

the conduct of the Government; because his heart told him their conduct was indefensible; but he had received such a lesson from his hon. and learned friends from St John and Northumberland that he would spare him a further infliction. He would next speak of the hon. Secretary, and ask how he had answered the charges preferred against him by a list of Acts passed during the time of their being in office? If this was the basis of his defence then his own argument condemned him. He said they had no time to pass a School Act—no time! when the people were yearning for knowledge—no time! when the children of the country were growing up in ignorance—no time! when time was spent in a consolidation of the laws that would not train the ideas of one child, or render the family gathered round a single hearth more fit to discharge the duties they owed their country. Any government making such an assertion could never deserve the confidence of the country. Could not the session be prolonged two or three weeks, or three months, if necessary, to perfect and carry out a measure so vitally essential to the well being of the people? It was their duty to continue to sit there, if such a measure were proposed until it was passed. When the government had hung out their sign and raised the hopes and expectations of the people, why had not they carried out their professions? The government that said they had not time to discharge such a duty, by that act alone, entitled themselves to a vote of want of confidence.

The answer made to the charge that Municipal Institutions were not introduced, was that an Act would be brought in this year. But why not last year? If it was of the importance that people should have the management of their local affairs in their own hands, why was not the Bill then passed? Where was the necessity of straw for that trick? No money was required for that. And if having been promised the measure not introduced last year, how much further were they advanced now? Was a promise of more force now than then? In reply to the charge that nothing had been done for agriculture, the honorable Secretary stated there was an Act for the encouragement of agriculture. Much thanks to him for that; but it was not such a measure as the country required. (Mr Hannington—You know nothing about it.) He had before had a grip, if he may use the expression, with the hon. member on this subject; he would for the present keep back what he had to say on it to another time. The hon. Secretary had attempted to turn their attention from the acts of the Government to certain acts of his (Mr R.'s). If his acts were red as scarlet would that make theirs as white as snow? He was responsible to his own conscience, and to his constituents. They were responsible to the house and the country. He had been put on his trial before his constituents and had been acquitted; had received a receipt in full, and again honored with their confidence. The hon. Secretary had also been tried by the same constituency, and having been discharged by them as a faithful servant, he had wandered from place to place, finding at last a resting place for the sole of his foot in the rapids of the Grand falls. There was only one subject relating to him, Mr R., personally, to which he would draw the attention of the house, that there may be no misunderstanding respecting it.

He would now come back to matters bearing more on the question before the house. It was complimentary to Mr Street that so many members support the government, not through confidence in it, but because they thought he could leave the whole mass, that their only salvation was in his decision. The representative of York (Mr Taylor) did not represent the wishes of the people. He obtained their confidence by his declaration that the government was unworthy of confidence. He now charged him with this before his constituents, and with having said even more lately that the act of putting John A. Street as Attorney General, was of itself sufficient to down the government. Sufficient had been said of him, and leaving it to his constituents to deal with him, he would say a few words on the assertions made by the hon member for Northumberland, (Mr Rankin.) He, Mr R., thought it would be more becoming a minister of the Crown, a member of the Executive, to defend the acts of the Government, and to explain how he could have remained in office with men against whom he had made such charges as he did, than to endeavor by a written and deliberate speech, to arouse personalities and acrimonious feelings between him, (Mr R.) and the honorable Attorney General. Did his own heart justify the hon. member, in charging the opposition with want of patriotism and desire of office? Did he know when he had made this charge that two of these gentlemen, if they had chosen to sacrifice their principles and betray their constituents, could have attained the honors and emoluments of office? If he did, then did he deliberately insult two honorable members in the most sensitive point. He was pleased to hear the way in which the member for Charlotte—he meant the new member—the gentleman from the isthmus, a man of honor and integrity, had spoken of the Government; not one word of confidence in them. He opposed the government solely on the grounds that the Attorney General was not present, a reason not complimentary to the other members of the Government.

* * * He would notice the remarks made by the hon. member for Northumberland (Mr Williston), although they were scarcely worth replying to. The hon.

member stood in a peculiar position before the house; he was the child of accident. He (Mr R.) was sometimes obliged to attack the public conduct of hon. members, but he endeavored to do so in courteous language. The hon. member was but a new member, and he should understand that it was not permitted to make this house a bear garden. The hon. member in alluding to him, had described him as ready to tear the buttons off hon. members' coats. If he had no more respect for hon. members than to make use of such language, he should have more respect for their respective constituencies. The hon. member had spoken in favor of the Government during this debate, but in his address to his constituents at the last election he had attacked the Government, saying they should do more than recommend measures in the speech—they should carry out what they recommended. A few years since the hon. member and the present Attorney General were mortal enemies; but a change had come over the spirit of his dream; he had been going—going—and was now gone; they were now cheek by jowl—hand and glove together, cooing like two turtle doves! The hon. member said he did not want an office, and then his conscience checked him, and he added not that he knew of at present! (much laughter.)

The honorable member from Westmoreland (Mr Hannington) had stated that they could not make farmers by legislative enactment; but surely they could assist agriculture by enactment. It was done in other countries, and should be done here. The hon. member boasted of having cleared a farm, but he had one of the government teats to suck, and his situation was not analogous to the situation of new settlers generally.

He should make no further remarks, but he would warn honorable members that if this resolution should be negatived now, the time was fast approaching when it would pass. The government was bound to go down before the voice of the people, and he would warn hon. members how they supported it now, lest when the end came they would find themselves buried in the crash of that fall.

From correspondence to the Saint John News Room.

FREDERICTON, Feb. 22, 1851.
A Bill to establish Municipal Corporations in this Province, has been prepared by the Executive and printed. The Bill for an Elective Legislative Council, and the Bill in aid of the European and North American Railway are in progress.

February 21.
The house went into Committee of Supply.—Twenty pounds was voted to the chaplain of the Legislative Council, and the same sum to the chaplain of the Assembly. On the question of paying the Sergeant-at-Arms, fifteen shillings per day was proposed. Mr Tilley thought ten shillings was enough.—The Speaker was in favor of the lower sum. Mr Hannington was sorry the bill to settle the amount of members' pay had not first been decided; the office of Sergeant-at-Arms required no great information, nor any hard work, and thought ten shillings per day quite enough. Mr Needham said, the question is, how much is the Sergeant-at-Arms worth? sitting on a chair all day; he thought seven shillings and sixpence per day was sufficient pay. Messrs. Johnson, Botsford and Steves spoke in support of the smaller sum. Messrs. Cutler and Barbarie were against any reduction. There were a dozen motions, and as many divisions, but no decision arrived at. In favor of ten shillings per day were the Speaker, Gilbert, Steves, Needham, Hatheway, Ryan, Purday, Chapman, Pickard, Hannington, Tilley, Ritchie, Botsford, Johnson, McPhelim and McLeod. Against—Porter, Robinson, Thomson, Montgomery, Taylor, Rankin, Partelow, Barberie, Rice, Williston, Scoullar, Crane, Gordon, Read, Cutler, Stiles, Earle and Wilmot—after other divisions progress was reported. The house was then put in Committee on a Bill to regulate the pay of the Speaker and members.

The Speaker agreed to have his pay fixed at £100.

Messrs. Tilley, Steves, Hannington, Ritchie, Needham and Botsford, spoke in favor of ten shillings per day for members' pay. Messrs. Cutler, Gray, Thomson, Johnson, Wilmot, Hatheway and Barbarie, were against any reduction.—Progress was reported.

The Attorney General promised to give an explanation of the views of Government and of their general policy to-morrow.

The House adjourned at half past five o'clock.

February 25.
The hon. Attorney General is now addressing the house, expounding the views of the Government.
He says that he is in favor of Reciprocal Trade, but expressed his conviction that the United States would not grant us this boon until we retaliated, by imposing a corresponding amount on their products, and he would go for that. He would go for retrenchment so far as was consistent with the public services.

He also is in favor of Municipal Corporations, and would grant them to the people as they ask for them, but he would not press them upon the Country.

The hon. Attorney General expressed his conviction that the principles of Responsible Government would never be carried out until the power of originating Money Votes was placed in the hands of the Government.

The exposition of the views of the Government was listened to with marked attention.

The Attorney General has not yet concluded his speech. He is in favor of a School Tax—not coercive, but gradual. He will encourage Railways, &c.

Second Despatch.—Mr Street is done, spoke three hours. Replies to his Speech will be made to-morrow. Mr Ritchie will then move that the house do, at an early day, go into Committee on the Government Despatches.

Tuesday night, 8 o'clock.

Progress was reported on Mr Tilley's Bill to repeal the act now in force regulating the sale of spirituous liquors.

The Attorney General went into an exposition of the principles upon which he had joined the Government, without violating his principles.

He considered the condition of farmers should be improved by an improved system of rural economy, the best means for which he considered sending out persons to teach the people how to live on less with equal comfort, to infuse a desire of supporting domestic manufactures, and to encourage settlers by Bye Roads, &c.

Was in favor of Reciprocity, the only way to obtain which, in case the present negotiations failed, would be to put on equal protective duties.

Was in favor of Retrenchment, consistently with good faith, and was opposed to the reduction of present salaries.

No man could or ought to take office where his principles did not coincide with those contained in Earl Grey's Despatch, and who was not prepared to carry those out.

Was for giving Municipal Corporations to all those counties which desire them.

Was for direct taxation to support schools.

Was for the Initiation of the Money Votes.

Was in favor of Elective Legislative Councils, to which he was last year opposed, because it was introduced too late, and had not time to examine it, and not from opposition to its principle, he now approved of the Despatch on this subject.

Was for promoting the construction of Railways.

Would introduce the Facility Bill for the Portland Road, which he considered much more likely to be built than the Quebec railroad.

Was opposed to the Province taking stock, but would support it by giving as much aid by the issue of scrip as may consist with the other interests of the country.

He hoped so much would not be expected from him as he had so little time to prepare.

He would bring in the following Bills:

1. The Municipal Corporation Bill.
2. School Bill.
3. Elective Legislative Council Bill.
4. Bill appointing commissioners on Law Reform.
5. Bill to amend the act relating to the collection of the Revenue.
6. Railroad Facility Bill.
7. Post Office Bill.

Would bring no bill in on Fisheries, Agriculture or Reduction of Salaries.

Mr Ritchie gave notice that he would, on an early day, move for a committee to take all these matters into consideration, especially the Attorney General's declarations relative to Earl Grey's Despatches.

The members' pay bill has passed, fifteen shillings per day, and mileage fifteen shillings for twenty miles. The Speaker One Hundred Pounds. The following members only voted for ten shillings per day:—Tilley, Needham, Hannington, Ritchie, Gilbert, Steves, Crane, and Botsford.

FREDERICTON, Feb. 11.

To day the Legislative Council passed the following Bills in Committee.

A Bill to divide the Parish of Caraquet in Gloucester.

A Bill to extend the operation of the Fredericton and St John Electric Telegraph Company to Woodstock, and to increase the capital of said company.

European News.

Arrival of the Steamer Europa.

From Willmer and Smith's European Times, February 15.

The Government has had a narrow escape. In showing their sympathy for the alleged sufferings of the agriculturists by the passage in the royal speech, they were literally digging their own official graves. The division was so close as to amount virtually to a defeat. In a house of 548 members, the government had only a majority of fourteen. This is the most significant event which has occurred since the introduction of Free trade, and the moral effect of what they regard as a triumph will not be lost upon the Protectionists. Doubtless there is more in all this than meets the eye. When the division lists are published it will be found that no inconsiderable number of the Irish members, who have always supported the Whigs, turned into the same lobby with Mr Disraeli and his supporters, anxious to trip up a minister who has so deeply offended. This, to be sure, is very like a man cutting off his nose to be revenged on his face but the fact is so, and it is the inevitable result of the change of parties which the movement about the Papal hierarchy has produced. With such a disaster in the second week of the session, the Premier will have some difficulty in keeping the saddle during the three or four months that will ensue before the present Parliament expires.

We are glad to see that the Post-office entertains a proposition which has been thrown out for the conveyance of books and pamphlets by the mails, at a scale of charges which will promote a kind of literary alliance amongst nations, and form another excellent guarantee for the continuance of peace and the diffusion of intellectual refinement. The present machinery of the Post-office is admirably adapted for the purpose, and while the revenue would be greatly extended, the comfort and convenience of the community would at the same time be correspondingly promoted. The men who write books, and those who read them, form the dominant class in every country, and their influence on public opinion cannot be overrated. Bind these thinkers of the world in the bonds of amity—substitute the pen for the sword—and the bloody contests of other times will be exchanged for the peaceful triumphs of our own age.

The proceedings connected with the Cape of Good Hope form almost the only colonial subject of interest which has this session come before the British Parliament. The rival deputations from the colony, now in London, have found mouthpieces in each branch of the Legislature. Lord Wodehouse, in the Lords, presented two petitions, the other evening—one from the bishop of Cape Town and the commissioners of the different parishes of that city, and another from the resident householders relative to the new Representative Constitution. The present state of things, he maintained, to terminate as speedily as possible, on account of the heartburning to which it gave rise in the colony. Ill-will and dissatisfaction towards this country would steadily increase until the question was finally and satisfactorily settled. He asked the Colonial Secretary to lay on the table of the House the correspondence which had passed between Sir Harry Smith and the Colonial-office relative to the new Constitution. The reply to this was that the papers would be produced when an answer had been received from the Governor relative to a communication which was recently made to him. In the lower House Mr Adelerley drew attention to the same subject, and the answer of Mr Hawes was that the whole of the correspondence would be produced at the earliest possible period.

The time is opportune for putting these queries, for Colonial subjects are gradually rising in Parliamentary interest, and the best proof of the fact is the attention bestowed upon the doings of the Colonial-office. There is certainly no department of the Executive more important, nor one which has been so miserably managed as the Colonial-office. Seeing how completely inefficient the machinery in Downing-street is for controlling the vast dependencies attached to the British Crown in every part of the world, the feeling in favor of the Colonies governing themselves and being as little interfered with as possible by Lord Grey or any other Colonial Minister is daily gaining strength, and taking deep root in the national mind. An infant colony requires some help and protection, and it is wise and just to extend it so long as it is needed; but the very moment that the colonists are sufficiently numerous and intelligent to make their own laws, as soon as they desire the blessings of representative government and of practical liberty to be exemplified in their persons, it is clearly the interest as well as the duty of the parent state to concede the request with alacrity and grace. Wherever an Englishman goes he carries with him a desire to establish the free and enlightened theory of the British Constitution, subject of course to the altered position in which it must necessarily work in a new country, and this commendable feeling of imitation has worked glorious results in the career of the British race in various parts of the world. The debates which took place last year in Parliament relative to the Australian Constitutions were the means of eliciting very large and liberal views on the great question of Colonial self-government, and these debates will form an excellent starting point for the discussion which may arise out of the new Constitution for the Cape of Good Hope.

The latest accounts from the Cape of Good Hope are to the 5th of December, at which time the Governor had started for the frontier with four companies of the 73rd regiment, and a detachment of artillery, to put down the insurrection among the Kafirs, arising out of the chief Sandilli having been deposed. The next accounts will be looked for with some anxiety, to ascertain the result of this mission.

The debate on Lord John Russell's bill relative to the new hierarchy came to an untimely end on Wednesday evening, and according to the forms of the House, now stands in the position of a dropped order. This result was mainly produced by the loquacity of one or two Irish members who talked against time to annoy the Minister and thwart his measure. Out of doors the feeling against the bill increases, and all parties seem dissatisfied with it. Those who have protested in the loudest key against the aggression maintain that the Government scheme is quite inadequate to meet the case, and those who are inimicable to all interference with civil and religious freedom, as steadily declare that the new measure is the first step in the path of retrogression. Lord John Russell finds himself cramped by his celebrated letter to the Bishop of Durham. The tone which he assumed in that document is feebly reflected in the bill which he proposes to introduce, and the difference between writing a smart letter