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ALMS HOUSE AND WORK HOUSE.—Commissioner, till Thursday next, THOMAS MURRAY.

Provincial Legislature.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

FRIDAY, MARCH 27.

The House resolved itself into a Committee for the consideration of the Report of the Commissioners to whom were referred the investigation of the Crown Land Office.—Mr. Fisher in the chair.

Hon. SPEAKER said much might be stated on the subject of this enquiry; but it was not his intention to occupy much of the time of the Committee. It appeared from the Report which had been read, that the affairs of the office had been conducted in a most unbusiness-like manner. This had been acknowledged by Mr. Baillie, who had expressed his surprise at a former deficiency, and with which he said he was first made acquainted by the proceedings of the Legislature; that statement proved that he was unacquainted with the duties of his office; the details of which he had for some time pertinaciously refused to submit to the Assembly. The late Commissioner for Crown Lands had been exceedingly to blame, and therefore he came with an ill grace before the House, for that relief which was prayed for in the petition which had that day been read. It appeared he said, from the Report of the Commissioners that there is a balance of £3200 due by Mr. Baillie to the Province, and an opinion is expressed that a larger sum is deficient; the amount of which cannot be correctly ascertained, owing to the absence of papers which ought to be in the office. The probability therefore is that there is a great deficiency than appears by the Report. The continuance of Mr. McLaughlin after he had become notoriously unfit for the office also formed a subject worthy of remark, and which must have been known to the Commissioner of Crown Lands himself. How he could have been kept in employ it was difficult to conceive; and the principal of the office was deserving of severe censure on that account. The hon. Speaker said the Committee have it from Mr. Baillie himself, that he was totally unacquainted with the affairs of his office, and he prays relief during the period when his Deputy was in charge, and when he himself was not in the country.—But upon his return why did he not examine and ascertain if the proceedings during his absence had been correct; by neglecting to do so he had assumed the responsibility of all that had been done, and must be held accountable to the Province for the last farthing; and it would be absurd to relieve him from the least shadow of claim. He should however refrain from making further observations upon that head. It had been said by some persons that Mr. Baillie had been persecuted; but on the contrary there never was an officer who experienced more indulgence, and if he should merely be called upon to pay he would escape well. He the Speaker should like to know what relief that gentleman claims.—If he expects a quietus; that the country was not prepared to give. There was a general apprehension that he is to have a retired allowance; but the country would never agree to that, till he had made satisfaction for what must appear to be a malversation of office. The hon. Speaker said he did not wish to say any thing unnecessarily severe; but he did not see how Mr. Baillie was to avoid paying the amount which the Report states to be deficient, while other officers had been held accountable for small sums which might be due. He was not disposed to go to extremities, but he would require that the deficiency be paid over forthwith, and have an end of a difficulty that occupied at least ten days of every session. Mr. Baillie had held on to irresponsible power, till the last moment, and now applies to be relieved from its effects. The whole transaction was now before the country, whose eyes are fixed upon the proceedings of that House; and he trusted they would act with decision.

Hon. Mr. JOHNSTON would agree with His Honor the Speaker, that Mr. Baillie should be called upon forthwith to pay over the balance due to the Province; but to call upon him was one thing and to obtain the amount was another.

He would agree that Mr. Baillie had been inattentive, and that he placed too much reliance upon persons in his office, and by which much loss had occurred to the Province; and he could not subscribe to the opinion that he was not answerable for the conduct of his Deputies; as whenever he required leave of absence, he should have been careful to select a suitable person to discharge his duties, and one by whom the interests of the Province would be protected. He therefore considered him as accountable for any deficiency that might arise in that way.—But a question arose as to the expediency of commencing a prosecution under present circumstances; hon. gentlemen were acquainted with the situation of Mr. Baillie; and he thought any coercive measures that might be adopted, would only be attended with expence and difficulty.—It was true there was a document before the Committee, by which it appeared that upwards of £3000 is due from the late Commissioner of Crown Lands; but that fact must be made apparent to the satisfaction of a Jury. The report alluded to, went to show that the Deputies had not accounted for large sums which they had received, but it did not state that such sums had come into the hands of Mr. Baillie; and he thought there was a lapse there. With these views the hon. gentleman said a question naturally arose whether a feeling would not be created in his favour, and it became doubtful whether a verdict against him could be obtained in the country. Taking every thing into consideration, the Committee should pause before they institute proceedings, and thus incur an expence, by which they would be throwing good money after bad. He would not then press any motion or make any suggestion; and should like to hear from other members on the subject.

Hon. Mr. WELDON said the Committee were called upon to decide as to what course should be pursued with reference to the Report of the Commissioners; the result of whose enquiries had been to substantiate that of which the Legislature were formerly fearful; and shows a large balance still due by the late Commissioner of Crown Lands, besides a former sum which he stated he had already contributed from his private funds to make up a previous deficiency. This showed how desirable it was that an act should pass, and if an erroneous opinion prevailed, the public mind might be disabused with reference to that officer. It appeared from the Report that notwithstanding the large sum which had been paid over in '37, there was still a large sum due, which had been received in the office, partly during the absence of Mr. Baillie from the Province; and it was much to be regretted, that when called upon formerly for the accounts of his office, he had not responded to that call and rendered them; as had they been examined, many errors would have been detected or remedied, and the Commissioner of Crown Lands would have been relieved from the unpleasant situation in which he is now placed. It became necessary however to decide what should be done with reference to the large balance now due. The pecuniary circumstances of Mr. Baillie as had been observed, were well known to the Committee; they might set the Attorney General in motion, and a judgement might be obtained, but he Mr. W. was fearful that property would not be found to meet it. Would it therefore be beneficial to prosecute Mr. Baillie; he thought not; but the Report coming in at a late period of the Session, and being taken up, when there was barely a quorum of the House, he for one was not disposed to take the responsibility of passing an act granting a quietus, nor to address the Lieut. Governor for the purpose of instituting proceedings for the recovery of the sum now due. It appeared to him therefore that the question had better stand over, and probably something would turn up to induce the House not to proceed, in consideration of Mr. Baillie relinquishing all claim to remuneration for past services; although they could not in so thin a House as the present, relieve Mr. Baillie. In the meantime information might be obtained upon the subject, as it appeared by the Report that part of the balance due, is for deficiencies that occurred while he was in England, and which might in the mean time be recovered; but so far as the public were concerned, the House could not investigate accounts between the late Commissioner and his confidential clerk; whom he nominated to act as his Deputy during his absence, as they could only look to the principal who must be held accountable for his acts. While however Mr. Baillie makes this charge, the other says he is willing that his accounts should be examined. It became an affair therefore between these individuals, which must be examined in a court of law or equity. With reference to the balance therefore, it appeared to him it must stand over for reasons already stated, as it could not be relinquished at present.

Hon. SPEAKER was surprised to hear the honorable member for Kent say he would do nothing, and wished to avoid incurring any responsibility; they had incurred ten-fold in that way, when they passed the Bill for granting a large tract of land to the Colonial Association.—If any thing is to be done, it was as clear as the sun at noon day, that it must be done at once. There is evidently a deficiency, and members should be in their places, and should take care that the late Commissioner should be called upon to pay over whatever sum may be due. What had been the case with the Deputy Treasurer at St. Andrews, who had gone off a defaulter to the amount of £2000? The Attorney General in that case had been called upon to prosecute forthwith, and had received enough to make good the amount. Steps ought therefore to be taken promptly in the present instance; there would be no want of means. Probably the creditors of Mr. Baillie might suffer, but they trusted him with their eyes open and it was their own misfortune. Some hon. gentlemen were disposed to relinquish the claim of the Province; but he did not know upon what principle. It certainly could not be that the services of Mr. Baillie entitled him to consideration; as it appears by the Report he had been an actual injury to the Province, as there had been all sorts of malpractices in his office, and when they were made known to him, it had no effect. He should like to know how he could come to the House, and ask for remuneration for past services. He the Speaker would ask if he had not received a competent salary.—In the opinion of the country, it had been considered far too much; and an application of that kind came with a bad grace, when in addition to that the duties had been badly performed. Mr. Baillie had exercised no vigilance whatever; but had left every thing to clerks and others; then how could he expect the present deficiency would be given up. The hon. Speaker repeated there is sufficient property; and if the were not, the sureties are liable, and the

should be called upon. It would be monstrous to suppose that the late Commissioner of Crown Lands should be relieved from a deficiency, which had been ascertained after a laborious investigation that cost the Province £700, and then those who conducted it were poorly paid. He should not enlarge upon the subject; but the idea that the amount due should be given up, could not be entertained for a moment. If the claim of the Province were relinquished ultimately, it should be released from the payment of any retired allowance. He trusted the proposition would not be entertained for a moment; in short he would not allow the sum to be given up, but would at once direct that proceedings should be instituted; and further he would set his face against any allowance as a pensioner; and he was satisfied the country would be of the same opinion.

Mr. GILBERT should not have troubled the Committee, if the hon. and learned member for Kent had not expressed himself averse to incurring any expence, and as he thought nothing was to be had from Mr. Baillie, would make him a free grant of the deficiency. That was most extraordinary language, when coming from a legal gentleman. He would ask if an extent could not issue? If an unfortunate Commissioner of the Roads was deficient to the amount of £10, the Attorney General would be directed to proceed forthwith; and why should not a similar course be pursued in the present instance; he had heard that laws were made like spiders' webs, for the purpose of catching ordinary sized flies; but which a larger kind could break through and escape; and in this case he thought one of the first magnitude was to go clear. Such a course would have a bad effect, with reference to public officers, who would no longer have the prospect of punishment held over them in terror. He would not agree to relinquishing the claim of the Province in the present instance, as it would have a tendency to encourage other persons to waste the public funds in the expectation that they would be absolved by the Legislature.

Hon. SPEAKER said he rose for the purpose of asking information. He heard a legal gentleman say no proceedings could be had on the Report. If that were the case the Province had paid dearly for the information which had been obtained. He should suppose that such a document could be proceeded upon. Of course an address must go to His Excellency.

Mr. L. A. WILMOT said the court would not hear an ex parte statement, and which were not made under oath; as it would be breaking down the liberties of the subject. The case must be proved and made out to the satisfaction of a Jury; and with reference to the report, he said he knew that a stand would be made. It was a maxim of law that the intention of the party, must be taken into consideration; and Mr. Baillie himself must be exonerated from any thing like an attempt at embezzlement.—His case therefore differed from that of Mr. Campbell, to whom allusion had been made by His Honor the Speaker. The Committee should pause; and if the investigation is gone into, which Mr. Baillie asks for, he Mr. W. was sure the country would be satisfied that more had been disbursed by Mr. Baillie than was received. The Committee had been told that the House could not interfere with the private affairs of that gentleman; but the learned gentleman said he doubted if what was stated in the Report could be proved, as the rules of evidence must be come up to; and it would be difficult for the Attorney General to establish by legal evidence the deficiency that had been declared. There could be no doubt but the sum was due; but by whom? It could not be traced into the hands of the late Commissioner of Crown Lands. Let the same course be pursued as was adopted with reference to the Savings Banks, where the trustees had not been held liable for defalcations on the part of the cashier. Persons had been induced to vest their money in those institutions; and at length a large deficiency took place. His Honor the Speaker then maintained a different principle from that which he now advanced. This was not a new case; in that of the Receiver General the House became satisfied that a verdict could not be obtained, and proceedings were set aside. These things must be attributed to the manner in which the government of the country was formerly conducted. Was Mr. Baillie to be blamed for that; and to be held accountable for the conduct of those over whom he had no controul. This being the case, and when the Committee find an individual involved in absolute ruin, they ought not to require the pound of flesh; particularly when the revenues of the Province are ample, and it is taken into account that these difficulties can never occur again, as sufficient guards are now placed and adequate responsibility has been introduced every where. The House should therefore act mercifully and leniently, and not make Mr. Baillie's case an exception to that rule which had been applied to others.—Besides, he said, the course of the Attorney General was not so plain as had been imagined, as a verdict would interpose between the money and an address from the House; and it must be proved that it had been received before payment could be awarded. The other day when a former application from Mr. Baillie was before the House, the learned gent. said he would have given the commission increased powers, as both parties were desirous of investigation; but this the House refused, and gave that gentleman no chance of escaping from his difficulties. If he Mr. W. were to allow his mind to be influenced by former occurrences, he would cry out for vengeance too; but he would not sacrifice a man for measures, or because of the pernicious working of a system of which he was not the founder. The learned gentleman said he should not occupy any longer the time of the Committee. They should feel thankful that regulations had been established, which would insure correctness hereafter; and not make one person accountable for the conduct of individuals scattered all over the Province; because they all must be involved should the Attorney General be instructed to proceed. On the contrary, they should act as the House had done in other cases to which he had alluded; and as he had before said, they should not sacrifice an individual because of a system over which he had no controul.

Hon. SPEAKER said he should not have made any further remark, if it had not been insinuated that he had acted differently with reference to different individuals; and had imputed motives which his conduct did not warrant. It appeared to him that the learned member for York had fancied he was addressing a jury, and had made most extraordinary assertions. That gentlemen had formerly taken a patriotic course, and it would appear that he is now repenting, and is desirous of retracing his steps. The learned gentleman had referred to what took place relative to the Savings Banks, and contended that because the deficiency had been made up as respected those institutions, that therefore the amount due by the Commissioner of Crown Lands should be remitted. But it should be recollected that in the former case, the poorest class of individuals were affected, and they had no claims upon the Managers of the Banks; which was not the case in the present instance. He had also dwelt a good deal upon the circumstance of Mr. Baillie now court investigation; but he the Speaker would ask who first denied it, and opposed the act for that purpose which passed the Legislature; but now that the Commission has gone through with its examination, he wishes it to be pursued for his own private advantage. He wished he had the eloquence of the learned gentleman, to depict in proper colours the conduct of that officer. Offence had been taken at the allusion he had made to Mr. Campbell, because he had absconded; but his sureties must make up the deficiency; had it been caused by misfortune, they would have been equally liable. If there is no way of recovering the sum due by Mr. Baillie, and the committee were told it might be found impracticable, that might be a reason why the House should not pursue any further measures; but he would be sorry if the Committee were to sanction any step which would sweep all away into oblivion, they could not do that, and exonerate Mr. Baillie from all blame. The learned member for York knew that the office of that gentleman had never been properly conducted; and that being the case, he would ask if it was fair to talk of sacrificing an individual, when they were only making him responsible for the loose and careless manner in which the affairs of his department, involving monies to a large amount had been conducted. His Honor said he would state once for all, that he was not actuated by any feelings against Mr. Baillie, who had been treated with unexampled indulgence, all he wished was that justice should be done to the country; and that could only be done by calling upon him to make good the deficiency in his office. He did not believe Mr. Baillie had taken the money; but a Lord Chancellor of England had been dismissed and fined £30,000 for fees which were improperly taken. He did not wish to persecute that gentleman, but the House had a duty to perform, and must proceed in a straight forward manner; and if he deserved commiseration, let that be shewn hereafter and the claim would doubtless be attended to.

Hon. Mr. JOHNSTON considered the subject as having taken a very wide range, involving in its discussion the Savings Banks and the retired allowance of the Commissioner of Crown Lands. He thought the question to be decided was, whether Mr. Baillie was to be discharged from his responsibility, or whether it should stand over till the next session, owing to the few members at present remaining. Of the result he was satisfied; as legal proceedings would be attended with so much expence and doubt, that it would only be wasting money to prosecute the claims of the Crown. According to the Report, there is about £2,000 due, exclusive of the deficiency which took place during Mr. Baillie's absence in England; but it had not been proved that that sum ever came into his hands; and there would consequently be much difficulty in substantiating that claim. The accounts also had been previously passed, which would be another obstacle in the way of the jury. There is another reason why proceedings should not be taken, which operated upon his mind: various persons are endeavouring to obtain payment of debts due to them by that gentleman; and if that were done his property could not be touched, until the demands of the Crown were settled in one way or the other; and it would therefore place a number of individuals in an awkward situation. The only objection against deciding the question at once, arose as he had before intimated from the thinness of members.

Mr. HILL said he entertained no hostile feelings against Mr. Baillie, and was solely actuated by a sense of public duty; and hon. members would not discharge their duty to their constituents, if they did not make some effort to recover the amount which is due by the late Commissioner of Crown Lands. The Committee had been told that he was not liable for the defalcation which had been discovered; but he had yet to learn, if a principal was to be exonerated because he permitted the business of his office to be transacted by his clerks. They were also told there would be difficulty in proving the demand; but he would ask where the Commission obtained the evidence upon which they decided. The Report itself would not be evidence; but the books in office upon which it was founded, could again be produced. A great deal had been said about persecution which he did not understand. If the Committee were desirous of recovering a debt justly due to the Province, were they to be stigmatized in that way. Mr. Baillie was true was not liable criminally; but a civil action ought to be instituted, and he had prepared a Resolution to that effect.

Mr. BROWN, wished to make a few remarks, the question to be decided was whether the Committee would give up the claim or not. The subject had been discussed at considerable length.—One party considered it wrong to give up the claim, and the other considered it inexpedient to prosecute the individual. It appeared to him however, that a considerable sum is due by Mr. Baillie, which yet may be received.—The sum was too much to be given up. The hon. gentleman said he had no hostility as respects that gentleman, altho' at one time he felt irritated that they should be pestered with him.—It was now ten years since Mr. Clinch struck the first blow with reference to the mismanagement of the Crown Land Office. He would lay aside all feeling and did not wish to think of what had formerly occurred, still he must say Mr. Baillie was not entitled to go clear if the amount that was due could be recovered. As an officer he had an enormous salary, and it was his duty to see that the affairs of his department were properly conducted. It should be recollected by hon. members who referred to the Savings Bank that the services were gratuitously performed; and therefore the Province had not the same claim for any defalcation of a subordinate, as existed against the principal in the present instance. As to throwing good money after bad, he could not say how that was, but the House could not now give up its dues.—He might be disposed to wait till there would be a full house; but he would not adopt that course, until he was satisfied nothing could now be done. If the sum due were reasonable he would go on with proceedings, but if there was

no prospect of recovering the amount, it might be given up at a future period.

Mr. J. M. WILMOT said the Committee had an important duty to perform; the country had called for an investigation of the affairs of the Crown Land Office, and the Legislature had passed an Act for that purpose; and the result was the Report then before the House. They were not to consider individuals; if the Commissioners reported a deficiency, it was their duty to see that justice is done.—That was due to the party himself; as if it should turn out that there is really no deficiency, he would come out with credit to himself and satisfaction to the country; but if there was a deficiency then it could be ascertained. If the Executive were called upon to interfere, it would only take such steps as would be advised. He thought the only course that could be pursued, was to address the Lieut. Governor, and request him to follow up the Report. It was the duty of the House therefore to ascertain the deficiency, and in this way give satisfaction to the country. He must say that His Honor the Speaker had conducted himself with tenderness, and had not manifested a spirit of persecution.

Mr. CONNELL said at one time he did not expect they would have any Report at all. He disavowed any feeling against Mr. Baillie, but did not see how the House could avoid proceeding with the affair.

Mr. BEARDSLEY looked upon the House as the guardian of the public purse. The deficiency that had been reported, formed a debt due the people, and the members of the Committee acting as their agents, had no right to relinquish the amount without their concurrence and consent. They had no discretionary power, and should make all persons holding public situations accountable, in the same manner as is observed between individuals. The question before the Committee seemed to be whether they should give Mr. Baillie a receipt in full, or substantiate the claim of the Province. He said he disclaimed all personal feelings, and for particular reasons was rather favourable to that gentleman; but he was determined to act honestly, and he should not be doing that, if he did not hold the late Commissioner of Crown Lands responsible, and vote for the adoption of such measures as the law directed.

Mr. PARTELOW had listened to both sides, and if the House was full, he would be prepared to act upon the Report; but it would be assuming too much responsibility were he to decide in a thin House of seventeen members, whether immediate or ulterior measures should be adopted. He did not think the crown would suffer by delay, as property could always be found, and its claim could not be affected. Without farther remark he should move a Resolution to that effect.

Hon. SPEAKER could not go with the Resolution just proposed, because the claims of the Crown would be injured by delay; and altho' there were only seventeen members present, yet they were quite competent to perform the business of the country. He was not willing to defer proceeding in the matter, and delay could do no good, and might do harm.

Mr. HILL would not put off what ought to be done during the present year; and felt the Committee was in duty bound to take measures to secure the deficiency which had occurred.—They were called upon to do so. Something might occur next year which might have an injurious effect.

Hon. SPEAKER proposed the following Resolution in amendment:

Resolved, as the opinion of this Committee, That the Report of the Commissioners appointed by Law to investigate the accounts of the late Commissioner of Crown Lands, shews a clear balance due from him to the Crown of the sum of £3,202 19s. 9d. which he ought to be called upon forthwith to pay over to the Receiver General."

Mr. L. A. WILMOT said that would be tantamount to calling upon the Court to pass sentence, upon the mere finding of a Bill of Indictment; and in this way His Honor the Speaker would get rid of the ordinary rules of law.

—It was calling upon Mr. Baillie to pay over the balance found to be owing by the Commission. He Mr. W. thought that gentleman should first have an opportunity of pleading guilty or not guilty. He thought he should be asked if he acknowledged or denied the deficiency.

Hon. SPEAKER said he was surprised to hear the arguments of the learned member for York. The House was every day calling upon persons to pay over amounts which appeared to be deficient. If it could be shown that this deficiency ought not to be paid; then it might lay over till the next session. Mr. Baillie does not deny that it exists, but says it was caused by the improper conduct of his Deputy. The Resolution merely went to express the opinion of the Committee that he should be called upon.

Hon. Mr. WELDON said it was a common occurrence that the Committee of accounts strike a balance, and call upon the officer to pay that balance. He could conceive no more moderate course than the Resolution proposed, and it was preferable to the others, which he presumed would be withdrawn.

The question was then taken upon the Resolution proposed by his Honor the Speaker, and carried in the affirmative.

LIVERPOOL MERCURY.—We have given details as ample as our limits will permit, of the auspicious event which rendered the British isles one scene of rejoicing on Monday last. With the exception of the Bradshaws, Robies, and of some ruffian slanderers belonging to the Tory press, and of the adherents of the Hanoverian Grand Master of the Orangemen, every British subject viewed that event with joy for the present, hope for the future. May that hope be verified in a line of princes, excluding all chance of the terrible woes to England, which would attend the accession of the "bold, bad man" of Hanover. The marriage of Monday last was no profanation of that holy rite for state purposes; no joining of cold hearts and unwilling hands; but a union of hearts as well as hands; a wedding as free and happy as was ever celebrated beneath a village spire. May the royal pair live long and happily; may they see their children's children surround them; may they reign in the hearts of a happy, great and free people; and when death overtakes them at a green old age, may their last moments be soothed with the consciousness that they have with them the prayers and blessings of a united and grateful nation!

—The sum was too much to be given up. The hon. gentleman said he had no hostility as respects that gentleman, altho' at one time he felt irritated that they should be pestered with him.—It was now ten years since Mr. Clinch struck the first blow with reference to the mismanagement of the Crown Land Office. He would lay aside all feeling and did not wish to think of what had formerly occurred, still he must say Mr. Baillie was not entitled to go clear if the amount that was due could be recovered. As an officer he had an enormous salary, and it was his duty to see that the affairs of his department were properly conducted. It should be recollected by hon. members who referred to the Savings Bank that the services were gratuitously performed; and therefore the Province had not the same claim for any defalcation of a subordinate, as existed against the principal in the present instance. As to throwing good money after bad, he could not say how that was, but the House could not now give up its dues.—He might be disposed to wait till there would be a full house; but he would not adopt that course, until he was satisfied nothing could now be done. If the sum due were reasonable he would go on with proceedings, but if there was

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Mr. PARTELOW had listened to both sides, and if the House was full, he would be prepared to act upon the Report; but it would be assuming too much responsibility were he to decide in a thin House of seventeen members, whether immediate or ulterior measures should be adopted. He did not think the crown would suffer by delay, as property could always be found, and its claim could not be affected. Without farther remark he should move a Resolution to that effect.

Hon. SPEAKER could not go with the Resolution just proposed, because the claims of the Crown would be injured by delay; and altho' there were only seventeen members present, yet they were quite competent to perform the business of the country. He was not willing to defer proceeding in the matter, and delay could do no good, and might do harm.

Mr. HILL would not put off what ought to be done during the present year; and felt the Committee was in duty bound to take measures to secure the deficiency which had occurred.—They were called upon to do so. Something might occur next year which might have an injurious effect.

Hon. SPEAKER proposed the following Resolution in amendment:

Resolved, as the opinion of this Committee, That the Report of the Commissioners appointed by Law to investigate the accounts of the late Commissioner of Crown Lands, shews a clear balance due from him to the Crown of the sum of £3,202 19s. 9d. which he ought to be called upon forthwith to pay over to the Receiver General."

Mr. L. A. WILMOT said that would be tantamount to calling upon the Court to pass sentence, upon the mere finding of a Bill of Indictment; and in this way His Honor the Speaker would get rid of the ordinary rules of law.

—It was calling upon Mr. Baillie to pay over the balance found to be owing by the Commission. He Mr. W. thought that gentleman should first have an opportunity of pleading guilty or not guilty. He thought he should be asked if he acknowledged or denied the deficiency.

Hon. SPEAKER said he was surprised to hear the arguments of the learned member for York. The House was every day calling upon persons to pay over amounts which appeared to be deficient. If it could be shown that this deficiency ought not to be paid; then it might lay over till the next session. Mr. Baillie does not deny that it exists, but says it was caused by the improper conduct of his Deputy. The Resolution merely went to express the opinion of the Committee that he should be called upon.

Hon. Mr. WELDON said it was a common occurrence that the Committee of accounts strike a balance, and call upon the officer to pay that balance. He could conceive no more moderate course than the Resolution proposed, and it was preferable to the others, which he presumed would be withdrawn.

The question was then taken upon the Resolution proposed by his Honor the Speaker, and carried in the affirmative.

LIVERPOOL MERCURY.—We have given details as ample as our limits will permit, of the auspicious event which rendered the British isles one scene of rejoicing on Monday last. With the exception of the Bradshaws, Robies, and of some ruffian slanderers belonging to the Tory press, and of the adherents of the Hanoverian Grand Master of the Orangemen, every British subject viewed that event with joy for the present, hope for the future. May that hope be verified in a line of princes, excluding all chance of the terrible woes to England, which would attend the accession of the "bold, bad man" of Hanover. The marriage of Monday last was no profanation of that holy rite for state purposes; no joining of cold hearts and unwilling hands; but a union of hearts as well as hands; a wedding as free and happy as was ever celebrated beneath a village spire. May the royal pair live long and happily; may they see their children's children surround them; may they reign in the hearts of a happy, great and free people; and when death overtakes them at a green old age, may their last moments be soothed with the consciousness that they have with them the prayers and blessings of a united and grateful nation!