

TO THE PUBLIC.

In our last number, we stated, that as soon as relieved from the labours of reporting, we should attend to the attacks of the *Chronicle* people, and would proceed to notice the slanders and falsehoods with which we have from time to time been assailed, by persons whose only incentive to indulge in virulent abuse, has been the establishment of an independent Newspaper in this Province; whose Conductor is alike removed from party or individual influence, whether humble or exalted.

And first, we shall reply to the following assertion contained in the *Chronicle* of the 20th March, that "the editorials of the *Sentinel* are subject regularly to the inspection of a certain great man, previously to being published; and which therefore seem with such fulsome stuff, and ensure for its editor invitations to government house parties, to which honor he is not entitled either by his acquirements, his standing in society, or any thing else,—indeed "his very presence is an outrage upon society."

We believe we are sufficiently known to the inhabitants of this Province, as the former conductor of the *Free Press* in Halifax, to render it obvious that the first part of the above statement is a wholesale and gratuitous falsehood: were that not evident from the absurdity of the charge itself; still we deem it proper, as those misstatements find their way elsewhere, and are sedulously circulated by "a small but disappointed faction," to state most unequivocally and solemnly, that neither His Excellency or any individual in his suite, or other person connected with the Executive or Legislative government of the country, ever had or ever shall have, the inspection of our editorial articles previous to publication. We state this explicitly; because while the Province is favoured with a Governor, who is guided by the liberal and patriotic views, which have characterized the administration of Sir John Harvey, altho' no injury would result were it the case: still in the order of Providence, those whose power is now crumbling into nothingness,—and who formerly tyrannised over, and we had almost added, enslaved this Province,—might again, as in Sir Archibald Campbell's time, find a Governor pliable to their will; and as even then we should feel it our duty, acting independently, to support any beneficial measure, if that party should be guilty of the anomaly of recommending such; we might again be taunted with a similar remark.

With reference to the second part of the *Chronicle* statement, probably it is beneath notice; as the Editor of a respectable Public Journal, is quite as eligible to receive any public attentions on the part of the Representative of his Sovereign, as those colonial dependents and hangers-on, who buzz about His Excellency, seek favours at his hands; and too many of whom it is generally believed, act at once the part of the sycophant and slanderer.

As to ourselves, we hope under present circumstances, we may be permitted to state, without incurring the charge of being egotistical, that the attentions which are alluded to, are only those which we were accustomed to receive in early life, from Generals Hodgson and Horsford, Governors of Bermuda, and afterwards in the neighbouring Colony—and that in those places, we met with quite as good society, as frequents the government house in this Province; among which by way of comparison, we shall just name the late Sir JOHN B. WARREN, a gallant officer, and the most accomplished gentleman of his day; his amiable Lady, whose death we regret this week to record, a woman of as high pretensions as any of the elite of Fredericton; and the present Lord BYRON, at that time a Post Captain in the Royal Navy, with various other personages, "too tedious to enumerate."

Nor will we yield to those people, who claim a degree of exclusiveness in this place, which only renders them uncomfortable in themselves, and contemptible with others, in a characteristic which ranks high among the original settlers of this Province; we mean descent from one of those men, who when a large part of the British dominions in this hemisphere, were severed from the British crown, devotedly adhered to the cause of his Sovereign: by the zealous discharge of his duty rendered himself obnoxious to his former friends and acquaintances; and eventually relinquished the fairest prospects in his native country, rather than live among a people, whom he considered as faithless to his king.

But the acrimony which has from time to time appeared in the *Chronicle*; and which we understand has also manifested itself in verbal slander; was directed against the Editor of this paper, before he commenced its publication, or was resident in this Province. We came on here in February 1837, with a view to ascertain what encouragement might be expected; and were in Fredericton but three or four days. On the day the Legislature was prorogued, there was a dinner at government house, where was a plentiful sprinkling of the official faction. The establishment of a Newspaper in this place, became the subject of conversation; and an honorable gentleman still in the Legislative Council, and others who dreaded the introduction of a Free Press, assailed the writer of this article with the most wanton and unprovoked abuse and slander; and did not hesitate to state in the presence of Sir Archibald Campbell, that we were in a state of intoxication that very day, at the time of the prorogation of the Assembly.

The knowledge which that officer himself possessed, must have given him some insight into the character of the creatures by whom he was surrounded, and by whom he had been misled; for it had so happened, that within a quarter of an hour after the prorogation took place, we were at government house; had an interview with His Excellency of considerable length, and received his sanction to address the 43d Regiment on the subject of temperance; and on the day following that meeting, and after the dinner party alluded to, received His Excellency's thanks, and an expression of his approbation of our conduct; conveyed in the most flattering manner by his Aid-de-Camp Capt. Campbell.

If concocting and retailing slander therefore, is one of the "acquirements" which should secure a person an invitation to government house, then our enemies certainly possess it; and we are willing to admit, that we do not stand on a par with some of those, whom we may have met there.

But there is another subject to which we must allude, before closing this article; and which we have been compelled to write with some degree of severity, and embracing subjects upon which we unwillingly dissent.

Knowing the aversion in which the American character is held in this Province, those who misrepresent us, have not scrupled to state that we lost the situation of King's Printer in Bermuda, in consequence of an undue attachment to that people; and if any thing can afford us satisfaction in this disquisition, it arises from the circumstance, that while we are clearing ourselves of such a charge, we are circulating a knowledge and perpetuating it where it already exists,—of an act of the blackest treachery after surrender, on the part of a vanquished and noble foe.

The following are the circumstances under which we quitted Bermuda; and which at the time awoke a very general sympathy in our behalf, and unfortunately led to an invitation to return to Halifax:

When the American frigate *President* arrived in Bermuda, after her capture by the *Endymion*, Capt. Hope; having understood that 60 or 70 men, whose design was to retake the ship, were found concealed on board the prize, after she had parted with the squadron; we inserted some observations reflecting upon the conduct of Capt. Decatur with reference to the transaction. This proceeding led to the interference of Sir James Cockburn, then Governor of the Bermudas, at whose request the offensive paragraph was contradicted. Subsequently however, we became fully assured of the correctness of the original statement, and that conviction was published a few weeks afterwards.

Upon Com. Decatur's return to the United States however, he thought proper to assert, in a second official letter which he wrote detailing his capture, that the Editor of the *Bermuda Royal Gazette* having stated that the *President* had surrendered to the *Endymion* alone, had been afterwards compelled to retract his misstatement. An assertion so destitute of foundation met with a prompt exposure, and the treacherous concealment of a number of men was again brought under the notice of the public.

Sir James Cockburn conceiving such conduct to be an act of disrespect towards himself, again desired that the assertion in question should be retracted. This was declined in a respectful manner; threats were used: and the consequence was a deprivation of the office of His Majesty's printer.

The *Endymion* having quitted the station, before the discussion took place; the best evidence of the correctness of the statement we had published, was obtained from one of the gentlemen, who had been sent to take charge of the prize—Lieut. Percival at present a Post Capt. in Her Majesty's Navy; and with his letter we shall close this article, as affording ample testimony, that an undue attachment to the American cause, formed no part of our offence—if it could be called an offence, to expose an act of treachery, which but for the timely discovery of the men, that was made by Lieut. Percival's own servant, might have caused the sacrifice of many valuable lives.

H. M. S. Bulwark, May 17, 1815.
 "Sir, I received your letter of the 10th inst. and beg leave to state for your satisfaction, a fact which appears to have been hitherto doubted. I was on board the *President* from the time she parted from the squadron, until her arrival in this port; and can assure you, your former information of the men being on board without our knowledge, was perfectly correct; to which I beg to subscribe myself,
 Your most obedt. Servant
 G. PERCIVAL.

To E. WARD, Esq. St. George.

After this expose, we think we shall have little to apprehend from any future attacks of anonymous writers, or the base misrepresentations of those, whose standing in society, as was stated in the recent reply of the Lieut. Governor to the Joint Address of the Legislative Council and Assembly, should exempt them from suspicion.

Since we commenced publishing the *Sentinel*, we have endeavoured to promote the public good, and have cheerfully supported the measures of the present government, when we considered them conducive to that end,—and shall continue to do so. And we trust the account of what took place in Bermuda will satisfy those to whom the tenor of our public life is unknown, that if we would sacrifice the situation we held in that Island, and better prospects in life, rather than compromise our integrity and independence as a Public Journalist; we will not when removed from all control save that of public opinion, surrender them for those courtesies and that kindness with which we may be honoured; and particularly when such conditions are required.

Widow of Admiral Warren.—Died, on the 21st instant, at her seat, Stapleford Hall, near Nottingham, Caroline, widow of Admiral the Right Hon. Sir John Borlase Warren, G. C. B. Her Ladyship was the youngest daughter of Lieut. General Sir John Clavering, K. B. Commander of the Forces in India, by the Lady Diana West, daughter of John the sixteenth Baron and first Earl De La Warr, K. B. the other daughters having married Francis, Lord Napier and Major General Sir Thomas Brooke Pechell, Bart. M. P. Her Ladyship will be succeeded in her estates by her grandson, George John, Lord Vernon. Her loss will be severely felt by the numerous orphans and widows of naval officers, and the poor of Stapleford will long remember her extensive and munificent charities.

We notice in the last *Chronicle* an Extract of a letter from a Fredericton correspondent; upon which we shall make a few observations in our next number. At present we shall leave our friends to digest the dose we have already forced them to swallow; and which shall be repeated ad nauseam. In the mean time it appears to us, that certain parties here,—where seems to be the grand reservoir whence the *Chronicle* is supplied with filth; are taking a deal of pains to procure a residence for Her Majesty's Representative in another part of the Province, and to drive the garrison to Woodstock.

Among the debates reported to-day, will be found one with reference to the picture of Lord Glenelg, a most prolific source of slander to the enemies of that nobleman, who will never forgive him for the benefits, which his administration conferred upon the people of this Province; and for which we are happy to say, from personal intercourse very generally with its inhabitants, they feel grateful. The explanation of the Hon. Mr. CRANE, must be satisfactory to the country, if in the absence of information, they were misled by the enemies of the people and the opposers of every species of reform.

We have also inserted the discussion that took place upon the government house accounts; which were also seized upon with avidity by those persons, as a peg upon which to hang a slander against Her Majesty's Representative in this Province: It will be seen however from this debate, that all the irregularity which has taken place, and immoderate expenditure on the part of Mr. Taylor, if any such has occurred: has been caused by the neglect of duty on the part of individuals, who were entrusted with the regulating the expenses of that establishment.

There was an animated debate upon the Report of the Commission appointed to enquire into the defalcations in the Crown Land office; which will appear next week. It will be seen from what fell from Dr. Wilson in a former debate, and the admissions subsequently made, that it has been proposed to give to the late head of that Department, a retiring pension; and the understanding among the members of the House previous to its prorogation was, that the intimation came from Her Majesty's government at home.

Nor must we forget that in seeking freedom of trade with China, we cannot treat the "celestial government" with the same disgraceful injustice that we have done to neglected and injured "British India." When we ask the Chinese to admit our cottons, wollens, &c. at 5 per cent. duty, we must remember that 100 per cent. is imposed on their tea, when imported into the United Kingdom, and on other articles in proportion. This is the free trade we have forcibly and shamefully compelled India to pursue; but the Chinese, who have already burnt our cotton-twist in the market-square at Canton, will expect and require a little less injustice. These and many other questions will demand the exercise of wisdom, and the dismissal of party feelings, for their adjudication.

NEW YORK, March 26.

CHINA.—The following is the report of the National Intelligencer, of the remarks of Mr. Cushing in the House of Representatives on Monday last, on the subject of intercourse with China, and the reply of Mr. Pickens, the Chairman of the Committee of Foreign Relations, to his inquiry:

Mr. Cushing said: I beg leave to put a question to the chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, (Mr. Pickens) in regard to a matter concerning which misapprehension exists abroad and which, though it touches individually myself and a colleague of mine now absent on a sick bed, (Mr. Lawrence,) I should not have troubled the House with, if it were not of great public importance to the welfare and reputation of the United States.

No objection being made, Mr. Cushing proceeded to say: I proposed a resolution early in the session, calling on the Executive for information as to our relations with China, which resolution, being afterwards submitted to the committee on Foreign Affairs, was by them reported to the House, and adopted: and to which the Executive has since responded, in a Message now in the possession of the House. My colleague (Mr. Lawrence) also presented a memorial from citizens of the United States in China, relative to the same matter. These papers are now under consideration in the Committee on Foreign Affairs.—Meanwhile, I am somewhat disturbed to learn, through the intelligence brought by the Great Western, that these movements here are construed in England as indicating a disposition on the part of the American Government "to join heart and hand"—as the expression is in a paragraph of an English ministerial journal now before me—"to join heart and hand with the British Government, and endeavor to obtain commercial treaties from the authorities in China." Now, so far as regards myself, I wish to say that this is a great misconception, if it be not a willful perversion, of what is contemplated here. I have, it is true, thought that the present contingency,—when the Americans at Canton, and they almost or quite alone, have manifested a proper respect for the laws and public rights of the Chinese empire, in honorable contrast with the outrageous misconduct of the English there,—and when the Chinese Government, grateful for the upright deportment of the Americans, has manifested the best possible feeling towards them,—I have thought that these circumstances afforded a favourable opportunity to endeavor to put the American trade with China on a just and stable footing for the future. But, God forbid that I should entertain the idea of co-operating with the British Government in the purpose—if it purposes it have—of upholding the base cupidity and violence, and high-handed infraction of all law, human and divine, which have characterized the operations of the British, individually and collectively, in the seas of China. I disavow all sympathy with those operations. I denounce them most emphatically. And, though it is not competent for me to speak now of what has been done or is intended in the Committee on Foreign Affairs relative to this, yet thus much I may say, that, in that committee, and among all its members, I am confident there is but one spirit,—and that is, to guard the interests and to maintain the honor of the United States.

It is due to the Executive, also, that I should say that I have no reason to believe or suspect that the President or his Cabinet entertains any but the most proper views on this subject. At the same time, to close the door at once against all misunderstanding, and set the whole matter in a clear light, in order that the Chinese Government need not be misled into supposing that, while the Americans in Canton profess to act in good faith, and enjoy the benefits of it, any different purpose is entertained here, I put this question to the Chairman of the committee on Foreign Affairs—Whether he himself, or so far as he knows, the Executive of the United States, has any idea of making common cause with Great Britain in reference to the recent events in China.

Mr. Pickens, in reply, said that in reference to himself, it was very far from being the fact that he was disposed to make common cause with England in her designs on China; for the very first moment the subject was referred to the committee and laid before them, that very point was made by himself, and he objected expressly to our appearing before the world (as might be inferred from an expression in the memorial referred to) as acting in concert with the British government in regard to this matter. So far as the Executive was concerned he had no authority for speaking; but he was induced to believe that no such fact of intended concert with Great Britain, as the gentleman (Mr. C.) directly referred to, existed. He [Mr. P.] had no intention, directly or indirectly, to aid in forcing on the Chinese the odious traffic in opium. He believed that if we could prevail on China to abandon her policy of non-intercourse with the world—if we could prevail on her to enter into any arrangement that might have for its basis commercial relations, which would place us on an equal footing with other Powers, it would be all that was necessary. But of this he had little hopes; for it was known that China, from time immemorial, had been opposed to all treaties. Our only object [said Mr. P.] is to place our commerce with China on an equal footing with that of other nations, and to see that no advantage be taken of us. Surely England does not occupy a position at present to command any sympathy or co-operation from us. He would forbear to touch on those points that are now at issue between us, which may, in the progress of events, become of the deepest importance. It is not our policy to appear to act under her cover and co-operation.—We will act upon our separate and independent interests, and our own views of policy.

Mr. Cushing then said; I thank the House for its indulgence, and the chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, who has answered my question so satisfactorily; and I trust the idea will no longer be entertained in England, if she choose to persevere in the attempt to coerce the Chinese by force of arms to submit to be poisoned with opium in whole provinces, that she is to receive aid or countenance from the United States in that nefarious enterprise.

CHINA—BRITISH INDIA—FREE TRADE.

Colonial Magazine.—In the mean time, however, we would entreat that the whole subject of our commercial relations with the Eastern hemisphere were made the matter of serious inquiry by the highest tribunal of the state. Unfortunately, this was not done on the termination of the Charter of the East India Company in 1833. Nothing was then thought of but the abolition of commercial privileges; and those who maintained that the trade with China required the most cautious management, were treated as alarmists or corrupt monopolists.

It is not however China alone that is affected by the present state of affairs; India is intimately interested in the pending discussion, not only with reference to the revenue which the Indian government derive from the sale of opium at Calcutta, and from the passes granted at Bombay and Daman, but also on account of the immense supplies of silver which were remitted from Canton to pay for the opium, and by which British India has been mainly enabled to withstand the drain of specie from India to England of latter years. This is a most serious subject for India, as she has about 5,000,000 of remittances to make annually to Great Britain, and which, by our excessive duties on her produce, we have so materially checked in their supply and exportation.

BRUNN! BRUNN! BRUNN!
 FOR SALE AT FREDERICTON, 20 PUNCH
 cons good retailing Demerara Rum.
 Terms and necessary information given, by applying at Mr. OLIVER SMITH'S COUNTING ROOM.
 WILLIAM HAMMOND.
 St. John, March 3, 1840. 6w.

that a difference of opinion existed, no matter how they should pass the account.
 Mr. L. A. WILMOT would not have risen again if the hon. member for Westmorland had not said there was something radically wrong. Did he mean to say there is any thing dishonest? He had a right to an explanation.—If he meant to attribute dishonesty he denied it. If the hon. gentleman meant that the accounts were not satisfactorily made out, he would agree with him; and he would agree with him that the account should have been audited and the balance struck. But he must fix him down to the expression he had used. As to the expence attending government House; it had not been built in a substantial manner at first, at one time the walls were coming down, and if £2000 had not been expended at the time, it would have cost £5000 at present. He had examined the bill, member for Charlotte, Mr. Brown; and a large expediture became a matter of economy. In that way a large expence had been incurred, but there had been nothing wrong or dishonest on the part of any individual.

Mr. WILSON had been called upon for an explanation. He certainly had said there was something radically wrong, but he had not said that any individual was dishonest. He recollected the paper inserted in the *Chronicle* stated that £1000 had been paid by Mr. Taylor for repairs of government house, and an objection had been taken. But there must be something radically wrong, when an account comes in containing objectionable items. There was nothing mysterious, he presumed, and probably the introduction of those objectionable items might be easily explained.

Mr. WILMOT was satisfied from the explanation that had been made, that it was not the intention of the hon. gentleman to reflect upon his Excellency; but that he meant his remarks to apply to the Commissioners and their agent. He had misquoted the passage however, as the writer alluded to had said that a sly thousand pounds had been obtained by his Excellency through Mr. Taylor, in addition to the £9000 already expended in repairs of government house.

Mr. BEARDSLEY said if he understood the subject, the Commissioners would not act, and Mr. Taylor makes out an account which had been sent down by the Lieut. Governor, and had been referred to the Committee of accounts, but who had made no report; and it was now proposed to take a leap in the dark. He understood the accounts were not classified,—that they were not made out properly, altho' they might be correct; but he did not think it a legitimate course to vote a part of those accounts, which the Committee might soon examine; he thought they should therefore pause. The learned member for York, Mr. F. had pointed out an item which Mr. Taylor ought not to have charged, and yet he says he would pay the whole account. He was in favour of the amendment, altho' not exactly in its present shape.

Mr. PARTELOW repeated he was satisfied that the sum of £1750 must be paid; altho' the accounts were not made up in a proper manner; but it would be a monstrous hardship were they not to provide a sum which they must ultimately pay. The learned member for Northumberland said they were pursuing an unusual course; but he could quote a variety of instances in which the same course was pursued; several of which the hon gentleman enumerated. His plan was to send the accounts back to Mr. Taylor, and let him make them out in a proper form; but at the same time he should not be the sufferer.

Mr. J. M. WILMOT said the discussion had taken a wide range; and from what had been said and written, he thought the subject should be taken up fully and examined. There certainly was no blame attributable to the Lieut. Governor, he thought the fault lay with the Commissioners for government house. His Excellency would not thank any individual for bringing his private affairs before the House.—He thought however the accounts should go before a committee, and he was willing to wait till they could be examined and passed.

Mr. STREET remarked that the hon. member for St. John asserted the fact, that the sum of £1750 would certainly be required to be paid; then why did not the Select Committee state that fact, and add that it required further consideration as to the remainder, and then lay the Report before the Committee of Supply. He should have been satisfied if the hon. Chairman had adopted that course. He agreed with the hon. member for the city, that it was time to settle and pay off these accounts, and why should the Province be called upon to pay interest upon the balance.

Mr. WOODWARD said he proposed that the accounts should be referred to a Committee in 1838, and selected subsequently such items as he thought the Province should not be called upon to pay; but he never could get the Committee together, and it lay over till last year. The Committee could have audited the accounts and ought to have done so, and made a Report which would have been satisfactory to the public.

His Honor the SPEAKER saw no difficulty in adopting the course which had been recommended by his hon. colleague; there were only three items in the account about which there could be any question, these were the charge for coal, eleven shillings for the window blinds and a sleigh which Mr. Taylor had included in his account; they might therefore with safety vote for £1750. If even the difference were exceeded, the deficiency might be deducted hereafter, as there must be an annual expence incurred in keeping up so large an establishment. He was therefore against the amendment, and should vote for the original Resolution.

The question was then put and the Resolution to grant £1750 on account, was adopted without a division.

CHINA—BRITISH INDIA—FREE TRADE.

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they would have avoided the present difficulty, and the unpleasant discussion that had taken place.

Hon. Mr. JOHNSTON explained that the accounts were sent down by Message; a committee had been moved, and the chairman requested the members to examine them, who ought to have consulted with Mr. Taylor, and he should have previously requested the Commissioners to expunge those articles which ought not to be paid for. When the Lieut. Governor was entitled to the staff allowance, he did not require that for fuel; but it was allowed when Mr. Black administered the government of the Province.

Hon. SPEAKER thought enough had been said, and that the Legislature had better repeal the act appointing Commissioners, and change them; as several of them will not act, and the whole duty devolves on Mr. Taylor. If the law were repealed, then individuals could be selected who would act; and the duties would be executed in a proper manner.

Hon. Mr. WELDON said the subject came up in 1828, and at that time the accounts were in a state of confusion; some Commissioners acted, and others would not. The late Mr. William Taylor undertook to act for the Commissioners to receive estimates, and provide for the expences attending government house. The learned gentleman said he thought an account should be rendered at the commencement of every session, of the expences that had been incurred during the preceding year, together with an estimate for the following; which the House could then provide for. Then less expence would be incurred, as persons not being prepared to make advances, articles cannot be obtained at the cheapest rate, and hence arises one very great difficulty. He believed the Commissioners, which consisted of the Chief Justice—Secretary of the Province—the Attorney General—the Surveyor General and Speaker of the House, appointed by an Act passed in 1816, and were Commissioners by virtue of their office, had not met for eight or ten years; the whole trouble and responsibility consequently fell upon Mr. Taylor, who being without instructions, had to be guided by his own discretion; and afterwards made out his account of what he had paid. In this way 4 or £5000 had been expended, but there never had been any audit of the accounts; and in the situation in which the agent had been placed, it would have been an act of injustice if the money should not be voted him. He hoped in future the Commissioners would meet, and regretted that could not be done before the Committee of Supply closed, that they might have an estimate of what would be required next year; and in future they could go on harmoniously.

Mr. FISHER could not understand why there should be any mystery in the affair; and he would ask hon. members if it were not better to pay the entire demand at once, rather than the balance should lie over upon interest. As to the items of the account, several of them were objectionable; among others was a charge of eleven shillings for washing window-blinds.—Mr. Taylor had doubtless paid for a variety of articles which he had charged in his account against the Commissioners, and which embraced a variety of discordant materials. No one doubted, he said, that those articles had been supplied, but the question arose as to how the pay was to be apportioned. He did think the other day that the Bill was to cover the charge for fuel. He considered Mr. Taylor as being placed in an unpleasant situation, having furnished supplies; while the House was called upon to determine who should pay for them. He thought if the House consulted its own dignity, it would pay the accounts at once, as they must ultimately be paid by the Province.

Mr. L. A. WILMOT thought if any thing would detract from the dignity of the House, it would be descending to the investigation of a small charge for washing window blinds, which the Commissioner had put down in his account, and which he had better have paid for at once out of his own pocket. He would ask was it fair to discuss the payment of articles which His Excellency could never have intended the public should pay for; the Committee had therefore better refrain from discussing items which ought never to have been introduced into the accounts. He would not agree to vote the entire amount, as he was satisfied there were articles charged, that the Province would not pay for. The Commissioners should have met and examined those accounts; and he hoped the hon. member for St. John would take the accounts, and ascertain what portion of them were of a public, and what of a private nature.

Mr. BROWN should like to know the position in which they stood. It had been admitted that a reduction of £500 had been made in the salary of the Lieut. Governor, in addition to Staff allowances, which it was understood he would enjoy in common with his predecessor; and a Bill had been passed for increasing His Excellency's salary to that amount. If that Bill should not pass into a law, he would not put him to the expence of providing fuel for government house; but if it became a law he thought he should pay it. With reference to the accounts themselves, he thought they had better be referred to the Chairman of the Committee of public and private accounts, and in the mean time pay the amount which was proposed. It was a matter of every day's practice, and was the course commonly pursued, where any doubt existed.

Mr. STREET considered as most disgraceful, the going into the examination of items of an account in a Committee of Supply; and the course pursued was most contemptible. But it all arose as he had before stated, from their not having the Report of the Select Committee before them; the subject therefore was not legitimately before the Committee, and they ought not to make any grant, whether the items were correct or not; as the account could not be considered as fairly before the House.

Mr. WILSON moved as an amendment, that until the accounts should be audited and the balance ascertained, no further sum should be voted for the expences of government house. A sum had been passed before with an understanding that the accounts should be audited in a suitable manner, but they had been disappointed, and he would take care that should not happen again. If any disgrace attached to the Commissioners, they were numerous and able to bear it; and if the individual who supplied the articles suffered through his own irregularity, let him take the consequences. Immense sums were expended upon Government house, and which produced much anxiety; and during the past year it appeared that nearly £2000 more have been appropriated in that way. There must be something radically wrong; and either the Commissioners held a good situation, or else those who furnish the supplies. He did not mean to say that Mr. Taylor did not act correctly, but the manner in which the accounts were made out was far from satisfactory; and he thought it was time there was a settlement; as objectionable items are now found in the account, which no person would say should be there. The hon. gentleman said he felt that in thus discharging his duty, he was best maintaining the character of His Excellency. The two branches had applied to the Lieut. Governor and requested him to prosecute certain individuals who had dared to traduce his character; and he thought injustice would be done if an investigation did not take place. It was not necessary to say more; but he would take the opinion of the House on the question; and show the country