the Trade could be supported in its Legitimate channel; and he only regretted that in the distribution of Road money during the present Session, this great object had not been more attended to.

Mr. HILL contended that if the speculation of building the Reindeer was not a profitable one, the present grant would not make it so; and he thought a great deal of visionary speculation had been crrried out in reference to the River St. John. He would as an instance name the Grant for clearing out the Jemseg Creek, which he was informed was now filling up as bad as ever.

Mr. J. EARLE begged leave to set the hon. member right. The channel of the Jemseg was *not* filling up; and besides, a more necessary grant had never been made in the House of Assembly. Prior to that Grant being made, the whole trade on the Grand Lake and the surrounding Country had been locked up; but since the obstruction alluded to had been removed the vessels required for the transport of Wood and other freight, had passed up and down without interruption —once more, he could assure the learned member, (Mr. Hill) that the channel was not filling up.

Mr. PAYNE supported it.—The Boat was designed for the up River Trade, and the design, as was now evident, had succeeded. He also considered the House pledged in good faith, to the Grant; and he could assure hon. members that it would not be a misappropriation. He thought that both the proprietor of the Boat, and the Engineer employed in building her, were entitled to the thanks of the Country; and as a Railway might now be established at a comparative trifling expense round the Grand Falls, this Bill would be found to answer an excellent purpose.

Mr. BARBER said he was not convinced that the Boat would run constantly up the River: on the contrary it was most likely that she would be generally placed on the route to St. John; and this would have an effect on him in the consideration of the subject.

Mr. BOYD said it was in vain to build a Boat for the route to Woodstock.—And with respect to the influence which the Reindeer could have on Trade, it must indeed be trifling; for she could carry nothing over 40 Barrels. In addition to this, the Boat had broken off from her regular route to St. John, only once or twice in the Season—and he left hon. members to judge whether she should be an object of special encouragement.

Mr. WILMOT denied the correctness of the whole statements made by Mr. Boyd—and the Grant passed for £300.

WEDNESDAY, April 1.

GRAMMAR SCHOOLS.

Mr. BROWN said, that the Bill had been prepared by the Committee on Educatiou, and introduced for the purpose of making some of the Grammar Schools more efficient than they were at present It was not the intention of the framers of that Bill to break up the Grammar Schools, as had been proposed by his learned colleague (Mr. Hill) a few days ago; those Schools were connected with the College endowment Act, and it would be found impossible, at present, to break them up, although there was some hope that the present Bill would pass, which would very much improve some of them. It had been found, at the late Inspection, although some of those Schools were in a very satisfactory state, others were even less efficient than some of the Parish Schools, and it was nothing more than reasonable to expect a greater amount of benefit from a School receiving £100 a year, than from one receiving only £20. This Bill therefore required all the branches of a common English Education to be taught, and also the Latin and Greek Languages, and those were enumerated in order. It also required the daily attendance of a certain number of Scholars over a certain age. It required the Master to keep a daily Register, and to mark the presence or absence of each Scholar as the case might be. The Trustees and Directors were required to examine the Schools every half year, and to make a Report of every such examination. These Reports, with returns of the branches of Education to each pupil, the average number in daily attendance, age, &c., made up by the Masters, and also copies of the daily Registers, were required to be sent to the Secretary's Office semi-annually, for the information of the Legislature and the Executive Government; and if on examination, it should appear that any of the Schools were in any respect deficient, the Executive Government was empowered to reduce the sum, so that no School should have less than £50 a year from the Province. These were the outlines of the Bill, and hon. members could see that there was no new principle introduced, or innovation intended. One of the best Grammar Schools in the Province was kept in the County of Northumberland for £50 a year, and this Bill merely put a discretionary power into the hands of the Government to reduce the £100 grant in certain cases, and not to put it below £50. He was afraid, from the temper of the House on the Parish School Bill, that even this Bill would be opposed.

(Here follow several speeches, and among them one from Mr. End opposing this Bill as a "side winded" attempt to destroy and break down the Grammar Schools—assuring the mover at the same time, that he (Mr. End) was anxious to improve those Schools, but not by such a Bill as that. He would better define the duty of the Masters, and enforce the inspection of the Schools by the Trustrees, &c. &c. &c.)

Col. MCLEOD said that the amount of Scholars in King's County Grammer School, was, he understood, increasing.—Formerly persons anxious to give their children an education which could not be obtained in the Parish Schools had to send them to St. John; but the Sackville Academy had diverted the current to that Institution.—The truth was, except so far as related to the vicinity of the Grammer Schools, they were of little service; for persons at a distance could not attend them; and on this account he would rather see two schools in each Parish with an allowance of £50 per annum, as they would afford greater facilities for learning, and the instruction given would be quite as good. With respect to the use of the Globes as alluded to in the Report, he saw no great occasion for it, for but few persons learned astronomy; and a few plain rules, to be learned in three or four years, would conduce more to the benefit of a boy than all that he could learn from the Globes. And a piece of black board would be found much better for working useful problems on, than any means which could be procured. He approved of the Bill generally; and would therefore move that it be read section by section.

Mr. END inquired if every boy attending at those Schools must be compelled to learn *all* the branches enumerated? Such he thought was the inference from the wording of the Bill; he begged leave to say it might be found impracticable all—that had been mentioned should of course be taught in such Schools if required, but otherwise, it would not be found easy to force the pupils to learn them.

His Honor the SPEAKER observed that the Committee might just as well pass a law at once to deprive all the Schools in the Country of the Provincial Allowance—the Parish Schools excepted—as to pass the Bill now under consideration; for its effect would be, virtually to abolish the whole of the Grammer Schools, as they never could come up to its requirements. To this sweeping measure he would never agree, as he thought it would prove injurious to the Country.

Mr. END thought so too: and although he was willing to Grant that the Grammer Schools were not what they ought to be, owing to the Trustees not being sworn to do their duty, and other causes, still he would not consent to destroy them altogether. He would like to see the directors of the Grammer Schools; and indeed he could not help thinking it a manifest absurdity, that while a man who got only £20 in trust, was compelled by an oath to see to its proper expenditure, another individual who got five times as much was allowed to proceed without any obligation whatever.—He was willing to lend his assistance in making the law more stringent in this particular—for he was sure that the directors did not do their duty; and that they received their Grant of £100 rather as a bonus to their County than as a Grant given to them on certain conditions. In making this avowal, he (Mr. E.) would distinctly avow his dissent from any Bill having for its object by a side wind, to break down or destroy the Grammar Schools.

Here several members rose at the same time; but Mr. Brown kept the floor remarking that he could not lose a moment without informing the learned member (Mr. End) that he was willing to do all in his power to meet the views of hon. members who might differ with him only in some slight details on the Bill. But he would ask the learned member, did not the Bill contain already all the suggestions which he had made? If the learned member was not averse to the Bill itself, would he not see that one of its principal provisions was to guard against the laxity of Trustees, and in the very way which he had pointed out. Why then did that learned member, and his honor the Speaker, allude to the Bill as if it contained something to destroy the Grammar Schools, when nothing could be plainer than that its only object was to place them in a state of greater efficiency? or why had the hon. and learned member spoken of a side wind, when it was manifest that nothing of the kind was intended? He wished the learned member would express himself in such a way as to make it possible for him (Mr. B.) to believe him.

Mr. WILMOT said he hoped that his Honor the Speaker, and the hon. and learned member from Gloucester, (Mr. End) would have the candour to tell at once what were their objections to the Bill, in order that its friends might hear and know—yes, and be prepared to grapple with them. Could they give one substantial reason to the contrary, to prove that the Grammar Schools were well enough as they were—or answering the purpose for which they were intended? The old act itself would shew that they were originally designed to teach the higher branches of Education, and their endowment had been made in proportion: a condition being annexed that eight Free Scholars should be taught in each School. From all this it would appear that these Schools were in the first place designed to be of a superior order. If so—and who would deny it—and if upon examination they had been found to be deficient, was it not the duty of the Committee either to pass an Act to improve them, or else curtail their endowment? There were strong facts upon which to rest this conclusion: nor would they be lessened when it came to be known, that ever since the period of the late inspection, only too, out of all those Grammar Schools had ever rendered a return to the Secretary's Office. Thus the Government were left in as much ignorance of the state of those Schools as if no Law existed on the subject. Not even a single scrap of information had been forwarded to shew whether 5 or 10 or 20 children were in actual attendance; or whether the Languages were or were not taught to them. He (Mr. W.) might perhaps be told that the Law already in existence required a certain standard for the Government of those Schools: but he would beg in reply to state that if there was, certain usages had grown up under it which rendered it entirely useless. A stranger could hardly believe that a system designed to be so good, had grown so utterly corrupt, that out of the whole number of Schools only two—those of Northumberland and Kings—had forwarded even the Annual Report to the Secretary's Office; and it was just as hard to conceive how the Government could have issued the Provincial Allowance upon such wretched certificates as those at present furnished by those directors. Such however was the case, that if any County could only succeed in subscribing £50 per annum, the Government stood pledged to advance a hundred more, although only two boys might compose the whole School! This was the system which his honor the Speaker had declared himself so averse to see broken down, although he had expressed a willingness to have 2 Schools established in their stead, at £50 each, which as far as breaking them down was concerned, was the most effectual means which could be taken. He (Mr. W.) would not go so far, he would not break down the Grammar Schools, but by adopting the plan suggested by the present Bill, by paying them in proportion as they deserved, he would at once place them in a more efficient state, and remedy the abuse which had crept in, to the prejudice of the Country—in effect he would guard the Act of 29, which as a perpetual Act it would be better not to interfere with.—He would say to such Schools as were found to be in a state of efficiency, go on, the full Provincial allowance is sure to you; while he would inform the others that they should not receive a farthing beyond the proportion of their usefulness. (Here Mr. Wilmot went into a description of the inefficient state of the Grammar Schools, generally, shewing how far short they came of the standard marked out by the Act—and making some severe remarks on that in Carleton; and also the Sunbury School where 2 girls were found among the students, forming as he said, a burlesque upon every thing serious or reasonable.) He concluded by observing that as the Government would not go beyond the provisions of the Act at present in force, and as it was found to be insufficient for the purpose for which it was passed, it now became necessary to try what could be done through the agency of a new one.

Mr. SIMONDS briefly expressed himself gratified at the turn which things had taken: for although it was nothing new to him, still he thought it a good indication. For the last fifteen years he had endeavoured to effect a reform in the Grammar Schools—he had pointed out the negligence not only as far as respected the making out Returns, but also in several other particulars; and strange to say, up to the present day he could scarcely get an hon. member to second him. It had been the duty of the House, during the long time which he alluded to to improve the system, as much as it was their duty at present; but a general apathy prevailed, and it was no wonder that under such circumstances the Government had partaken of it.

Mr. END expressed himself surprised that during the fifteen years alluded to, the hon. member had not brought in a Bill, or even introduced some Resolution on the subject; for if during the whole time, he had done so, it had completely escaped his (Mr. End's) notice. Surely, it was the Government, and not the people, which ought to be blamed for granting money on the mere Certificate of the Master, instead of that of the Trustees; when the 15th Section of the Act already in being, provides against such an abuse so plainly that its words cannot be mistaken. He could tell the hon. member, (Mr. Brown,) and it was matter of small consequence whether he believed him or not, further than that he wished to retain the opinion of an honest man—that he felt as much concerned in the welfare of Schools, as he did; and he was willing to be judged by his works. If the intention of the Act was to provide for a certain average of boys, out of these to make it obligatory that a certain number must be studying the higher branches, he was willing to go with him. One half of the Bill would in his opinion be enough: in fact, a single clause averaging the number to be in attendance, the branches to be taught, and the Certificates to be returned, would be sufficient for all the purposes of the Bill then before the Committee.

His Honor the SPEAKER said, he objected to the present Bill, because it would be an unnecessary incumbrance on the Statute Book: for if the Directors did their duty, as pointed out by the 9th Section of the present Act, there would be nothing to complain of. He could not tell how those Schools were conducted in other Counties, but in Kent, the semi-annual examinations had never been neglected. As to the money being advanced on the mere Certificate of the Teacher, it was an open conviction of justice, and of the Act already in force; and he would ask whether the passing of a new Act could mend the matter? Proper individuals would, if appointed, carry out the provisions of any Act—but the carelessness recently manifested in this particular, as well as granting money indiscriminaely, upon almost every application, had led to the present evils; and those evils would of course be continued, while the Law remained unattended to. At present, as he had already said, applications came to the House from Academies of various descriptions, without even a Report to guide the House in its appropriations; and if the least opposition were made to these grants, it would immediately be said that the person opposing them was adverse to the cause of Education. The fault remained with the House, and was to be found in the loose and improper modes of granting money, so long adopted. He would point out a simple remedy—it was that no Warrants be in future issued, until all the terms of the present Law shall have been complied with.

Mr. WILMOT here made some observations, pointing out several defects in the present Law, and advocating the necessity for a new enactment.

Dr. EARLE felt himself called upon to make some observation on the present subject; for he thought it the greatest injustice imaginable that one man should get £100 for keeping an indifferent School; while another got only £20, doing all the duties of a good one. He begged leave to differ with his Honor the Speaker, for he thought the present Law was highly defective; and while he would not insist upon having the present system broken down; he saw the most urgent necessity for amending it. His private views led him however to think that it would be much better if the Grammar Schools could be broken up, and the money which they received divided upon four or five others in their neighbourhood, thus securing the services of efficient Teachers; of this however he saw no hope, and would of course contribute as far as he was able to mend what could not be otherwise disposed of. Here the hon. member enumerated the different Grammar Schools; which he said, were with few exceptions, exceeded by the Parish Schools throughout the Country—and remarked that having been defeated in his favourite measure respecting the Parish Schools, he could not take such a lively interest in any other movement relative to education.

Mr. J. A. STREET said that if hon. members would turn their attention to the subject, they would find that those Schools were continued more with the view of securing the Grant, than that of educating the youth who had recourse to them. He was however happy to say that all the Grammar Schools were not conducted so negligently—an instance of which would be found in his own County. The question now was, could the present acknowledged evil be reminded by Legislation, and if it could, whether the present was the best period for the purpose? Let the present Law therefore be examined; and let it be known whether it provides the necessary guards, for if so, it would not be necessary to Legislate, as the fault would then be in the administration, and not in the law. He (Mr. S.) thought the defect was in the law: for the clause respecting the certificate was not sufficiently guarded. He could not bring himself to think that five times the amount should be laid out on a Grammar School, containing five or six children, which would be given to a Parish School where five times the number of children were receiving an education. He thought that the Province, in reference to this provision, should be divided into districts, rather than Counties, for it was unfair that all the Counties should, considering the differences of population, receive a similar amount. In the absence of such a provision he would nevertheless support the present Bill, although in his opinion it did not go as far as it ought.

Mr. HILL hoped the Bill would pass; for as he saw no chance for breaking up the system, he would endeavour to mend it; and after all, the latter was perhaps the best plan which could be adopted. He would also wish to see the amount of tuition regulated: for instead of the measure becoming a public benefit, and placing this species of education within the reach of those who might require it, the tuition money was raised, in order to realize the amount necessary to insure the Provincial Grant. If it were possible to get the large sum apropriated at present to the Grammar Schools, divided on five or six others of the Parish Schools in their respective Counties, the arrangement would provide for a better class of teachers, and materially benefit the Country. His Honor the Speaker seemed particularly afraid of any sort of agitation, but he (Mr. H.) would beg leave to remind the Committee, that in the history of the world for nearly 6,000 years, no great object had been effected without agitation.

(Here the Bill was read section by section, and a good deal of argument was elicited on the details as they came up for discussion; but little now was said, as the principle had already been amply disposed of; and the Bill passed with amendments.)

The House next went in consideration of a Bill introduced by Mr. Partelow to arrange the Corporation Debt of the City of Saint John. The hon. Member prefaced the Bill by enlarging on the necessity which existed for an adjustment of the Corporation Debts, and pointing out the principle of the Bill, namely, an annual assessment of £1000 till the Debt shall be liquidated.

Hon. Mr. HAZEN said, he must move an amendment to the Bill, in reference to the west side of the Harbour, but reserving to both sides the common Lands which they owned; until the ownership of these lands shall be determined in the Court of Chancery where it remains at present for decision. Such a course as that pointed out in the Bill, would, he said, prevent the anticipated decision, and would for that reason be premature. It would doubtless be stated by the hon. Member from Saint John, (Mr. Partelow) that the west side had enjoyed an equitable share of the money laid out in improvements, and consequently had no right to complain; but it was not in the House of Assembly that that question could be decided. A Bill had been filed in Chancery; that Bill had not been answered; and in this state of the question, all Legislation should be stayed, and let the affair be decided by the Master of the Rolls.

Mr. PARTELOW said the hon. member need not display such chagrin on this point: for there was no intention to deprive either side of its rights, although there might be some difference of opinion. With respect to expenditures, the Carleton side knew well during the whole time, the extent of what was going on, and those expenditures had of course received their sanction; why then should the east side be solely bound for the cost of the general improvements, or why could not Carleton be content with a share of the property without arriving at the whole on the west side to be laid out and reserved for their benefit forever?

Mr. HAZEN said, it was only the common lands that were claimed by the people of Carleton; for there were other valuable lands which they did not lay special claim to. It was impossible for the House of Assembly to decide how the St. John Debt originated; but there was a place where these matters would receive a full investigation, and it was only right that the parties on both sides should know the respective amounts which had been expended, for although both sides might have been in equal possession of the facts at the time, it was only in the Court of Chancery that those circumstances could receive a proper and thorough investigation. (Here Mr. Hazen moved a new Section to the Bill, having for its object to prevent any disposal of the Lands on the west side of the Harbour, otherwise than in accordance with the terms of the original City Charter.)

Mr. PARTELOW would ask, would not the clause just introduced prevent the east side of the Harbour from applying any property on the west side to the payment of the general debt? A vast amount of money had been laid out on the west side; and he might just with the same propriety introduced a Section having for its object to prevent Carleton from participating in any of the Revenues of Saint John.

Hon. Mr. HAZEN would leave the affair just as it stood between both sides, until it came up for a decision in the right quarter; and then whoever was wrong would be compelled to disgorge the property which had been unjustly acquired. The present Bill should never have been brought previous to the decision of the Court of Equity, where all parties would receive ample justice.

Mr. J. A. STREET said it appeared the parties had split upon some pecuniary matters; and that a Chancery suit had been instituted by one of them: in the mean time—while this action was pending, he thought no Bill should have been brought before the House, on the subject. One side had maintained that a general assessment was required in order to pay off a general debt—the other refused, stating that they had not contracted this debt,—and thus had originated the suit in Chancery; which was the only fitting place to have the cause decided. During the time this suit should remain undecided it was impossible to tell who was right or who wrong, and therefore any action of the House would be premature. The Bill went to tax the citizens of St. John to the amount of £1000 for a number of years, and that at a time when as a corporation they were at variance among themselves—a part of them denying their right to pay a share of it, and having appealed to the highest court in the Province for protection. He would not allow any number of individuals holding bonds to go to the market and speculate on such a Bill as the present, with a Chancery suit at the very time pending between the parties. * * *

(Here we were interrupted for a few moments, and when we returned, his honor the Speaker was addressing the Committee.)

He objected to the section introduced by Hon. Mr. Hazen because he thought it would give a construction to the City Charter which could not have anticipated in its construction, a subject which the House of Assembly should be careful not to interfere with. The amendment proposed to the clause, by the hon. member (Mr. Partelow) should have his support, for it did not interfere with the rights of any, and had not the least bearing on the legal question which would be afterwards decided. He knew no such thing as common Lands; but he believed the City debt was contracted with the knowledge of the parties on both sides of the harbour, and for their mutual benefit; and although they might differ among themselves, it still became the duty of the House to Legislatate generally upon such subjects as required its interference.

Col. MCLEOD said the Citizens of St. John on both sides of the harbour, had benefitted generally by the amounts expended in public improvements, and they should pay mutually.

Some further objections were made by the Hon. Mr. Hazen, who opposed the Bill warmly; but it passed on a division; the numbers standing 19—4.

FRIDAY, April 3.

Mr. J. A. STREET agreeably to notice given on a former day moved a Resolution to address the Government relative to the system of disposing of Crown Lands—the purport of the resolution was to throw open all the Crown Lands after the first of May next, including all the extensive Mill Reserves which have been granted to individuals during the last few years. The hon. and learned Member in moving this resolution observed that the Committee to whom were referred all matters relating to the Lumbering interests of this Province had given this subject their most serious consideration, and had submitted a report. (Here Mr. S. read the report.) It appeared by returns laid before the House that large tracts of land in different sections of the Province, were still locked up in these Mill Reserves. The Crown Officers had given it as their opinion that the Mill Reserve system was illegal; and the Lumber Committee were of opinion that by thus locking up the Country in granting those large tracts of land to private individuals, a great injury was inflicted on the trade of the Province. He had deferred moving this resolution until the House should have disposed of the Bill referring to this subject. That having been done, and the House thereby having established the principle of throwing open those lands, he presumed there could be no objection to the resolution. Unless the House took some action upon this subject these reserves would still remain locked up to all except a few favored individuals, and he trusted the house would now take such steps as would throw them open with all other Crown Lands. It being the opinion of the Crown officers that the reserve system was illegal, he thought the House should now address the Executive Government advising them to throw open to public competition those reserves, more especially as they had, by rejecting the Bill, recognized that principle.

Mr. TAYLOR ssid he feared the hon. mover of the resolution was not aware of the effect it would have, (Mr. S. yes, perfectly) the effect would be this; it would strip the mill owners indiscriminately of all their lands, upon which they depended for a supply of logs; he thought such a course of proceeding most injust; let them have those reserves until the Bill which passed the House a few days since, came into operation, which he supposed would be about the first of September next.

Mr. SCOULLAR made a few observations which we did not distinctly hear; he was opposed to the resolution,

Mr. PARTELOW was also opposed to the resolution; the reasons urged by the hon. member for York (Mr. Taylor) were, in his opinion, conclusive; it would certainly be very unjust to deprive mill owners of those reserves until the bill came into operation. The hon. and learned mover of the resolution (Mr. J. A. Street) had spoken of an address to the Executive upon this subject; he however did not think an address at all necessary; he had every confidence in the Government that they would deal fairly and justly with the matter.

Mr. FISHER would also oppose the resolution; he trusted the hon. mover would consent to withdraw it, and introduce something not quite so stringent in its effects, and which would give all parties fair play.

Mr. WILMOT thought the resolution had better be withdrawn, as he feared it would have an injurious tendency if carried. A great deal had been said about Mill Reserves; but he could not understand why the "Black reserve" had remained ever since '36, without any title from the Crown; it had been handed down from one to another in a very singular manner; he knew of three different applications having been made to Government last year for one hundred acres each, of this very land, offering three shillings an acre therefor. But no! Mr. Black stood in the way, and nothing could be done about it. He thought it high time something was done about matters of this kind; the House would have to take some step by which they could get behind the doings of '37.

Mr. PAYNE was decidedly opposed to the principle of granting those reserves; the best blocks of land in the Country got into the hands of monied men, who held them at exorbitant prices, thereby retarding the opening up and settlement of the Province.

Mr. JOHN EARLE said he hoped the hon. and learned mover of the resolution would consent to withdraw the resolution, and amend it so that it might pass; it was highly necessary that something should be done, otherwise the whole country would come under the auction system after the first day of May next.

Mr. SCOULLAR moved an amendment to the resolution, having for its object the exception of the reserves granted to mills on small streams above the tide-way.

Mr. J. A. STREET had no objection to the amendment moved by the hon. member; he trusted it would have the effect of removing the objections which had been urged against the resolution. He now trusted the resolution, as amended, would pass, and show the feeling and wish of the House upon this subject. The hon. and learned member for York (Mr. Wilmot) seemed to think it would be necessary to get behind the Civil List Bill; he (Mr. S.) thought that would never do; it would be interfering with vested rights, against which that hon. and learned member so frequently exclaimed; should a resolution of that kind pass the House, the Government would never throw open those large reserves.

Mr. END feared the resolution might embarrass the Government. The Crown officers had given it as their opinion that the system of granting Mill Reserves was illegal, and he could not imagine that the Government would, in the face of that opinion, continue to grant those reserves. He thought the hon. and learned mover had better withdraw the resolution, and let it lie on the table for a few days, or until the opinion of Government could be ascertained upon the subject.