

that with the Reciprocity treaty abolished, and a heavy duty reimposed on the produce of those provinces in the United States, the General Government would admit the produce of that country into her markets duty free, and all for the purpose of showing a good example? He (Mr. Renouf) had not the slightest faith in the carrying out of this one-sided doctrine of extreme liberality on the part of the Confederate Government. The hon member, Mr. Shea, also said he did not believe the Reciprocity Treaty would be abolished. He (Mr. Renouf) held a different opinion, which was sustained by facts, and would quote from a debate before the senate at Washington in November last, on this matter, as follows—Mr. Sumner stated, "On an estimate founded on the trade before the treaty, Canada would have paid to the United States, in the ten years of the treaty, at least \$17,378,800, which she has been relieved of. This sum has actually been lost to the United States. In return Canada has given up only \$2,650,890, being the amount it would have collected if no treaty had been made. There is consequently a vast disproportion to the detriment of the United States. During the ten years of the treaty the United States have actually paid in duties in Canada \$16,802,962, while during the same period Canada has paid in duties to the United States the very moderate sum of \$930,445." The foregoing facts and figures are certainly more reliable than mere speculative opinions, without any sure foundation; and the public will have no difficulty in deciding which of the two they will accept. We have been further told that England will no longer defend us unless we agree to enter this Confederation; and he (Mr. Renouf) supposed on the terms of the Quebec Resolutions. This is another of the wild speculations of our Delegates, for we have not a single word in the Despatch from the Secretary for the Colonies. Mr. Cardwell, on this subject, that would lead us to infer that the oldest and most loyal colony of the British Empire would be discarded, unless she sacrificed her best interests to gratify the inordinate ambition of a few, to the great injury of the whole country and people. Our defence must be a naval one, and such as England and not the Confederate Government can afford to give us. If England made a present to the general government of her fleet on the North American station, have our Delegates counted the cost of its maintenance in a state of efficiency; and also the additional heavy tax that would create, or proportion of which we should have to contribute? The assertion had been made that there is to be no navy—not for very many years to come, but in view of the fact that the United States intend placing six ironclad steamers on the lakes, for defence of her territory against raiders from the Canadian side, must not Canada meet the emergency by equipping a similar armament? And is it likely that the British Government will defray the expense? If the United States expend \$10,000,000 on her Lake defences; must not Canada be also up and doing? And he (Mr. Renouf) would like to be informed by our Delegates, who must also be sound authorities on naval and military matters, how far will the \$1,030,000 going to the amount set down by the 32 Resolutions to build up a naval and military defence, not for Canada alone, but for all the Provinces and Colonies in the Confederation? Our Delegates have also said that Newfoundland, being no longer a benefit to the British Navy, as her extensive commerce furnished a nursery for seamen to man her Navy, she cared little about us, and might throw us off without hesitation. But he (Mr. Renouf) had greater faith in the justice of the mother country, who could not forget that the Banks of Newfoundland contributed to a large extent the seamen who helped to win her most important naval victories. If the Confederate Government is not to have no navy for many years to come, how are the maritime provinces to be defended from without? But the 13th Section of the 29th Resolution of the Quebec Report admits it, and the hon the Speaker, in his reported speech at the dejeuner at Toronto, said, when speaking of the wants of Canada, as follows: "You want the maritime element, and we are able to give it to you. You may by and by require seamen to man your navy, and where will you be able to obtain them more readily than in Newfoundland?" So that, in the event of a war between Canada and the United States, and Newfoundland in this Confederation, our fishermen could be drafted to fight the battles of a country in whose quarrel they had no interest. It is very evident that that speech, made by the hon the Speaker at Toronto, was after the champagne began to circulate freely, from the very remarkable fact of his forgetting all the good things he said in behalf of his native land in Canada, and which, since his return, he was altogether oblivious of, his opinions having undergone a radical change, Newfoundland being only a paltry, poverty stricken, and pauperized country, in the estimation of the hon and learned Speaker. The allusion to the rendezvous of the Russian fleet at New York, two years ago, for the purpose of proceeding to the Pacific, to pounce upon and destroy the Australian colonies, in the event of England interfering on behalf of Poland, was merely an opinion, and not sustained by any information which leaked out from the Cabinet of St. Petersburg; and even if the report was true, it could not be applicable to our position, which would at all times be free from any attack by the Russians. As regards taxation, he (Mr. Renouf) would admit that where it was relatively applied, it could not fail to be of general advantage, as in the construction of public works and improvements of a reproductive character; thereby giving remunerative employment to our operative population; and in this sense it might be said that taxation and civilization went hand in hand. What was the condition of this country thirty-five years ago, when we had no taxation, and before we had representative institutions? Almost in a state of wilderness. Now we have roads, bridges, educational establishments, colleges, steam and telegraph communications with the outports and provinces and United States, and many other improvements which characterize the advanced civilization of more favoured countries. But the increased taxation which, under Confederation, we would have to bear, would not be for our local improvements, but for the extension of railways, bridges and canals in Canada. The hon member, Mr. Shea, stated that the people of Canada paid less taxes per head than ours. He (Mr. Renouf) admitted that fact, because our taxes are made upon imported goods, whereas the agriculturists and others in Canada supply their wants with coarse articles of clothing of their own household and do not require to purchase every imported requirement, as is the case with us. But what about the other heavy direct taxes which the people of Canada have to pay to meet the reckless extravagance that has been practised by successive governments in the administration of their public affairs, and which has helped to create their huge debt of \$61,000,000? If we are now taxed \$1 per head of our population, it would not probably be less than \$8 under Confederation, with the present Canadian tariff, which would add nothing to the 12s. per head which the people of Canada now pay. Any reduction that was promised in that tariff by our Delegates, which is also speculative, would still have the effect of lessening the taxation in Canada and increasing it in Newfoundland, providing it was reduced from its present 20 and 25 per cent to 15 per cent, which is the highest rate we pay on imports. Reference was made to the poverty of our outports, to many of our houses being unoccupied, and

many with bad tenants, and the alarm of our landlords from fear of increased taxation, which would flow from this measure. As regards the fears of our landlords, they have good reason to dread increased taxation, and feel alarmed too. The present heavy water tax, which owes its parentage to the hon member, Mr. Shea, has given them a foretaste of what they may expect, if the General Government gets the power of taxing them. And in what manner Confederation was to reduce the poverty of the outports, and procure good tenants for our empty houses, and turn out the bad ones, he has not ventured to touch upon, or even to make a promise. He (Mr. Renouf) did not believe this Confederation scheme would be such a potent remedy for our ills, but would be somewhat like a celebrated quack medicine which promised to cure every thing, even earthquakes, but after being tried was found to be only an imposition for getting money. The hon member, Mr. Shea, also referred to the tradesmen's petition, which he (Mr. Renouf) presented to the house a couple of years ago, the prayer of which was protection for their industry, and to prevent them becoming paupers on the government. The principles of protection which he (Mr. Renouf) then advocated, in regard to that petition, he was prepared to advocate again; but what support did the hon member, Mr. Shea, who now seems to be a convert to their views, give to that petition? He turned a deaf ear to it; but now tells us that our tradesmen can get, under his darling scheme, Confederation, all they petitioned for. And why? Is it that there is a brighter vista of future greatness in store in Canada for others than our tradesmen, that he now condescends to notice their wants and wishes. Where is the employment for our people who are not engaged in the fisheries; and even for our fishermen and their families during the intervals between the voyages? Where is the employment for our youth of both sexes, who crowd our thoroughfares, and are constrained to live in idleness on the earnings of one or two earners out of each family? Employers they cannot procure, because there are no workshops, and many articles are imported ready made at low duties; which, if made up in the country, would give employment to thousands, many of whom have to take their industry to the United States, or remain here in a half starving condition, and not unfrequently a burthen upon the public funds of the colony, which should be appropriated to purposes of public improvement and general benefit. Why do our government send orders to other countries, which give employment to their people at the sacrifice of our own, for many articles which could be manufactured here, and then accuse them of their poverty, and drive them to apply for poor relief? Is such the case in the other Provinces? No, whatever the skill and industry of their artisans can accomplish, finds a ready market with them. How different is the case here? Many articles that could be manufactured by our tradesmen, and required for our public institutions, could be supplied both good and cheap; but there is no protection for home manufacturer. Many articles that we might supply are imported and made a job of, the government preferring to make paupers of our artisans, rather than encourage and stimulate their industrial pursuits. Our Delegates who are now such ardent admirers of Canada and her protection for her manufacturers, should look at home; and if she has, by such means, risen to this great state of prosperity, what is there to prevent the application of the same means to the industry of a large portion of our people, to make them happy and prosperous; and without Confederation? But it appears that what benefits Canada cannot benefit us, unless we sacrifice ourselves to Confederation, which is set forth to be the great panacea to cure all ills, and leave us nothing to desire after it would be effectuated. The hon member, Mr. Shea, said he referred to the tradesmen's petition, merely to show the inconsistency of hon members, when supporting its principles, and now repudiating them upon their own darling scheme of Confederation. He (Mr. Renouf) had no doubt that the hon member would never lay the "flattering unctuous" on his soul, and pride himself on his political consistency on all occasions, in this Assembly and out of it also; and that all reliance could be placed on his fixed principles. When this important question of Confederation was slightly touched upon, in Committee on the address in reply to His Excellency's speech at the opening of this session, he (Mr. Renouf) referred to the Canadian tariff of 1863 as applied to our imports for the same year, which would give an increase of taxation of about \$40,000. The hon member, Mr. Shea, in preparing his financial statement under Confederation, to place before the country, applies the Canadian tariff of 1863 to our imports, instead of the tariff of 1864, the former giving a smaller amount of increased taxation, a luxury which the hon member knows is not over palatable to the people, from the experience they have had of the Water Company's tax, which the hon member led the house and the country to believe, when he introduced that measure, would be severely felt. The hon member has told us that the Canadian tariff of 1864 was increased for special purposes, which being now accomplished, would be again reduced, there can be little doubt that it was increased for special purposes, to raise a sufficiency of revenue to meet their extravagant expenditure, which for seven years prior to 1864 was, on an average, \$2,914,758 per year over their income, so that there is little chance of the present tariff being reduced. In the space of twelve years, Canada has had no less than seven tariffs on the ascending scale, and it was only last year, and owing to unusual prosperity, that she had an excess of revenue over expenditure. He (Mr. Renouf) held in his hand a Customs return, of the application of the Canada tariff of 1864 to our imports, which would give a total increase of taxation of \$81,570, deducted from which, a total decrease of \$17,413 on some articles, would leave a net increase of additional taxation of \$64,157. The increased taxes would be on the following principal articles, viz. rum, \$303; molasses, \$3,585; sugar, \$2,200; coffee, \$368; tobacco, \$3,141; soap, \$1,144; boots and shoes, \$7,162; wearing apparel, \$1,331; leather, \$2,401; manufactured goods, \$23,732; out-dage, \$3,250; bread, \$7,181; Guss, powder and shot, \$482; paints, &c., \$332. The decrease would be on the following principal articles, viz. whiskey, cordials, gin, brandy and wines, \$2,756; teas, \$72; fishing tackle, \$1,318; canvas, \$930; salt, \$336; dried fruits, \$187; rice, \$123.—He (Mr. Renouf) had prepared a statement (which appears below) which could show pretty fairly what Newfoundland would have to pay under Confederation, and not including what may be raised in case of emergency, by direct taxation, which power the General Government would possess, by the 5th section of the 29th Resolution of the Quebec report, as follows—"the raising of money by all or any other modes or systems of taxation." This Assembly would, no doubt, hesitate before increasing our taxation to the figures as shown under the application of the Canadian tariff, which increase we could apply to the purposes of local improvement, developing and working our minerals—and opening up new sources of industry for our people. Yet this power, which we are fearful to exercise ourselves, we are willing to transfer to the General Government, for the extension of railways, canals, and other improvements in Canada and the other Provinces, which would be about as beneficial to our direct interests, as the railways and canals of Great Britain. He (Mr.

Renouf) would now refer to our exports of fish, oil, herrings, salmon, skins, &c., which by the 2nd section of the 29th Resolution of the Quebec report, would give to the General Government the following powers: viz. "the imposition or regulation of duties of Customs on imports and exports, except on exports of timber, logs, masts, spars, deals and sawn lumber, and of coal and other minerals." There can be little doubt then, that our exports would be liable to the risk of taxation, in case of emergency, notwithstanding all our Delegates might say to the contrary; and to place the matter beyond the reach of doubt, suspicion or dispute, they should have stipulated that our exports should form an exemption, as well as the timber, &c., of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. An export tax of 5 per cent on our shipments, would raise another pretty item of revenue for the General Government, of about \$30,000 a year, a very small portion of which would fall to our share for local improvements. The hon member, Mr. Shea, calculates there would be a credit balance of \$793,471 in favour of the General Government, after defraying all expenses, providing in the amplest manner for the defence of the Confederated provinces; which item of defence was put down at only \$1,000,000, an amount barely sufficient for Canada alone, and to which might easily be added another \$1,000,000 for the other Provinces. Again, would not the promised extension of the canals of Western Canada absorb the credit balance referred to, to pay interest on moneys to be borrowed for that purpose? Mr. Brown, in his speech at Toronto—"I am happy to say, that with the unanimous consent of the Delegates, we have agreed to the extension of the Canal system of the West," which would certainly cost many millions of dollars, and would be set off against the Intercolonial railway for the improvements of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. The 69th Resolution promises that the North West territory is to be opened up, when the finances would permit; but poor Newfoundland was to be left out in the cold, and have no place in the grand arrangements which are to secure such prosperity to the other Provinces. He (Mr. Renouf) was not singular in his opinion, that the improvements and necessities under the General Government would leave no credit balance, but a deficiency of over \$2,000,000, applying the present Canadian tariff to the maritime provinces, and which deficiency must be met by increased taxation; and whether indirect or direct, on property, income, bank stock, bills of exchange, &c., is no bugbear or clapnet; which hon members who do not agree with the views put forth by our Delegates, on this question, are accused of resorting to. But this question of increased taxation, was the pith and marrow of the scheme, so far as the interests of Newfoundland are concerned; and must form the basis of negotiation in the matter. We have heard a great deal about what Canada could do in supplying us with manufactures of woollens, cottons, boots and shoes, &c., cheaper than we could import them from Great Britain. How is it, then, that she has not taken advantage of our market up to this time, which is as free to her as to the mother country? How is it also that our merchants and shopkeepers do not import from Canada, in preference to Great Britain, if the articles are as good and the terms better? Great Britain supplies all the markets of the world, and successfully competes with all countries in the quality and cheapness of her manufactures, owing to improved machinery and cheap labour. Canada is a very large importer of manufactured goods from England, amounting, last year, to \$16,000,000, and, in spite of 20 and 25 per cent duties, England was able to undersell them in their own markets. The United States, with her extensive manufactures, imports largely from Great Britain also; and even the raw cotton and other materials which England imports from America, she is able to tranship manufactured, and compete with her in price and quality in her own markets. The hon member, Mr. Shea, asks, is not Britain also an importer to some extent, from France? Certainly she is; of the finer quality of silks, gloves, laces, &c., which we can well dispense with, and is not a parallel case. The infant manufactures of Canada, with high priced labour, are not yet, if they ever will be, in a position to supply us and the other provinces on as good terms as we at present enjoy. By a report made to the Executive Council of Canada, and signed by the hon W. P. Howland, Receiver General, it would be understood to what extent, and in what articles of manufacture, she could supply our wants. It is as follows: "With a more extended trade between Canada and the Lower Provinces, we should compete in their markets, not with the productions of Great Britain but with those of the United States. These consist mainly of agricultural produce, in raising of which we excel, and of articles the manufacture of which is rapidly increasing here," and that a large proportion of the goods which the maritime provinces now buy in the States could be supplied by Canada. That report fully disposed of the delusions manufactured by our Delegates on the subject of Canadian manufactures. We have the assent of the hon member, Mr. Shea, that the tariff of the General Government will be revised, to meet the wishes of the lower provinces; and he has that assurance from Mr. Galt, in a telegram lately received. It must be evident that Mr. Galt, who is so very anxious for the consummation of this scheme, would make promises *ad libitum*, by Telegraph, to induce us to look more favourably upon it. But would the General Government, not yet in existence, feel itself bound to act on the unauthorized promises of Mr. Galt? Those important points should not be left to the uncertainty of telegrams between Mr. Shea and Mr. Galt, a mode of doing business neither safe nor satisfactory. Once in the union, our wishes would have to be subservient to Mr. Galt, and the Canadians, who would have the power to make them so. Another great consideration urged by the hon member, Mr. Shea, in favour of our becoming a part of this future great empire that is to be, is, the line of ocean steamers connecting us with the mother country and with Canada; and also another steamer on the Western postal route. The hon member is very strong on this question of steam, in which he takes the deepest interests; but he (Mr. Renouf) failed to discover a single word about it, in the form of a promise, in the Quebec Resolutions; where it should properly appear; and not be left to vague speculations. It may be well to ask how it came that our Delegates did not secure these advantages for us at the Conference, and have a guarantee for it in the Resolution, as well as the opening up of the North West territory the extensions of the Western canals, and the laying down of the Intercolonial railway. The hon member being forced to admit a large increase of taxation under Confederation, asks if this line of ocean steamers that is to be is not worth £10,000 a year to us, and modestly places it in his financial statement, as one of the assets against the new taxes. That was certainly a dexterity in managing finance questions, unrivalled by even the great Finance Minister of Canada, Mr. Galt. A line of ocean steamers was all very well in its way; but, in view of the Cape Race telegraph station, it could never be worth such an amount to this country, where the carrying trade was well supplied by our own first class clipper vessels. It would be, without doubt, a great convenience for wealthy persons, to enable them to travel comfortably and expeditiously across the Atlantic, beyond whom the great bulk of the people would derive

little or no benefit. If we had £10,000 to spare, after providing for the public service, would we be justified in voting it a part subsidy for ocean steamers, and particularly after the Galway line failure? Would this Assembly agree to it, in view of the many more useful purposes to which it might be applied? A year or two ago, this house was cajoled into giving £15,000 of our revenue to the Galway Company; and how much did it benefit the country? And it was given at a time too, when our languishing resources required sustenance. That money was recklessly thrown away, to carry out a visionary speculation, which was to lift up the country by the introduction of large capital, thereby infusing new life and energy into every branch of our trade and business. We could afford to throw away £10,000 on the Galway line of steamers, but could not give one penny to develop our mineral resources, or encourage our Bank, Mackerel and Herring fisheries, which are successfully prosecuted by strangers, at our own doors, or encourage agriculture, all which would have the great effect of striking at the root of that gigantic evil, pauperism. Then there is the other steamer, that is to be running between the capital, western outports and Canada; which has no place either in the Quebec Resolutions, and is set down to us at the annual value of £1,000, on the same sound principle as the £10,000 for ocean steam. That our tradesmen, labourers and fishermen, when times, would be depressed, and their circumstances poor could take passage in these steamers for Canada, where there would be plenty of employment for them at high wages, is another of the arguments used by our Delegates, although we understood at first there was to be no more depression in circumstances or poverty amongst the people, after we joined this Confederacy.

(To be continued.)

HOPES REALIZED.—Young woman lamenting in secret, the first grey hairs, those ugly harbingers of decay, MRS. S. A. ALLEN'S World's Hair Restorer and Zylolabsamum, or Hair Dressing, never fail to restore grey hair to its youthful color. They act directly upon the roots of the hair, invigorating them, rendering the hair soft, silky and glossy, and disposing it to remain in any desired position. Every Druggist sells them.

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The Newfoundland.

ST. JOHN'S:

THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 1855.

We referred briefly on Thursday last to the defeat of the Confederation Candidates at the late election in New Brunswick, and while admitting that that measure, we cannot help thinking that the importance attached to the circumstance by the opponents of Confederation has been inconsiderately exaggerated. The question was one for which the public mind of the Lower Provinces at least could not have been prepared. Though often from time to time a subject of discussion, it had engaged but little attention outside the circle of the few public men who spoke on it, and had never been investigated in the eye of the people at large with a practical meaning. It might be supposed that Mr. TILLY is second to no man in New Brunswick as a competent judge of the state of public feeling in that Province, and his reputation for political sagacity stands high. Yet we must confess that he mistook his course in precipitating a decision on this question, and gave the workers on popular prejudice an advantage he should certainly have avoided. All this will right itself in due time, but meanwhile the result leaves a gap in the way of progress and true reform. The great change Confederation will involve cannot be brought about without affecting some existing interests injuriously, and creating an undefined apprehension of ill amongst others who do not comprehend the subject, while large numbers who are even favourably disposed, would keep aloof from the affirmation of the principle where a sufficient time has not been afforded for the careful inquiry demanded in a case of such grave importance. With the ignorant who on a question like this are necessarily a great mass, the cry of taxation, unfounded or otherwise, is always a potent influence, and when we consider that at the time selected by Mr. TILLY for his appeal to the country, all these agencies would have been averse, we feel, as at present advised, no small degree of surprise at the apparent rashness which marks his policy in this instance.

But while we think that the result, under such circumstances, should cause no wonder, it cannot be supposed that it has in it any element of permanence. The question was tried without any intelligent knowledge of it on the part of the people, and fanaticism and prejudice and timidity acted, where reflection and sober judgment were required for such a conclusion as time and experience could approve. It has been well said that "honest ignorance and dishonest ingenuity" were the agencies at work, and they have executed their fitting purpose in ejecting from the administration of public affairs in New Brunswick almost every man of ability and experience in both political parties. Already, however, there are evidences of reaction which this spectacle of ostracised talent could hardly have failed to call up, and no one believes that the Government that will now be formed can have any but a very brief existence.

But independent of the special causes that have produced this *bouleversement* in New Brunswick, a moment's reflection on the matter on more general grounds will show how little reason there is for surprise

at the issue we are con every great change is when we consider the novel importance, it would exception to the apparent Trade illustrated this p Emancipation, the Reform large reforms of the present examples of the difficulties ultimately successful have progress to accomplishment we saw the obstructions pr Justice and ignorance that Representative Institution of Responsible Government well as the smaller of the were not disheartened by r their efforts to the end. T may therefore rest assured the only consequence of wh New Brunswick, and we ar view on which the Canada for after the receipt of the vote in New Brunswick, it was adopted in the Canada three-fourths of its memb despatched to England to fore the Imperial Govern

The late English paper is regarded by the Home Confederation as a foregone sures of defence for these gaging their anxious atten early accomplishment of the incorporated with the v on which they have decid vices, and the resistance of Brunswick: will probably el emment some significant on the Colonial relation. amongst the best informed concluded that the Confed is indispensable to their pro Government can employ being the case, if we wish to the mother country, she w of the Provinces in those t connexion can be maintaine posed that dependencies w to the protecting Power the relation between them is to the higher power pronounced sions. In the plenitude of ness we imagine that this q influenced by the saying of mitted from the intellectual where else, but we shall pr an appreciation of the ag Brunswick as well as here what more powerfully affe views which the parish po so fruitfully engender.

CONVENT OF MERCY.—O the Feast of the Annuciation of Reception and Profession. The young lady received a native of his place, and SLEY, Esq.—her religious Bernard. The young lady of Profession was Miss HA Cork, in religion Sister M Dr. MULLOCK officiated on several of his priests. His the newly received and pro terms on the duties and re dwelling with particular e solacing offices in connec poor which belong speciall as well as on the Education the dispensers to our female

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE

SIR,—I think a special picture, delivered before the C day evening, is due to him it will so harmonize with the audience, is not to be cons right. All the critics who perfect piece of composition, style of our best English es most musical; (the transition that rough jointing of parts the composition of a lecture Mr. Rafter's criticism of played study of his subject, his selections had the rare abundant. The life of the admirable remarks on the ture, and witty contrasts of hearsers could well forgive t with the end of Pope's life, with those varied critical e guage that formed the clos When we take into account who but a short time ago Bonaventure's College—w though a well-known favo been his first appearance reason to congratulate him too, which has up to this seeing such very good me

March 29, 1855.

SIR,—I had the pleasure lecture delivered by Mr. R lic Institute on Tuesday never heard a more interest The subject being Alexan of his age, the youthful an this subject in a masterly well as delighted his audi such deep historical resea He prefaced the lecture w he showed in this talent He traced from the Roma the Norman conquest, an the ce-mingling of Celt, Norman had in the forma

The Newfoundland.

St. John's, Monday, April 3, 1865.

No. 3,652.

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LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

WEDNESDAY, March 23.

(Continued.)

Hon R. J. PINSENT said he had laid a petition a few days ago upon the table of the house from the Agricultural Society of St. John's, calling attention to the necessity of sheep raising in the colony, and fits to be derived from sheep raising in the colony, and fits to be derived from sheep raising in the colony, and fits to be derived from sheep raising in the colony.

Harbor Briton, 9th Feb. 1865.
Sir,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your circular of 22d Dec., which reached me on the 14th ult., respecting me to furnish the information with His Excellency the Governor, and the Agricultural Society, the number of sheep destroyed by dogs in our district during the last five years. The number in this harbor, and the names of the parties to whom they belonged, I have got, and can rely on the truthfulness of the information.

I wrote to the officer of Customs at English Harbor, to furnish me with the number destroyed in English Harbor, St. Jacques and Beloram. I have not yet received a reply. The island of Segona is a very fine place to raise sheep on, and the pasture adapted for them, but in consequence of the number of dogs kept, those who have tried it, have been obliged to abandon it.

It is the opinion of all here, that if a tax were placed upon dogs, not one would be kept here or in the above named places.

I have not had the opportunity of seeing any person from Brunet Island to ascertain if any sheep are kept there, the first opportunity I shall make all enquiries and report.

Names of parties and number of sheep each have lost at Harbor Briton—

Rev. W. K. White, 11 in 1863, total 30
Samuel Howe, Esq., 22 in " " 60
Dr. Drevan, 22 " " 22
John Hearn, " " 13
John Sanson, 11 in 1864, " 37
Richard Thompson " 8
Robert Strickland " 7
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The loss of 52 sheep belonging to the three laborers last named is a very severe one. All their daughters can spin and knit.

A pound of wool will make four pair of gloves, which can sell at two shillings per pair, making it worth to them eight shillings per pound. The average weight of a fleece when clean is three and a half pounds, equal to twenty-eight shillings for each.

It is fortunate, six sheep ought to average ten lambs. In the fall of the year they kill them, they take off the wool by means of roach lime, and each skin will average 1 1/2 lbs. at 8s. per pound equal to 14s. The produce of the wool is 42s. The carcasses they can readily dispose of at 7d. per lb. average 28 lbs. each, equal to 16s 4d., of 47d. per lb. average for hay 15s. net 43s. 4d per annum each sheep was worth to those poor men, total loss to them in 5 years £112 6s. 8d.

Since I came here I have had several dogs destroyed. If the constables were provided with guns and ammunition, they could occasionally go about the harbor, and every dog found contrary to law shoot them.

I have the honor to be, &c.
(Signed) THOS. BIRKETT, S.M.
To the Hon Colonial Secretary.

are kept logged they are found to be incapable of much mischief. In his (Mr. P.'s) mind, however, we should not be content with the existing law, and there were means open to the legislature and the government which it would be advisable to adopt, to eradicate an evil which is generally admitted to entail such extensive injury upon the poorer classes of the colony. The subject was upon the poorer classes of the colony. The subject was upon the poorer classes of the colony.

Hon N. STABB saw by the reports of proceedings of the lower house that a measure has been introduced there having reference to sheep-raising and the destruction of dogs, and when it comes before this chamber it may be found to meet the views and suggestions of the Agricultural Society. It would no doubt of the Agricultural Society. It would no doubt of the Agricultural Society.

The house then adjourned until 4 o'clock to-morrow.

THURSDAY, March 23.

The House met at 4 o'clock.

Committee of the whole on Postal Bill.

Hon N. STABB moved the house into committee of the whole on this Bill.—Hon R. J. PINSENT in the chair.

After considerable deliberation the committee rose and reported the Bill with some amendments. On motion the Report was received, and it was ordered that the Bill be read a third time to-morrow.

The house then adjourned until to-morrow.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

FRIDAY, Feb. 23.

SPEECH OF MR. RENOUF.

(Continued.)

federacy. How our people are to find the means to enable them to get away to the great country, they have not yet informed us; or how we are to carry on the business of the country with only the aged and the infirm left behind. Again, how is the money that is to be earned by our people in Canada, and spent there to benefit the colony? And will the government here have to provide a maintenance for their families during their absence, and a maintenance for their families during their absence, and a maintenance for their families during their absence.

It has been strongly urged by an influential portion of the press of Canada, that the revenue is already three millions less than the current expenditure, and the expense of this undertaking would vastly swell the deficit. 2d, That besides the loss of the interest on the capital sunk, the road could not pay the working expenses, thereby entailing a heavy additional loss upon the Province. 3d, That the road is only necessary in winter, and during this season the snow would prevent traffic between Canada and the Lower Provinces is not of a description to pay railroad rates, and would continue to be interchanged almost exclusively by water, as at present. 5th, That judging from past experience in Canada, the construction of such a great work would bring on a repetition of the corruption and jobbery which have already exhausted the hands of the Province, and an additional outlay required to maintain this unproductive line. 7th, That as a military road, it might be rendered useless, inasmuch as running for a considerable distance along the enemy's frontier, a few squadrons of cavalry could, in a few hours, render it impassable.

not the slightest interest. Who would have thought, five years ago, that a military conscription, such as exists in countries under despotic rule, would have been resorted to in the United States, that country whose proud boast was freedom, and whose motto was liberty?

The hon member, Mr. Shea stated that we have an interest in the railways and canals of Canada, as they improve the means of supplying us with cheaper provisions. But if we look to the transactions of the past years that we have had Free Trade, Canada has taken little or none of our products, only a few thousand barrels of herring from Labrador in the fall of the year. And we have received from her less than from any of the other provinces, although she has the provisions we require for the wants of our people. That universal principle of Commerce, to buy in the cheapest, and sell in the dearest market, has strongly operated in limiting our trade relations with Canada, and in giving a preference to the markets of New York Boston &c., where our merchants and Importers could procure better terms and greater facilities. Large shipments of provisions have been constantly making, at all seasons of the year, from the markets of the United States, on our consignment here; and how very few indeed have we received from Canada? The reason is apparent to all. At the time of the Free Trade treaty going into operation, hon gentlemen, who are now the loudest advocates for Confederation, told the same beautiful stories of greatness and prosperity in store for the country, as the certain results of that measure, that every second shop in Water Street would be stocked with Canadian provisions selling at fabulously low prices, that our deserted outports would again become the marts of busy industry and extensive commerce, by the introduction of new capital, that the railways and canals of the American continent would carry our products to the markets of the far west, that pauperism would flee the land, and be only an evil that the country, the people, who have been asked to accept the latest scheme would be the best judges. Then it was free trade that was to do for the country; now it is Confederation. The results of the former were disappointed expectations; but of the latter, who can say that it may not be our enslavement? There was no free interchange of products between this country and Canada; which has her own fisheries, not only to supply her wants, but to enable her to export largely, and complete with us in foreign markets. If she were a customer for our products, our vessels would return laden with her provisions; but it would never pay to send our vessels in ballast; which could only be in the summer season, up the dangerous and expensive navigation of the St. Lawrence, while we have the facilities of the American markets, where many of our vessels discharge freights, on the return voyage from Brazil and the West Indies. For the past five years our average imports from Canada amounted to only £50,000 a year, while from Canadian products could £360,000. Our markets for Canadian products have not been more free under Confederation, than they have not been more free under Confederation, than they have not been more free under Confederation.

not the slightest interest. Who would have thought, five years ago, that a military conscription, such as exists in countries under despotic rule, would have been resorted to in the United States, that country whose proud boast was freedom, and whose motto was liberty? Does not our humanity shudder at the hundreds of thousands of her sons, drafted against their will, from their homes and pursuits, who have perished on the battle field, in prison and by disease? In the presence of a troublesome neighbour, such as the United States would be to Canada, and more especially after the present war is over, she will always require to maintain an expensive Military Establishment, the cost of which would be immense; and our proportion would have to bear. This is one of her principal difficulties, which she is anxious that we and the other Provinces should share the burden of. The chief argument used by the delegates in the neighbouring provinces in favor of confederation, is the necessity for union, and natural protection and defence against aggression from their Republican neighbour. But what protection or defence could Canada give us? She would require it all for her own indefensible, straggling 1400 miles of frontier territory, without any resources to fall back on, save a wilderness. Our natural defence and protection must be a naval one; and that we shall receive, not from a union with Canada, but from our present connection with that glorious empire but from our present connection with that glorious empire but from our present connection with that glorious empire.

Notice.

Mothers!! Mothers!!! procure Mrs. WINSLOW'S Soothing children teething. This valuable prescription of one of the best and nurses in the United States; it cures thirty years with never failing success by millions of mothers and children. It relieves the child from pain, but stomach and bowels, corrects acidity, and energy to the whole system. It relieves Gripping in the Bowels and all cases of Dysentery and Diarrhea in children. It relieves the child from pain, but stomach and bowels, corrects acidity, and energy to the whole system.

MRS. WINSLOW,

Nurse and Female Physician, presents to mothers, her Soothing Syrup for children, which greatly facilitates the process of teething, softening the gums, reducing all inflammation all pain and spasmodic action, and regulates the bowels. Depend upon it, no mother can afford to be without it. It is a safe and reliable remedy for all children. It relieves the child from pain, but stomach and bowels, corrects acidity, and energy to the whole system.

On the contrary, all speak delightedly of it, and speak in terms of commendation. It is a safe and reliable remedy for all children. It relieves the child from pain, but stomach and bowels, corrects acidity, and energy to the whole system.

PHOENIX FIRE Insurance Company.

Established 1782. TRUSTEES AND DIRECTORS. Sir, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your circular of 22d Dec., which reached me on the 14th ult., respecting me to furnish the information with His Excellency the Governor, and the Agricultural Society, the number of sheep destroyed by dogs in our district during the last five years.

PHOENIX FIRE OFFICE is confidently recommended to the notice of the public—for the liberal and prompt mode in which all claims upon it are paid—as well as for the almost unlimited amount of capital, comprising in addition to the ordinary capital of the Company, the whole of the numerous Proprietors, composed of some of the most eminent Gentlemen and Merchants in the Kingdom.

THE COLONIAL Assurance Company

ESTABLISHED 1846. CAPITAL, ONE MILLION STERLING. Age of Assuring before 25th May 1863. THIRD DIVISION OF PROFITS. The advantage of this year's entry to the office, Proposals must be lodged at the Office, Newfoundland, or with one of the Agents in 25th MAY next.

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held out was the large field the Confederation would give to our youth seeking that honourable and lucrative employment which was declared them at home, owing to the limited field of operations. From that it would be inferred that our sons are all to get situations in Canada, and more particularly having eight members as their friends to support. It might so happen that our members would be absorbed in their own interests as hardly to bestow a thought upon the wants of a here; and we knew to a certainty that no influence those members could possibly bring to bear on the General Government would prevent the Canadians enjoying, as they do at present, the patronage of their offices to make place for ours. Here the Government and every officer under it, the Legislature, &c. are with a few exceptions filled by our sons; but could this state of things continue under Confederation? We transfer our Customs, Post Office, and Lighthouses to the General Government, and in the event of a vacancy taking place in either of these institutions, would not the appointment be made at headquarters and not in favour of a native? The curtailment of our Legislature alone would destroy more patronage than we should enjoy at the hands of the General Government. The hon Attorney General grew a little facetious when he referred to the sphere of advancement which Confederation opened up to the hon member for Ferryland, Mr. Glen, in the event of his being chosen a member of the House of Commons at Ottawa, when he might have the chance of holding the office of Receiver General, at \$5,000 a year. Politicians of Mr. Glen's great financial ability and incorruptible honesty would undoubtedly be of great advantage to the new State, in place of some of those political careerists who are inseparable from official corruption and jobbery; but he (Mr. Renouf) felt confident that all the allurements so blandly put forth would not have the slightest effect in swerving the hon member from the honest and conscientious position which he had taken on this momentous question. He (Mr. Renouf) it was further stated, might also attain distinction in military affairs under the General Government, nothing less than a Field-Marshal's baton. Strong inducements, certainly, but are they all for us. However, he (Mr. Renouf) would contentedly remain a Captain of Volunteers, in defence of his own native land, rather than sacrifice his best interests and the rights and liberties of the people for self-aggrandisement. Our law students also are to have, under Confederation, a large field and every favour, with no end to the briefs and retainers, and reminders too. Why it was only last year that a lawyer from Canada came here seeking his fortune, and admitted that, had as the trade was with us, it was far worse where he came from, with 1,571 lawyers and attorneys, or one to every 1600 of the population, against one to every 16,000 here, which speaks volumes for the honesty of our country. So much for the enlarged field for our lawyers. The hon Attorney General used another very singular argument in favor of Confederation, which was nothing less than that, in the event of a bad fishery, we would have some party to fall back upon or apply to for assistance—that we could go to the General Government and ask them to relieve our people in their distress. No doubt we could make the application, but more than likely their portals of charity would be closed against our appeal. There is, to a certainty, one thing which they would give us to relieve the necessities of our distressed fishermen, and that would be direct taxation, as per Resolution No. 29. Our political history since 1832, with our elections every four years, is further evidenced by the hon Attorney General as a potent reason why we should be in this Confederacy, as if every country with representative institutions is not subject to the same ordeal of excitement. Was there any exception to this rule out of Newfoundland? Would the asperity of feeling be less, with a reduced House of Assembly, and with eight members to be returned for the House of Commons in Canada? Was it less so even in Canada or the other provinces? This is a specimen of the humbug and clap-trap used by hon members who favor that scheme; but the delusion was too transparent to merit even serious consideration. Now it was evident that certain hon members after selfishly monopolizing for years the emoluments of office amongst themselves and their friends, were anxious to destroy our Legislature and sacrifice the liberties and privileges of the people which it protects, that they might on its ruins take splendid positions under the new government. The hon Attorney General admits that our population cannot increase very much, whereas that of Canada would double and treble in a short space of time, owing to the tide of emigration setting in that direction, and owing to natural causes. It cannot be denied that such would be the case; which after every decennial census would give an increase of members to Upper Canada, that, in not many years to come, would place her representation in excess of Lower Canada and all the lower provinces combined, thereby making her mistress of the position, while we should still be confined to eight members. The representation scheme the hon Attorney General considers fair, which it appears to be at first sight, but in reality is not the case. Newfoundland, the key of the St. Lawrence and the Confederation by sea, with her valuable fisheries, rich minerals, extensive trade and commerce, splendid harbours, and great natural advantages, would have only the same representation as a town with the same population in the backwoods of Canada. It was not so much on the basis of population as by position and resources that she was entitled to a larger representation. It was admitted that the Canadian frontier was long and straggling, and so was that of the United States; but what comparison would the means of defence, resources and supplies of Canada bear to those of the Republic, which have been proved to the amazement of the world during the past four years? What were we going to do, was asked by the hon Attorney General and other pro-confederate members of the House, if we don't enter the Confederation? In reply, he (Mr. Renouf) would ask, what would we do if this grand scheme did not turn up, this great panacea, according to our political doctors, for all our ills, bad fisheries and paupers? Trust in Providence, and grapple with our difficulties with a vigour and manliness equal to the emergency and the means at our disposal. Could we do more in this Confederation, which to some hon members seems to be such a Providential escape from our present temporary embarrassments, and is seized by them with the death grasp of the drowning man clinging to the last plank of the wreck? There could be no doubt that any change which would prove generally beneficial to our country is a consummation devoutly to be wished for by all; but the extreme change contemplated by that union must not be based on wild speculations and uncertainties, which would be sure to result in bitter disappointment and degradation. On the part of the people there could be only one universal desire to embrace this Confederation, if they felt satisfied or convinced in their minds that the objects to be gained would be for the improvement of the country and the amelioration of our condition. He (Mr. Renouf) had given to that most important question the serious consideration which its vast importance demanded; and calmly and dispassionately considering it on its own merits, and in all its bearings in relation to our necessities, and was now prepared to fearlessly express his opinion before that Assembly and the country, that for Newfoundland to enter the Confed-

eration on the terms proposed by the Resolutions adopted at the Quebec Convention, would not only be politically, commercially, and financially to her disadvantage, but would, in all probability, result in ruin.

Statement showing what Newfoundland would probably lose under Confederation.

Assets of Newfoundland for 1865, as per Financial Statement of Receiver General laid.....	\$492,500
Increase of taxation under Canadian Tariff.....	1,228,627
	\$721,127
Salaries payable by the General Government.....	\$149,288
Interest on debt, allowance for mines and Crown lands, and 8 cents per head on the population of 130,000.....	369,376
Total.....	\$518,664
Balance against Confederation.....	2,243
	\$721,117

MONDAY, Feb. 27.

The House met at three o'clock. Mr. LEAMON presented a petition from Abraham Bartlett and John Bartlett, of Brigus, which was received and read, setting forth that petitioners, in their two vessels, the *Selina* and *Henrietta Griese*, were engaged in the prosecution of the seal fishery the past spring, but were jammed up in the ice, in Green Bay, till very late in the season, and afterwards drifted out of the Bay, but could not get clear until after the 8th day of June; that the friends of petitioners and those of the crew of another vessel, then missing, procured the services of the steamer *Bloodhound*, and de-patched her with supplies in search of, and to relieve the said vessels; but that providentially a change of the wind took place, and petitioners' vessels were released from the ice about two days before the steamer arrived at the place they had been confined in; and that in all probability she would have been the only available means of saving themselves and crews, had they not been able to get clear when they did; that petitioners' vessels arrived at Brigus on the 12th June, while the steamer was still in search of them, and were deficient of several articles of diet, and had then been on short allowance more than a month, although one of petitioners, a considerable time before their return, having been in a position that men could travel on the ice, allowed several to leave, that there might be a little more food for those remaining in the vessel; that petitioners would remind the house that the lives of about 100 persons were apparently at stake, as well as the welfare of their numerous connections, and of their wives and families; and praying that, as in former similar cases, the house would pay the expense of sending the *Bloodhound* in search of these missing vessels; also a petition from James Wilcox and others, shipmasters and other inhabitants of Brigus, which was received and read, setting forth, that last year the brig *Henrietta Griese*, the brigantine *Selina* and *Noel*, and other vessels were jammed in the ice, while prosecuting the seal fishery, until the 5th June; that the crews of said vessels were on short allowance of provisions for a month previously; that the friends of said vessels, feeling assured of the perilous situation of said vessels and crews, sent a steamer to their assistance; but said steamer spoke one of the vessels missing, and proceeded to the relief of the others, and although not meeting the ice they were in till they were clear, would have otherwise effected the object of their mission; that considerable expense was thereby entailed on the owners of the vessels; and that considering the humanity of the proceeding, and how many lives were in jeopardy, and the uncertainty of such voyages, petitioners humbly pray the House to take the matter into consideration, and reimburse the owners of the vessels referred to the expense incurred in sending the steamers to their relief.

Mr. LEAMON, in moving that these petitions lie on the table, said these petitions explained themselves, and it was unnecessary for him to say anything to urge their favourable consideration. The friends of the petitioners became very uneasy on account of their protracted absence at the ice, and applied to Mr. Griese, the resident partner of Messrs. Bains, Johnston & Co., who wrote to the Government, requesting that a steamer should be sent in search of the missing vessels, and offered to send the *Bloodhound* for £150, provided the government would defray that expense. The government, it appeared, offered to pay half, and some difference having taken place between him and the government as to the terms, the whole amount was charged to the missing vessels, Mr. Griese allowing £50 for his own vessel, the *Noel*, and charging Messrs. Bartlett £50 each for their own vessels. He (Mr. Leamon) thought they were entitled to receive some consideration at the hands of the government. He thought they should not be left to pay the full amount. If these men had not been sent, there would have been a great outcry; and the government would have been blamed for it. There might even have been less of life, for they were short of provisions. There were 20 men on board the two vessels, many of them men having families, who if they had lost their fathers would have been rendered entirely destitute, and would require to be provided for by the Government. He did trust, if the government did not pay the whole amount, that they would at least pay a considerable portion of the outlay incurred.

Ordered that the petitions lie on the table.

Mr. LEAMON gave notice that on to-morrow he would move an address to His Excellency the Governor on these petitions.

The hon. Acting Colonial Secretary, by command of His Excellency the Governor, presented to the House a detailed statement of the expenditure for shipwrecked sealing crews for the year 1864.

Ordered that this document lie on the table.

Mr. KAVANAGH presented petitions from David Roche and others of Outer Cove, and from John Kourke and others, of the same place, which were severally received and read, praying for grants to open roads in that locality.

Ordered that these petitions lie on the table.

Mr. McGRATH presented a petition from Samuel Coffin and others, of Haystack and Spencer's Cove, in Placentia Bay, which was received and read, praying for a grant to repair the road from Petty Harbor road to Brennan and Murphy's farms.

Ordered that the petition lie on the table.

The Master-in-Chancery to the Legislative Council brought down a message acquainting the House that they had passed, without amendment, the Bill sent up from the House to provide for the recovery of penalties becoming due upon the forfeiture of certain recognizances; also the Bill to regulate the office and duties of Coroners; also the Bill to continue the punishment of banishment in certain cases; also the Bill to provide for the registration of births, marriages and deaths in this colony and its dependencies.

Mr. RENOUF, in moving that the petition lie on the table, would make some observations upon it, and on the manner in which the government provided for the destitute fishermen of St. John's, and if the members on the government side of the house, or even on the opposition benches, should walk out of the house by two and threes, as it was stated in that government rag, the *Daily News*, they did on Friday, still he (Mr. Renouf) had a duty to discharge to his constituents, and it was not the government nor their hiring press that would deter him from doing it. These petitioners prayed that they might be provided with employment in the same manner as the distressed fishermen of St. John's were, who were employed 4 days in the week, at 1s 6d a day, payable in flour and molasses. He had never since he had the honor of a seat in that House, made application for any relief to these petitioners, who had always supported themselves by their own industry, and would still do so, if any fish was to be had during the fishery season. But he must also again refer to the manner in which the distressed fishermen of St. John's were paid for their labour. He did not see why these men should be confined for the supply of their wants to the two establishments of Mr. Kitchin and Mr. McPherson, while there were numbers of others in the same business equally as deserving of the patronage of the government. He found by the public accounts, that these two contractors received in a former year, the one over £2,000 and the other over £1,900 for supplies to poor fishermen employed on the public works. He understood they were paid 3½ cent a pound for flour and 50 cents a gallon for molasses, while he (Mr. Renouf) found, on inquiry, that at the establishment of Mr. Elens, in Water Street, the best molasses could be had at 2s 4d per gallon, the best flour at 2s 3d per stone, and considering the very low wages allowed to these men, he said it was the duty of the government to see that they were supplied at the cheapest possible rates, and with articles of the best quality. There were seven or eight establishments in the town that would supply good articles at lower prices than the Government had contracted for. The government asked for tenders for supplies to the poor labourers, and it appeared that the leader of the government had been imposed upon by the description of provisions supplied to them. Every labourer, all the world over, was worthy of his hire; but it would seem that the poor labourers of Newfoundland were not deemed worthy of his hire. The hon leader of the government said that if they paid the labourers in cash, much of it would be spent on liquor. He did not ask that the labourers should be paid in cash. But when there were so many shops where molasses and flour were retailed, why not give these labourers the benefit of the competition between them? Two or three winters ago, one of the establishments now contracted with received £2,033 3s 9d for provisions given to the poor for work, within two months, while not a shilling was given to the people in cash; and the other establishment received £1,922 18s 5d.; at the same time that not one shilling of government money went to any other establishment in town. A more corrupt government was not on the face of the earth; and the sooner they were sent about their business, the better for the country. Mr. Seymour got £1,059 9s 2d. for supplies to the eastern districts, when the Chairman of the Board of Works had an interest in the establishment, which he (Mr. Renouf) could prove.

The SURVEYOR GENERAL had no interest in that establishment for many years past.

Mr. RENOUF could prove that he was interested in it. There was an official of the Government allowed to open an establishment for the supply of provisions and groceries. He found it was not Mr. Seymour at all, it was John H. Warren, Chairman of the Board of Works, who owned that establishment until lately. Why should these labourers be confined to two establishments for their supplies? Why not give them a general order, to go where they could be best served. Let them go to Mr. Loughnan's, Mr. Elens's, Mr. Tarshin's or Mr. Stirling's and get what they wanted, at the cheapest rates? It would move the heart of any man having the heart of a man, to see how these poor labourers were treated, many of whom had wives stricken down with sickness, who had scarcely strength to make the flour into bread, after it was brought home, and to whom a little tea would be of great benefit, as well as some soap to wash their clothes. If these men were to be allowed only 6s a week for their work, why not allow them to go where they please for their supplies, and get a little tea and soap, along with their flour and molasses? Why not let them have biscuit, if they preferred it, as many of them had not suitable means for baking? Many of these poor persons had not received 6s of money since the end of October. Why not give them general orders for their wages, and let them go to any provision establishment they prefer, and let these orders be paid monthly? There was a number of these establishments; but the government would only patronize two, while they did not give a shilling to the others, who had rents, water rates, and other expenses to meet, as well as the favoured establishments. On the last day of last session, in consequence of the disclosures made, showing that the organ of the government in the Legislative Council, the hon N. Stabb, received over £3,000 from the government in one year, for supplies for the poor, part of which was Indian meal, sent to Harbor Grace, charged the high price of 27s 6d a barrel, and which afterwards turned sour, and was sold at 10s a barrel; in consequence of these disclosures, Mr. Wyatt gave notice that on the first day of this session he would move that all supplies for the poor should be tendered for on public notice by advertisement; and why? Because his establishment and others were overlooked, while so much was given to the organ of the Government. But what had become of the hon member's notice? Why had he not proceeded with it?

Mr. WYATT—His notice would not have effected these contracts. That matter had been arranged previous to the meeting of the house.

Mr. RENOUF questioned if the government would have done anything for the poor, if these establishments had not to be subsidized. There must be some great secret in the matter. What had these two establishments done to get such patronage? It did appear to him (Mr. Renouf) when the hon leader of the government stated that tenders were received, as somewhat remarkable that these two establishments should have given in the lowest tenders this winter, as well as when the able bodied poor were employed two or three winters ago. But he had since gone round and inquired, and found that it was as he suspected, that only these two establishments were invited to tender. He found that other parties were very much dissatisfied that they had not received any government patronage. The way in which these poor people were treated was very improper. When they asked for a little soap to wash their rags with, they were refused. Why, a large number of cases had to be sent to the hospital from fever, arising from insufficient food and the want of proper cleanliness; and they would cost more to the government than if they had received more humane treatment. He (Mr. Renouf) failed to discover that Mr. Seymour, who was formerly so much patronised, had received any portion of government patronage in 1864. What had he done that he had lost the government patronage? He was the same obliging active man that he had always been; and there was, he (Mr. Renouf) believed, some im-

provement in the quality of his goods; but still the patronage of the government was withdrawn from him. Was it because the Chairman of the Board of Works no longer held an interest in the establishment? Was that the secret? Had the honest and non leader of the government found out how matters were, and insisted on the chairman retiring from it, and the establishment was transferred to Boden and Seymour? Was that the secret of the loss of government patronage to that establishment. He (Mr. Renouf) had just had a sample of bread from flour supplied to the labourers placed in his hands. That came from the establishment of one of the government contractors. What did the poor commissioners say to it?

The hon Acting COLONIAL SECRETARY did not think the party knew how to bake it.

Mr. CASEY. The molasses was also sour.

Hon RECEIVER GENERAL. That sample was not according to contract.

Mr. CASEY. But that was the manner the contract was carried out. Let general orders be given; and let the labourers go where they please. The flour of which that sample was made came from Kitchin's. He (Mr. Casey) received it from one of the labourers, on the steps of the building as he was coming into the House, and also another sample, which he now produced, made from flour purchased at Prendergast's 2s a stone, and which made good bread, while the other was not fit to feed pigs with.

Hon RECEIVER GENERAL.—The hon leader of the government had no responsibility in that matter, for he was under the impression, when he made his former statement, that all the retailers of flour and provisions were applied to. Tenders were got from Mr. Kitchin and Mr. McPherson and the poor commissioners were of opinion that they were as low as good articles could be furnished; and as they were men of character and responsibility, it was not thought necessary to ask for further tenders. The prices were 2s 6d a stone for flour and the same price per gallon for molasses. Any violation of the contract, however, would cause the Commissioners to determine it. It was unreasonable, however, to expect that the government should patrol all the establishments in the town. As long as they got sound articles, at the cheapest rate at which they could be supplied they had a perfect right to purchase where they pleased. Some observations were made about the Indian meal sent to Harbor Grace. That meal was purchased 20s a barrel, and not at 27s 6d, as stated by the hon member for St. John's West, and was perfectly sound when sent to Harbor Grace. It was purchased in St. John's for the government by Mr. Stabb. If it was known that government required it 2s more would have been asked for it. How was it when the late government were entering into contracts for flour to be sent to the outports for the relief of the poor? Upon one occasion a contract was taken by a party who had not a barrel of flour at the time, and immediately after entering into it he went into an establishment in Water Street and purchased all the flour required at 2s 6d a barrel under the contract price. With respect to the quality of flour supplied to the labourers this winter, the hon K. Gen. understood from the contractors that sometimes flour at 2s a stone was taken in preference to that contracted for, so that the 6s a week might go further.

Mr. KENT. On the former day the hon leader of the government stated that application had been made to all the dealers in provisions for tenders; and now the Receiver General said the tenders were only from the two contractors. He thought at first, when he understood the matter was submitted to competition, that it should give satisfaction; but now when it was admitted that the contractors were the only parties who were asked to tender, what could be expected but that the utmost dissatisfaction would exist? There was now a petition from Petty Harbor, and he (Mr. Kent) trusted the government would do for the petitioners what they had done for the distressed fishermen of St. John's.

Mr. CASEY had occasion in the early part of the winter to make application for some of the distressed fishermen of Petty Harbor. Two respectable men of that settlement told him that if they could take their families out of the country, they would sooner do it than go to the government for relief; but that they were driven to it by necessity. He gave them a letter to Dr. Shea, the stipendiary poor commissioner, and he (Mr. Casey) was told that they had then to go without any relief. Afterwards he had an application from a large number of Petty Harbor men who were desirous of obtaining work, and who were in distress. He recommended them to the government, and believed nothing was done for them. He was credibly informed that there was a large number in that settlement who were in positive want; and he did not see why the government should not do the same for them as for the poor in St. John's, give them employment on the roads at 6s a week. With regard to the system of administering relief, he set his face against it. It was downright injurious to the other dealers to have two pet establishments receiving the whole patronage, while the others received nothing. Why not give the labourers a general order, to go where they pleased. As to the men spending their earnings on spirits, how could that be prevented by giving them flour and molasses, which they could barter for spirits, if so inclined?

Mr. TALBOT did hope the Government would inquire into the circumstances of the petitioners, whose application evidently proceeded from want; and that employment would be given them. With respect to the manner in which the labourers were paid in flour and molasses at the two establishments selected by the Government, he was astonished to hear it stated that the Government had a right to bestow their patronage where they pleased. He granted that it was so in appointments to office; but in such a matter as this, for supplying the public institutions, he held they were bound to throw it open to public competition by tender. In reference to supplying the able-bodied poor with food, it should be done by tender. It was the fairest way to get the best provisions at the cheapest rates. It would be serving the public interest to adopt that plan of supplying the poor, for the more of good provisions that were got with the public money the less would be the poor expenditure. With regard to the admission that tenders were received only from the two contractors, it exposed a system of favoritism which reflected anything but credit on the commissioners. The Receiver General said the leader of the Government had no right to do with it. No one suspected the hon gentleman of being a party to any such proceeding. He (Mr. Talbot) did trust the matter would be investigated, and that such proceedings would be put an end to, and new tenders called for; or that would be better, that they would give no as to the labourers, and let them go and purchase where they pleased. Let them go to the shops at which they were accustomed to deal, and they would get more than they were entitled to, for at this time of the year, and with such a scarcity of money, there would be competition for these Government orders, which were equivalent to cash. The leader of the Government must see that those who surrounded him were guilty of a breach of duty in permitting such a state of things as was admitted to exist.

(To be continued.)

THE business in the progress during the present point to an

The Revenue Bill have already referred. Tariff this session, proposition was carried on light wines from this alteration will be ment, it being obvious introduction of light endeavours to substitute of the more intoxicating direction of temperance slow in producing any revenue, however, a degree, for the high this class of wines of

A Bill has been proposed for a light House by several competent Orlebar. We may Light House to be Head, which was proposed three or four years ago

The Committee of There have been some less importance—im dollars for the enclosure Bank Fishery; or enclosure of the dollars to promote thousand dollars in a to defray expense of

Mr. GLEN has a question regarding the Government either compulsory on all pounds, shillings, and twenty-four shillings, absolutely demanded doubt. The partial has made confusion us, as most persons time the new Act passed have forced this change is a problem difficult he was their idea the plexity to a Currency ing tending to the out however, seen their consequences have beyond question, we courses he suggests w

We are glad to see Seal fishery, the Messrs. Bains, Johnston last, with 6000 \$ a which obliged her to she might have taken the steamer *Wolf* on the 30th March. The 24th. From the feared that the weather too calm for the purpose otherwise is too indolent the probable result that a day or two m

ABOUT four o'clock *Bloodhound*, to Mess we are glad to say, 12,000 seals. This arrangement of calm weather jammed in the ice—smart breeze had thought would have port on the whole do a very large voyage.

The Society of S acknowledge the re- shillings from the Canadian Rifles, as of their theatrical performance during the season under the commanding the tr

BY T

LATEST

It is reported that on in Grant's army line yesterday. In North Carolina Sherman at Smith's between them on the more than temporary Mobile reported Gold 132.

DIED.—At Change Dec. Mrs. Elizabeth G. John Osmond, aged On the 10th March William Gorman, a ford, aged 75 years.

On the same day native of Kossberg years. Drowned on the River, in view of a native of Cubits, aged On the 28th ult. a native of Ferns, On the 30th ult. James Fogarty, a native aged 52 years.