formation had been furnished. A Committee was then appointed to take the Address to His Excellency.

Mr. Gilbert presented a Petition from P. Daring, praying land to the value of a cleared piece, which had been taken from him, by an alteration of the road. Ordered to go to a select Committe to report thereon.

The House then went into a Committee of the whole on the reinstatement of the Hon. Thomas Baillie, it being the order of the day, some conversation transpired as to the propriety of going into the subject so early, it being alledged that several of the Members had not had an opportunity of making up their minds on so important a subject. It was therefore deemed premature, and progress was accordingly.

Mr. Barberie brought forward the question of Post Office charges on Newspapers, Journals, &c., and read the instructions to the Deputy Post Master General. Mr. B. then said that if that was to be the state of things, if he had the power to give such instructions, and make such charges, it was time Her Majesty's Government was consulted on the subject. Mr. Phair the Postmaster of Fredericton, (he said,) was not to blame, he was only acting up to his instructions. He would therefore, move that a Committee be appointed to address His Excellency on the subject, and that an address be drawn up to lay at the foot of the Throne, praying a remedy. The Committee was then appointed and composed of Messrs. Barbarie, Hill, and Fisher.

The House then went into a Committee of the whole, on a Bill, to abolish imprisonment for debts under £5. (Mr. Connell in the Chair.)

Mr. Brown explained that the Bill had undergone a revision, and alteration to meet the objections offered by Messrs. Partelow and Barberie, when it was before the Committee previously: a good deal of opposition being offered to the Bill it was proposed to be postponed for three months, on which the House divided and the postponement was negatived. The Committee then proceeded with the Bill, and it was passed as amended.

FRIDAY, February 17.

Mr. Rankin presented a Petition from Northumberland, praying Provincial aid for the support of a Grammar School.—Ordered to lie upon the table.

Mr. Partelow presented a Petition from Thomas McGachey, praying to be reimbursed for money spent in apprehending deserters. Ordered to lie upon the table. Also, a Petition from Messrs. John Kerr & Co., praying a return of duties paid upon Tobacco which was burnt in the fire at St. John. The petition was sent to the Committee of Trade.

Mr. Freeze, in the absence of other business before the House, would name the difficulties attendant in the present system of disposing of Crown Lands. He stated that when lands have been taken up by a number of persons associated, they have obtained their allotments by paying 9s 9d. per annum each. Other parties who did not wish to take lands in the blocks laid out for the associations, could not get lands—they had petitioned, but the prayer of their petitions were not complied with, these folks were shut out from obtaining lands, as they could not get them in the situations they wished. There was a general complaint respecting it throughout the Province. The hon. gentleman offered a Resolution to the effect, that an humble address be presented to His Excellency, praying that no further surveys of lands be made until a detailed account of what had been done during the past year.

Mr. Fisher said there had been a regular loafing system practiced on the civil list, and that every year it went worse and worse.

Col. Allen said that persons had applied for lands and were ready to pay their money for them, but could not obtain them; he thought if the Land office was to be partially shut up, why it might as well be shut up altogether.

Mr. Hazen hoped the Resolution might not go to effect the settlement of the Mechanics'

Mr. Payne said the land was shut up from settlers, as described by the hon. Member from King's. Too much encouragement could not be given to settlers, roads should be made for their accommodation.

Mr. Partelow would go for the stopping of the surveys, until the House was satisfied as to the extent surveys had already been made.

Mr. Wilmot would remind the House that in 1842 they authorized his Excellency to have lands surveyed, and that he had not gone one quarter so far as he might have gone under that order. The House on that occasion was unanimous, he would advise hon. members to pause until they were better informed on the subject.

Mr. Freeze condemned the present mode of proceeding with surveys, he knew land that had been once surveyed, and there were the blazes plainly to be seen, and now they were surveyed again, there was no two ways about it, nor was two surveys of the land necessary. The Resolution was then carried, and the Committee appointed to carry the address to his Excellency was Messrs Freeze, Smith and End.

Mr. Brown presented a Petition from the County of Charlotte, praying that a tax be put upon wilderness lands or that parties owing large tracts of wilderness lands, should be compelled to sell them, in order that they or the parties in charge might assist in making roads through their properties.—Ordered to lie on the table. A bill to provide for the Speaker's and Members' pay was then read a third time, where upon Mr. Payne is ordered to carry the same to the Council for their concurrence.

Mr. Wilmot presented a Petition from Mr. Williston, praying that the time for going into a scrutiny of the votes polled for Messrs. Street and Williston, at the late election, might be postponed to a further day, for reasons therein contained. Ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Connell by leave presented a Petition from Carleton County, praying an alteration in the Election laws.

Mr. Wilmot moved that the business relative to the scrutiny between Messrs. Street and Williston, be postponed until a future day. Mr. Williston and Mr. End stating as reasons, that they had not been able to obtain the necessary certificates; that no person had been deputed to act in the absence of the Register, and in the event of his examining the Registry, he would have to make a second application and be subject to pay the fees thereon.

Mr. Barbarie explained that if they were not prepared, they might have been, the delay was their own faults. The Committee, however, he said could be struck, and if they thought it necessary to give time, they could do so.

Mr. Partelow said he could see no good why the Committee should not be struck; he could not help thinking that it looked very like a design to put off the time.

Mr. Scoullar coincided with Mr. Partelow.

Mr. Botsford said the Petitioning Candidate had his list filed, that was a very important matter, and gave a decided advantage to Mr. Williston.

Colonel Allen said it altered the case altogether, and that time he thought, could not then be given.

The House went into a Committee of the whole, (Mr. Hannington in the Chair,) on a message from His Excellency, containing Despatches relative to public departments, &c., which was read at the Clerk's table. First a Despatch relative to the *Vacating* of *seats* in certain cases.

Mr. Speaker gave as his opinion that Members accepting office should make the same known, and if they did not do so let them pay a fine for every day they neglected to do so. The Speaker of the House he said could issue his writ for an Election in case of the death of a Member.

Hon. C. Simonds thought that a Register of Deeds and Wills should not be a Member of that House, his office was an important one, and he should not be absent from his office.

On motion of Mr. Partelow, the House went into Committee of the whole, on consideration of the several messages from His Excellency, the Lieutenant Governor, as well as the various Documents laid before the House by His Excellency's commands, relative to the *Post Office—Crown Land Office—Indian Reserves—Consul in the United States* to remunerate him for outlay on British Sailors—*Criminal Laws—Casual Revenue* and *Civil List*.

Whereupon the following Resolutions were offered by J. R. Partelow.

1st. *Resolved*—"As the opinion of this Committee, that the Communication from the Deputy Post Master General, with the Documents accompanying it, laid before the House on the 6th of February instant, by command of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, should be referred by the House to the select Committee, appointed yesterday to prepare an Address to Her Majesty on the subject of the Post Office Establishment.

2nd. *Resolved*—"As the opinion of this Committee, that the Accounts from the Crown Land Department for the year ending the 31st Dec 1842, laid before the House by command of His Excellency, on the 6th of February instant; also the Accounts from the Custom House sent down on the 8th of February instant, should be referred by the House to the Committee on Public Accounts."

3rd. *Resolved*—"As the opinion of this Committee, that the extract from the Despatch of the Right Hon. Lord Stanley, dated 11th of August, 1842, relative to the Act passed last Session, for vacating the seats of members, with the papers accompanying the same, laid before the house on the 8th of February instant, by command of his Eexcellency; also the message from his Excellency, dated the 10th of February, and communicated to the house on the 13th of the same month, recommending the same, should be referred by the house to the Select Committee appointed on the 3d instant, to report upon the Election Laws, by Bill or otherwise."

4th. *Resolved*—"As the opinion of this Committee, that the documents laid laid before the house on the 10th of February instant, by command of his Excellency, upon the subject of Post Office charges on Newspapers, Journals of the Legislature, and other printed documents, should be referred by the house to the Select Committee appointed yesterday to prepare an Address to Her Majesty on the subject of the Post Office Establishment."

5th. *Resolved*—"As the opinion of this Committee, that the documents laid before the house on the 10th of February, instant, by command of his Excellency in reference to the state of the Crown Lands in this Province; as also the returns relative to Indian Reserves, laid before the house on the same day, should be referred by the house to the Select Committee appointed on the 3d of February instant to report upon the subject of the illegal occupation of the Crown Lands and Indian Reserves, by Bill or otherwise."

6th. *Resolved*—"As the opinion of the Committee, that the message of his Excellency of the 10th of February instant, and which was communicated to the house on the following day, with the documents accompanying it, relative to certain expenses incurred by her Majesty's Consuls, in relieving distressed Seamen belonging to Vessels owned in this Province, should be referred by the house to a Select Committee, who may report thereon.

7th. *Resolved*—"As the opinion of this Committee that his Excellency's message of the 10th of February instant, and which was communicated to this house on the following day recommending a claim from the owners of the barque Creole, for reimbursement of a sum paid into the Provincial Treasury should be referred by the house to the Committee of Supply."

8th. *Resolved*—"As the opinion of this Committee that the Despatch of the Right Hon. Lord Stanley, of the 30th of August 1842, on the subject of an Amendment in certain Acts, relating to the Criminal Laws, with the documents accompanying it, laid before the house by command of his Excellency, on the 8th of February, also the Message from his Excellency of the 10th inst., and communicated to the House on the following day, recommending such amendment should be referred by the House to a select Committee to report thereon, by Bill or otherwise."

9th. *Resolved*—"As the opinion of this Committee, that the several accounts and documents, relating to the Receipts and Expenditure of the Queen's Casual Revenue, the Crown Land Office, Civil List, Warrants drawn, and all other Accounts and Documents, laid before the House on the 13th of February, by command of His Excellency, should be referred by the House, to a select Committee, to report thereon."

Progress was then reported.

The House then went into a Committee of the whole on a Bill to consolidate the Province Revenue, (Mr. Gilbert in the Chair,) on which progress was reported.

SATURDAY, February 18.

Nothing Reportable occurred this day, nearly the whole House being occupied on Committees. The House adjourned at a quarter past one.

MONDAY, February 20

Mr. Fisher brought before the House, an amendment to the fourth section of the Bill, for Imprisonment for debts under £5, to the effect that it should not go into operation, until the 1st of August 1843.

Mr. Brown presented a Petition from the Justices of the County of Charlotte, praying Legislative aid to assist in paying off the County debt.

Mr. Botsford presented a Petition from —— Wright and others, praying a return of duties, in flour imported from Halifax.—Ordered to go to the Committee of Trade.

Mr. Partelow on the select Committee to report on various public expenditures, has attended to that duty and reports as follows:—No. 1. Crown Land Salaries of office are £1435 which Committee recommends should be reduced. No. 2. The Council and Territorial Revenue expences, which they recommend shall be examined into; also a charge made by Dr. Gesner for surveys, not authorized. No. 3. Postage to which the Committee objected. No. 4. The Civil List recommend to make an inquiry with the salary of Mr. Saunders, also the extravagance of the Executive Council, while distress prevails throughout the Country. This Report was read by Mr. Partelow, and leave asked by him to make a farther report.

Mr. End asked that it might be an early day, as the expences are still going on, when he hoped some strong Resolutions would put a stop to it, the pay of the Council was also yearly increasing.

Messrs. Partelow and Wilmot would go for paying the expences of the Council, if any objection to it existed why not some Member make a Resolution to that effect, no objections had as yet been offered to it.

Mr. Simonds said it was not with his consent that any travelling expences had been paid, but for the information of the House; he would state that it was done away with, and he hoped for ever, it was never with his consent it had been paid.

Mr. End was very glad to hear that, and willing to let by gones be by gones; he now would make no further objections to the guinea a day that had been paid them.

Mr. Simonds said no guinea a day had been paid them.

Mr. Hazen joined in the same opinion.

Mr. Barberie notified the House, that he would furnish papers, &c., relative to the scrutiny between Messrs. Street and Williston.

Mr. Thomson presented a Petition from St. George, praying a reimbursement for money expended in relieving Emigrants, which was referred to a select Committee to report thereon.

Mr. End presented a Petition from the County of Gloucester, praying an extension of Gaol Limits.

TUESDAY, February 21.

The Honorable Mr. Simonds from the Committee of Trade, submitted a report as follows:—

"The Committee, to whom were referred all matters which in any way may affect the Trade of the Province, have had under consideration a proposition for a Duty on the exportation of Timber and other Lumber, in lieu of the present mode of exacting a Stampage Duty from the persons employed in the Forests in making Timber, and supplying Logs, &c., and beg leave to report:

"That, in their opinion, it would be highly advantageous to the Staple Trade of the Province, to substitute a small Duty upon the exportation of Timber and all descriptions of Lumber, in lieu of the present Stampage Duty; and for the purpose of giving effect to those opinions, they beg leave to report a Bill to alter the mode of levying the Duty upon Timber and other Lumber.

CHAS. SIMONDS, *Chairman*.

Ordered, that the report be accepted.

The Bill as reported by the Committee, under the title of—"A Bill to restrain the operation of the Fifth Section of an Act, intituled 'An Act for the support of the Civil Government of this Province, and also to regulate the manner of levying the Duty upon Timber, Masts, Spars, and other descriptions of Lumber," was then handed in at the Clerk's Table and read a first time.

Mr. Scoullar, by leave, presented a Petition from John M. Wilmot. John Peabody, Charles Hazen, John Hazen and Henry T. Partelow, Esquires, together with 81 others, inhabitants of the County of Sunbury, praying that an Act may pass for the modification of the Charter of King's College; which he read. *Ordered*, that, the said petition be received and lie on the Table.

On motion of Mr. End,—resolved that pending negotiation on the subject, this House, considering the distribution of the Journals to be an object of great public importance as conducive to general information, will make provision for the Postage exacted on the same for the present Session.

Correspondents.

Fredericton, Saturday, Feb. 25, 1843.

MR. EDITOR,—Sir;—According to promise I shall proceed to give you such information concerning the Legislative proceedings as will in my opinion be interesting to your readers. Wednesday last was a busy day; very lengthy debates took place on the Lunatic Asylum Bill, the speakers in favour of the measure were Messrs. Fisher, Connell, Allan, Hazen, Payne, Simonds, Jordan, Willis-ton, Rankin and Scoullar; it was opposed by Messrs. Gilbert and Boyd. Progress was reported, and leave asked to sit again. There is no doubt but the grant will be obtained.

The next subject of debate was a petition presented by Mr. Jordan from the Overseers of Simonds, praying for remuneration for supplies furnished by them to the black refugees at Loch Lomond settlement. The prayer of the petition was supported by Messrs. Payne, Hanington, Jordan, Partelow, Allen and Hazen. It was opposed by Messrs. Scoullar, Barberie, Freeze, Gilbert and End. Mr. Gilbert, during the debate said, that the honorable member for St. John (Mr. Partelow) was always partial to *his own colour*, and Mr. End's remarks were very humorous, and produced a fit of cachination; but although it is said we are apt to be generous when we laugh, it did not hold good in this case, and the petition was not received; though if Mr. End's assertion be true "that the *black* grant always gets through as though the D—l kicked it on end," it may slip in yet in the contingencies. Several petitions were then presented, when Mr. Brown offered a resolution to the effect that for the future, the expenses of any current year should be made up before the meeting of the ensuing Legislature by the Executive, and the probable revenue estimated, and that ways and means should be gone into, and the expenditure limited to the means. This was considered by several hon. members as nothing more nor less than a budget, and was opposed by them as being a *side-winder* to give up the initiation of money grants, which they said they were not prepared to yield. Mr. Partelow's reason for this objection was that it would give the Executive the power to say what revenue should be raised, as well as how it should be expended. Mr. Barberie challenged the supporters of the measure to bring it forward, and defied either of them to define what they meant by "responsible government," wishing the House would set a day apart for the discussion of the subject. Col. Allen challenged Mr. Brown with having changed his opinions, which he (Mr. Brown) denied. Mr. End spoke at length, and was very sarcastic in his remarks. Mr. Wilmot retorted, saying that he was then under the necessity of leaving the House, but would on a future occasion give his opinion on responsible government, and define them for the benefit of those who professed not to understand them. The question was disposed of by Monday next being set apart to consider the state of the Province, when we may expect a treat, as Mr. Wilmot will probably divest the subject of the darkness which now envelopes it by giving us his *valuable* opinions! Yet, notwithstanding the learned gentleman's bragadocia, I opine that the responsible humbug will receive its death blow on Monday; if indeed the advocates of the measure will "bide the brunt" which I very much doubt, as most of them are already on the fence.

On Thursday the Committee commenced their sittings on the scrutiny between Messrs. Street and Williston, of Northumberland, and no business of consequence was done.

Friday—Committee was appointed to hold the scrutiny between Messrs. Burns and Street, on the St. John election; but I understand very little progress has been made as yet.

Saturday—To-day the House has been chiefly occupied in receiving bills and petitions, it being the last day appointed for their reception; among the rest a Bill was presented by Mr. Wilmot for the alteration of the Charter of King's College, which called forth considerable debate; the House was generally in favour of it, however, and it was received and referred to a special committee. I remarked during the debate, that one of your St. John members (Mr. Payne) exposed his folly—as he too often does—by stating that the College was partially supported by the home government; a misstatement which produced a "horse laugh" from all parts of the house. Apropos of your six members, the *Honorable* has but little to say, and is evidently crest-fallen, while Mr. Partelow struts about as though he was "cock of the roost." Mr. Hazen appears quite at home, and will, ere the session closes, be a credit to the City; he is firm, sensible, and consistent; three excellent qualities. Mr. Burns has but little to say; perhaps he is waiting to ascertain whether or not he has the *right*. But as I looked down upon the honorable members, saw their movements, and heard their speeches, I could not but feel that St. John—the commercial emporium of the Province—had disgraced itself by returning *two* members whose talents are evidently far below mediocrity.

The appearance of the House of Assembly is not such as to strike the beholder with awe or veneration: the first object which struck me was a portrait of a gentleman over the speaker's chair, whom, on enquiry, I found to be Lord Glenelg; but which is a striking likeness of our countryman, Hugh Johnson, Esq. There are a few noble heads among the representatives, among which I noticed Mr. Botsford's and His Honor the Speaker's, but the greater number look like plain country farmers, while an honourable member for Westmorland, to whom is given the soubriquet of "The Bengal Tiger," (and very unjustly too I think, as he is too quiet) may be seen with his arms folded, his lips apart, and his fireless eyes fixed on vacancy; and the Demosthenes of the Province (a member for Charlotte) with an old blue coat, with brass buttons on him, which I am assured he has worn ever since he was a member, having carefully preserved it for that purpose, and which from its antiquated shape might have been made in the days of King Arthur.

I shall write you again on Monday evening; in the mean time I remain yours, &c. CURIOSSO.

Fredericton, Monday evening, Feb. 27, 1843.

MR. EDITOR,—The House to day did not commence business until after 12 o'clock; the order for the day was taken up Mr. Jordan in the chair; and Mr. Brown re-read his resolution on the initiation system; he spoke at some length in support of his position, alleging that it was necessary the House should impose a check upon themselves, &c., he saw he said that the House was disposed to reject the whole of the Governor's measures, and contended his resolution was in no degree connected with the same, and that he also was disposed to oppose said measures. He was followed by Mr. Partelow, who did not like the resolution at present because he wished the Initiation of money grants first. He however, offered amendments to the effect that nothing has transpired to induce the House to alter the opinion expressed on the Initiation Bill last year. That the House shall not grant supplies for the future, until they know the probable amount of available funds, and that it is a standing order. Mr. Simonds wished to know who should make appropriations. Mr. End said that was exactly where the shoe pinches; he was tremblingly alive to the effects of the resolution, being jealous of the privileges of the House, he then referred to the late acts of the Executive, which he pronounced arbitrary, alleging that it was the design of the Executive to deprive the Province of its representation, and read in proof of his assertion the Governor's circular to the Magistrates; he also contended that if the initiation was in the hands of the Executive, the finance of the country would be in no better state than it was at present, for the Executive last year, estimated the revenue of 1842, at £100.000, and it amounted only to £55,000; and if the House by the recommendation of the Executive had appropriated the amount estimated, they would have incurred a debt during the past year of £45,000! Mr. Wilmot spoke in favour of the resolution, and against the old system; he alluded to the fashion of scratching, and related the following anecdote to illustrate his views:—It appears that Mr. Gilbert wishing to obtain a favourite grant, requested Mr. Wilmot to support it, which after some hesitation he promised to do; he then bethought himself of a favourite grant and requested *Mr. Gilbert's* support, which he was promised. But when the Bill for his (Wilmot's) favourite, came before the House, Mr. Gilbert not being aware it was the Bill he was pledged to support, opposed it with might and main on the ground of *economy*; he (Wilmot) was on the alert to speak to him, which, however, he was unable to do until he sat down, when he went up to him and told him it was his favourite measure; Mr. Gilber thereupon was very sorry, but all his patriotism and honest economy evanished in a moment, and he voted for the grant he had so violently contended against! In his speech the hon. member took great credit to himself for his economical conduct last year, but never once alluded to his former extravagance; but what will be more surprising than that to your readers, this Champion of the Governor's measures, and advocate of 'responsibility,' has publicly protested this day against the least objectionable of those measures, viz:—The Initiation of Money Grants; and declared that he would oppose such an innovation on the privileges of the House.

Mr. Weldon was the next speaker, and in the course of his remarks took occasion to charge the Executive with arbitrary conduct, and mentioned the withdrawal of licences from teachers of schools, as one instance, and publishing Lord Stanley's despatches by piece-meal as another. Mr. Simonds took him to task about it, saying that the Speaker of that House should not use such language. Mr. Weldon excused himself, by saying that he spoke not of her Majesty's Representative, but of the proceedings of the Government as a body; and retorted on Mr. Simonds by reminding him of his language some years ago in reference to the Hon. Thos. Baillie. He concluded his remarks by declaring his intention of guarding the people's privileges, and *No Surrender*! Messrs. Wark, Gilbert, and Barberie, spoke against the resolution, and Messrs. Boyd, Hill and Fisher in favour; the three last-named gentlemen were all who spoke in favour of the Initiation Bill. Progress was reported, and leave asked to sit again but the resolution will be swamped by an overwhelming majority. I have no time to comment at present, but should any thing occur of importance, to-morrow, I will write you again in time for your paper on Thursday.

Yours, &c,
CURIOSSO.

THE LOYALIST.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., MARCH 2, 1843.

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

It will be seen by the reported debates, and our correspondent's letters, that the House of Assembly has taken the business of first importance to the Province; we mean its *Finance*. So completely are the "Responsibles" crest-fallen, that in a House of 34 members, only 4—Simonds, Fisher, Hill, and Boyd—are bold enough to advocate the *Initiation of Money Grants!* a measure which *we* as well as many other *true Conservatives*, have advocated. However, we are not so wedded to any item of *detail*, as to wish to force it on the people *nolens-volens*, but of that we will speak anon; meantime let us consider why the Bill has not been introduced and carried, and the arguments which have been, or might be, adduced, pro and con. It has been argued in favour of the measure, that the House of Assembly needs a check, to prevent them from allowing the appropriations to exceed the Revenue, and also that a debt is already incurred and that it can only be met by a loan, and that such a loan cannot be obtained without yielding up the initiation of money grants. These arguments have been met by the plea that the present affairs of the Province are the result of circumstances over which the House had little or no control, and that no human foresight could have foreseen: also that if the initiation was in the hands of the Executive, that branch of the Colonial Government would be liable to the same errors; in support of this they mention the last year's revenue which fell £45,000 short of the Executive's estimation; it is also argued that the House is fully competent to place a check upon themselves, and will do so, limiting the expenditure to the income; and that if Lord Stanley will not guarantee a loan upon those conditions, they will endeavour to meet the present debt by retrenchment. The opponents of the measure also argue that if the initiation of the items of expenditure be placed in the hands of the Executive, they might withhold all grants for Bye Roads, schools and education, and these things would have to be supported by local taxation.

We must confess there is some weight in these arguments against the measure, but the most prominent could have been met by a proviso that the Executive should transmit to the Lower House the probable amount of revenue, and the limited amount to be expended, and leave the details to the House of Asssembly. But we have advocated the Initiation Bill for another reason?—it would relieve the House of the pressure from without; at present, each member is overwhelmed with petitions for grants founded on various claims; and as these petitions come from his constituents, he is obliged to support them; but if the Initiation, as far as the total amount is concerned, was vested in the Executive, that sum—deducting the civil list, &c. —could be divided among the different Counties, according to their population, and honorable members could tell at a glance what sum could be appropriated for bye-roads, how much for schools, &c. &c. and would be prevented from appro-