon. Col. Secretary) had no doubt that the House would not dissent. He (Hon. Col. Secretary) had received the amount, on Sir Alexander's order, from W. H. Watson, Esq., and paid it over to Mr. Stark, who was at the time in Barbados.

In answer to a question of the Hon. Mr. Longworth, it appeared that Mr. Stark's salary commenced from the time of his engagement in Scotland, and that his passage out had been paid by the public.

Mr. Haviland was anxious to elicit the opinions of the members of the Government, as to a Government Assurance, and if introduced, it was willing to support it.

Hon. Col. Secretary and the Hon. Mr. Wightman were of opinion that the House should leave the Island, and that the Elections had caused it to be overlooked.

Hon. Mr. Palmer thought that sufficient information was given to the House, and consequently he would suspend his opinion, and reserve his right to oppose the resolution, if more satisfactory information was given.

Hon. Mr. Montgomery was opposed to the vote. If Sir Alexander Bannerman chose to make a present to Mr. Stark, he might do so, but it was not the business of the House in session, and the correspondence should have been produced. Now we do not know whether the late Lieutenant Governor intended it as a present or not.

TUESDAY, March 6.

Several petitions were presented to the House, among others was one by the Hon. Mr. Mooney, praying an alteration in the law regulating the measure of Agricultural produce. The Lieutenant Governor's message was referred to a committee to report by Bill or otherwise, and stated that the present law operated to the disadvantage of the farmer, as the measure by which

he sold his produce was larger than in Canada, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland. He mentioned that a captain of a vessel had told him that he had sold 100 bushels of wheat in Boston, measured there 103 bushels more than the quantity as put on board here. That with reference to heaped measure, the shorter staves, and used in the measurement of the measure in the Island, admitted a greater heaping than formerly. His opinions were opposed by the Hon. Col. Secretary, Hon. Mr. Cooper, and Hon. Mr. Montgomery. The latter said that the old system was so defective, that masters of vessels formerly refused to sign Bills of lading, that grain was not affected by the shorter staves, and that the present system worked well. Under the old system masters of vessels had used whatever measures they pleased, and that now the stamping by the assayer of the wood barrels, had given great satisfaction and satisfaction to the people. That compliance with the petition would render useless the standard weights and measures, which had cost much money—that no change in the law was called for by the people.

Hon. Mr. Long suggested, that if the hon. member wished to benefit all parties, he should introduce a Bill to provide for the selling of grain and roots by weight.

Hon. Mr. Wightman moved for the House to support such a Bill. New Brunswick had adopted the principle.

Mr. McIntosh thought such a course impracticable, and suggested that the House should provide with the necessary weighing machines. Mr. Cooper approved of the suggestion, and hoped that the committee would be able to report on the subject, and that the measure might be experienced at first, but apparatus for weighing would soon be found in the vicinity of the different shipping wharves. Hon. Mr. Montgomery, Hon. Mr. Montgomery, Messrs. Haviland, Cooper and Laird were then named as the committee.

Hon. Col. Secretary communicated a letter signed by the Hon. Mr. Montgomery, and approved to the use of the Members of the Legislature in the Baptist Church in Charlotte town, and mentioned that the one-ninth Bill had received the Royal Assent.

Hon. Mr. Wightman presented the report of the Committee on the Lunatic Asylum, and also that of the Committee on the petition of the members of the Legislature in the Baptist Church in Charlotte town, and mentioned that the one-ninth Bill had received the Royal Assent. Hon. Mr. Wightman presented the report of the Committee on the Lunatic Asylum, and also that of the Committee on the petition of the members of the Legislature in the Baptist Church in Charlotte town, and mentioned that the one-ninth Bill had received the Royal Assent. Hon. Mr. Wightman presented the report of the Committee on the Lunatic Asylum, and also that of the Committee on the petition of the members of the Legislature in the Baptist Church in Charlotte town, and mentioned that the one-ninth Bill had received the Royal Assent.

In supply, £250 were voted for the Asylum for the Lunatic Asylum, and £10 to the Boy School.

(Reported for Hazard's Gazette.)

WEDNESDAY, March 7.

The following Petitions were presented and referred to committee or laid on the Table.

By the Hon. Mr. Whelan—A petition of the Morel Road settlers.

By the Hon. Mr. Mooney—Inhabitants of New West River praying aid to improve their Road communications.

By the Hon. Mr. Palmer—Petition of the Church Warden of the Parish of St. Andrew's, for an alteration in the Act, relating to the appointment and incorporation of Church Warden and Vestries connected with the Church of St. Andrew's.

By Mr. Montgomery—Inhabitants of Prince-town Bridge, for a grant to repair Darnley Bridge. For a small sum of money to complete the Institution, and to have the structure prevent the running at large of swine.—Inhabitants of St. George's Island, praying the end designed, and alleging that it is calculated as a present constructed and managed, to deceive the mariner and praying a remedy.—Inhabitants of St. George's Island, praying a remedy in consequence resulting from the system of granting Licences for retailing spirituous liquors, and praying for the abolition of the same.

By Mr. Cooper—Inhabitants of Green Vale asking for a grant to repair Wharf at Pownal Bay.

By Mr. Wightman—Inhabitants of Lots 51, 52 and 59, praying for a Repeal of enacted measures of last session relating to stamp duties, referred to Committee.

By Mr. Mooney—Inhabitants of Indian River for a Post Office.

By Mr. Coles—Inhabitants of Green Vale asking for a grant, for Post Office, referred to Committee.

Mr. Haviland from the Committee appointed to Report on private Bills and to whom was referred the Bill to naturalize James Searl May, a native-born subject of the United States, that the Bill be exempted from fees.

THURSDAY, March 8.

The following petitions were presented: By Mr. Warburton—Inhabitants of Grand River praying that the House will not accede to a petition previously presented for altering May's residence, to the Island.

By Mr. Coles—from Brackley Point Road middle district, setting forth grievances that the present party have obtained registration against the petition for a School, and praying a remedy.

Hon. Mr. Coles presented a petition of the Royal Agricultural Society praying that the House would impose a tax of 10s per head on each dog in Charlotte town and Royalty, such tax to be collected by the Society and go towards their funds. To Society state, that they have taken pains to improve the breed of sheep, which are kept on farms near Town, for the purpose when they are of the proper age, of dispersing them in the several islands of the Country; that in consequence of the depredations of the dogs, their endeavours are in a great measure frustrated, and that the tax on the present tax is in a great measure evaded, and recommended that all dogs be killed, who have not the names of their owners on the collar, or are not accompanied by a dog licence. Mr. Coles would not go the whole length of the petition, but thought something might be done.

Mr. Mooney would rather see all the dogs in the country shot, than go for this Petition.

Mr. Palmer would wish to see more efficient means taken to prevent dogs running at large, he knew the present tax was not collected, and thought a higher tax ought to be imposed on the dogs, and be rigidly enforced.—The Petition was laid on the table.

Mr. McDonald moved that the Bill for amending the Statute Labor Act, and for the establishing a Normal School, be referred to a committee of the whole House. The Hon. Member stated that the Bill allows Commissioners to be appointed out of the District, which he did not concur in.

Mr. Palmer spoke to the same effect.

Mr. Coles said that persons could not be found in the district who understood the manufacturing of Roads, as well as the iron, and that was the reason, that the alteration was made. It was agreed that all Commissioners to be appointed out of the District, but that the Hon. Mr. Palmer reported as amended.

The Normal School Bill was recommitted to a committee of the whole House.

Mr. Palmer suggested that while the Bill was before the House, that as many children are orphan and otherwise unable to pay the fees, that a school be established for orphans in Charlotte town.

Hon. the Speaker thought it would be better to pay the fees out of the Treasury than establish a school, as the fees would not attend, as the Education act would expire, in another year, he would give it a trial, as the expense would not be great.

Mr. Mooney was of the same opinion.

Mr. Coles found from experience that many poor children could not pay the fees for the school, and he thought it would be better, if he would like to see power given to the Board of Education to compel children to go to school, particularly if such a school was established.

Mr. Longworth felt assured, that the children of the poor who were not able to pay the amount of the assessment paid in Charlotte town and Royalty.

Mr. McIntosh—The poor ought to have a school, to associate with the children in the public schools.

Mr. Palmer thought the Hon. Member took an erroneous view, as the school was chiefly for the poor, and the fees would not attend.

Mr. McIntosh said, there were not orphans enough to require a school.

It was concluded, that the Normal School Bill was amended, that the amount of the other Royalties, and the Charlotte town assessment amounted to £400.

Mr. Longworth thought it would be better to have a school, to associate with the children in the public schools.

Mr. Palmer thought the Hon. Member took an erroneous view, as the school was chiefly for the poor, and the fees would not attend.

Mr. McIntosh said, there were not orphans enough to require a school.

It was concluded, that the amount of the other Royalties, and the Charlotte town assessment amounted to £400.

Mr. Longworth thought it would be better to have a school, to associate with the children in the public schools.

Mr. Palmer thought the Hon. Member took an erroneous view, as the school was chiefly for the poor, and the fees would not attend.

Mr. McIntosh said, there were not orphans enough to require a school.

It was concluded, that the amount of the other Royalties, and the Charlotte town assessment amounted to £400.