...y spirit enlarges the heart beyond the bounds of kindred and of country, with pure benevolence and love to man, and under its heavenly and hallowing influence, the Missionary, and the supporter of Missions exclaim, " *The field is the World.*"

Jehovah, the Lord of Hosts, hath said, " *The knowledge of the Lord shall cover the earth, as the waters cover the seas.*" Means are now in operation to promote that most desirable result, and happy are the persons, whether men or women, rich or poor, who having opportunity to aid in any measure in so good a work, avail themselves of that opportunity: By so doing they become workers together with God, and contributing according to the ability with which they have been entrusted, the least offering will not pass unregarded or unrewarded by Heaven.

The Missionary undertaking, though small at its commencement, and in the eyes of worldly wise men derided as foolish and visionary, and the means altogether inadequate to the end proposed to be accomplished, has already achieved a glorious triumph over the darkness of error, superstition, and idolatry, which triumph is too pure and benevolent in its character and effects, to admit of its being compared with the most brilliant exploits of the most renowned heroes and conquerors. Blood, carnage, devastation, and misery, marked the footsteps of the warrior; peace, truth, love, and every blessing, are in the train of the Messenger of mercy. " *How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth.*"

While it affords your Committee sincere pleasure to read and to hear, of the zeal and energy with which the various other Missionary Societies prosecute their labours of love, and while they cheerfully record their gratitude to the God of all grace for the success with which he has crowned those labours, they deem it their duty upon the present occasion particularly to invite attention to that Institution with which they are more intimately identified—namely, the Wesleyan Missionary Society.

This Society desirous to the extent of its ability to obey the Divine command—" *Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature,*" has sent its Missionaries into every quarter of the world. Beside Missionaries who preach to the Irish people in their native tongue, they have Labourers in France, Sweden, the Mediterranean, Gibraltar, Southern and Western Africa, Continental India and Ceylon, New South Wales, Van Dieman's Land, New Zealand, Friendly Isles, West Indies, and in all the British Provinces in North America. The number of Missionary Stations they occupy is 156; the number of Missionaries 218. Salaried Catechists and Teachers employed chiefly in the Society's Schools 160; gratuitous teachers in the Sunday and day Missionary Schools upwards of 1400. Members on the Foreign Stations 42,743; of whom 24,499 are slaves; the number of children and adults in the Mission daily and Sunday Schools, 25,420. Expenditure for the year ending 31st December, 1831, £46,627 19 1 sterling.

On the subject of success, and the prospects of the work, the Committee of the Parent Society in the last Report say—" In the various departments of the great work committed to their care and direction, the past year has presented a degree of success which, in some cases, has realised their expectations, and in others has surpassed them In those heathen and benighted countries which form the chief scene of the Society's labours, they have observed with sacred pleasure the wider spread and the beneficial effects of moral and spiritual cultivation. The urgent demand from some quarters, for an increase of labourers, has not been made in vain; they have had an encouraging proof that God is with them, in men being divinely called and suitably qualified to occupy those arduous stations in inhospitable climates, and amid the uncertainties and privations of uncivilised life, which demand entire devotedness of heart, and unyielding moral courage.—And in the undiminished support which this Society has received and continues to receive from its friends and the Christian public, they have cheering evidence that the glorious work shall be perpetuated till its noble purpose is accomplished in the conversion of the world to the faith of Christ."

Such, then is the Institution, and such, the object submitted to the consideration of this meeting, and for which is requested the continued countenance, the prayers and the support of the Christian public in this place.

In conclusion, your committee have the satisfaction to state, that the sum of £150 was contributed on this Circuit during the past year in aid of the Missions, being £20 more than was contributed in any former year. And your Committee fervently pray, that this increased liberality exercised to promote the work of God, may be returned in rich and abundant blessings upon the souls of the contributors. Amen and Amen.

RESOLUTIONS.

Moved by Rev. S. Busby, seconded by Mr. S. H. M'Kee,

Resolved, That the Report now read be received, and that this meeting acknowledges with gratitude to God, from whom alone proceedeth all good, the extensive success with which the Wesleyan Missionaries have been favoured in their numerous and widely extended spheres of action.

Moved by A. M'Leod, Esq. seconded by Mr. W. Till,

Resolved, That this meeting deeply affected with the moral degradation of a vast proportion of the population of the globe, and recognising the immediate hand of God in the importunate and repeated entreaties for Missionaries, both from countries hitherto unvisited by them, and from stations already occupied, regards it as an imperative duty to become co-workers with God in the extension of the Gospel to destitute myriads of Pagan idolators and nominal christians, by assisting in contributing the pecuniary means of sending forth the heralds of salvation.

Moved by Rev. G. Johnston, seconded by Mr. W. Nisbet,

Resolved, That the continued success of the Missions to the West India Colonies, and the prudence, fidelity and fortitude of the Missionaries both of the Baptist and Wesleyan Society, who have especially been exposed to unmerited reproach and persecution, afford additional reasons for the support and extention of a system of religious care and instruction, which at once conveys the direct blessings of Christianity to the slave population, and tends more fully to prepare them for that freedom which we trust it is the purpose of a wise, and benevolent Legislature to grant them.

Moved by Rev. J. B. Strong, seconded by Mr. J. Hutchings, and supported by Mr. John Owens,

Resolved, That this Meeting while it devoutly and gratefully acknowledges the good Hand of God in the triumph and extension of the Gospel, and rejoices in the confident expectations inspired by the sure word of prophecy that the truth of God which is the power of God unto salvation shall universally prevail, pledges itself to renewed exertion and more frequent and fervent prayer that the time may be hastened.

Moved by Mr. H. Allen, seconded by Mr. H. Hennigar,

Resolved, That the thanks of this meeting be given to those benevolent persons of different religious denominations who have subscribed to the funds of this Society during the past year, and that their continued support be earnestly solicited; also to the collectors connected with this Branch Associations, especially to the Female collectors, a continuance of whose most valuable services is sincerely requested.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY—FREDERICTON,

Tuesday, February 5.

Mr. Smith, by leave, presented a petition from Harman Trueman, and others, of the County of Westmoriand, and praying an Act may pass for the establishment of a new Bank in Saint John; which he read.—Ordered, that the said Petition be received, and lie on the table.

Wednesday, February 6.

Mr. Cunard, by leave, presented a petition from Joseph Bouchette, Esquire, Surveyor-General of Lower Canada, accompanied by a sett of his maps and a work in two quarto volumes, entitled ' *The British Dominions in North America* ;' praying for aid from the Legislature of this Province, either in the shape of taking a number of setts of the said maps and works, or in such other mode as the House may deem expedient; which petition he read.—Ordered, that the said Petition be received, and lie on the table.

Mr. Hill moved for leave to bring in a bill to regulate Banks and Banking in the Province.—Leave granted.

Statute Labour Bill.—The Statute Labour Bill was this day committed. After considerable debate, and much conflicting opinion, as to who should and who should not be exempted from Statute Labour, the scale was finally fixed as follows,—The clause of EXCEPTIONS being erased altogether :

Apprentices, Licensed Schoolmasters, & Minors,				2 days.
Hired servants, Journeymen Mechanics, and Labourers,				3 days.
Persons possessing property of the value of 100l, and not more than 300l,				5 days.
Do.	Do.	300l.	to 500l,	6 days.
Do.	Do.	500	to 1000	8 days.
Do.	Do.	1000	to 2000	10 days.
Do.	Do.	2000	to 5000	12 days.
Do	exceeding	5000,		16 days.
Persons whose salaries or incomes exceed 300l,				12 days.
All other persons not enumerated.				4 days.

Thursday, February 7.

STATE OF THE PROVINCE.

QUIT RENTS, &C.

After the various communications from His Excellency, in answer to the Addresses of the House on the subject of Quit Rents, &c. had been read by the Chairman, (Mr. MILES,)

Mr. SIMONDS rose, and proceeded to observe, that in discussing the subject of Quit Rents, when the House was before in Committee, almost all the hon. members who had spoken on the question, had stated their opinion, that the claim of his Majesty was strictly legal. All hon. members, however, appeared to be perfectly agreed in opinion, that the measure was an exceedingly impolitic one. But, notwithstanding all that had been said respecting the legality of the claim, he had still some doubts on that point, unless the House should first pass an Act, to authorise the collection. He had that morning had the perusal of of a very important letter, from his Majesty's Attorney General to his Excellency; by which document it appeared that the Attorney General had at last discovered that it was impossible to collect the Quit Rents with his present powers, and that, without a law of the Province to aid him, it could not be effected. That letter stated many difficulties on the subject, among which, one of the greatest was, the subdivision of lands since the original grants were made. The difficulty of collecting a proper proportion of the rents from each proprietor of such subdivided lands, appeared to be insurmountable. There was another difficulty with regard to absent proprietors; as no distress could be levied, because nothing could be found whereon to distrain. It appeared, then, by the mention of the word " *distress*" in that letter, that the only remedy for the exaction of Quit Rents was by distress for their recovery. Where rents were reserved or covenanted between subject and subject, a distress was always the first resort, for the recovery of a rent in arrear. What would be the situation of the Province, if distresses should be levied on all the people liable to pay Quit Rents ? The exaction would soon become as odious as Irish tithes. Suppose the Att'y Gen. should distrain the property of a farmer to pay the Quit Rents: suppose he should take his pigs and his cattle and his farming implements; the public excitement would be so great that nobody would bid for them. The Quit Rents must then be abandoned, for the very same cause that the Irish tithes had in many cases been abandoned. The Att'y General's letter referred to the mode of proceeding in one of the old Colonies before their separation from the Mother Country; and that mode of proceeding was a proof, that before those rents could be legally collected in that colony, the Legislature were obliged to pass a law for the purpose. That convinced him [Mr. S.] that the government had no right to collect them without the sanction of such a law. The law referred to was contained in the book then in his hand; and it appeared, that his Majesty was at that time willing to give up his quit rents in that colony to the local legislature, if they would furnish certain persons with the means of collecting them in a summary way. That law was therefore passed, and it contained as much machinery as any of the most difficult acts passed in that house, (N. B.,) as much as the present assessment law. The act provided, that after the rents were collected, they were to be paid over to H. M. Receiver Gen.; which officer in that colony, was similar to the Province Treasurer in this. The quit rents were paid over to him, and appropriated by the legislature annually. That proved the legality of collecting them, after the legislature had passed an act for the purpose, and the inference was irresistible. The question now was, whether the House should pass a law to authorise their collection in this Province ? They never would be cheerfully paid: the attempt to collect them had already caused great excitement; and he (Mr. S.) therefore hoped the House would pause, before taking any such measures. He was well satisfied that without such an act, the collection could not be legal. The Att'y Gen. said, the Quit Rents were necessary, for the support of the civil list establishment; but he (Mr. S.) did not think it necessary to harrass the people, for the sake of collecting a few thousand pounds, towards defraying the civil list expense. There were quite sufficient funds for that purpose, without such assistance, if they were properly managed. Those funds were now lavishly wasted; and if the House had the management of them, they would be far better regulated.—It would certainly be the wisdom of the government to abandon the Quit Rents altogether. He had another reason for coming to the conclusion, that the claim was not legal. He referred particularly to an act passed in the reign of Charles II. immediately after his restoration to the throne, (12 C *Car 2, cap.* 24,) which enacted that all grants of land from the King should thenceforth be free from any reservation of Quit Rent or the like. [The hon. member here read the title and preamble of the act.] No words (continued Mr. S.) could be more completely applicable to the present case than these. If the reservations mentioned in that preamble were so burdensome, grievous, and prejudicial to the people of England in those days, they must be equally so to the people of this colony now. It appeared that Charles II. on his restoration to the throne, found it best to repeal all those oppressive and burdensome tenures. The Royal Household, however, was not then permanently provided for, as it now is; and it was therefore necessary, on abolishing those tenures, fines and quit rents, to grant to his Majesty certain duties to compensate for the loss. The act, indeed, actually caused some alteration in the constitution of the country, by altering all those tenures; and as it was passed long before this colony had an existence, and became a part of the British constitution, which necessarily operates in all the colonies, the provisions of that act must apply to this Province and to all the colonies formed since it was passed. The preamble styled those tenures burthensome and grievous, and also mentioned that many persons had disposed of their lands held by such tenures, whereby divers questions might arise, unless some remedy were applied. So it was in this Province: large grants of land had been subdivided, and similar difficulties would arise here in the collection of quit rents. [The hon. member here quoted several of the provisions of the act, and stated their applicability to the present circumstances of this Province.] Putting aside, then, the question of right for the present, would it not be wise and prudent in his Majesty's government to remove the cause of discontent, by abolishing the Quit Rents, and allowing the people of this Province to hold their lands free from any such incumbrances ? They were a remnant of the feudal system—an aid—and all aids had been long ago abolished by law; so that the British constitution could not countenance any such tenures or aids. It was surprising that the principles of the constitution were so infringed in this colony. Why should not the people of New-Brunswick hold their lands on the same terms as the people of England ? If they had ever acted in a disloyal manner, the Quit Rents might be held, as a punishment to them; but no such cause had ever existed. Setting aside, then, the question of right, the impolicy must be apparent; (and that being the case, he (Mr. S.) would not be disposed to purchase the Quit Rents. He would rather apply to H. M. government to remove the cause of the evil, which was the only effectual mode of remedying it. * * He would never consent to commutation, unless the money were to be placed under the controul of the Legislature. It was impossible for the officers of government to know the immediate wants and interests of the people. They always looked through a false medium; and generally looked only to their own interests: therefore, they were not qualified to give good advice to the Executive. He (Mr. S.) thought they had given very bad advice; he thought his Excellency had not been counselled by his Council; and that was the cause of the present disturbance. If that had not been the case, he believed the Quit Rents would have been on a much better footing now.—He had still some doubts as to the legality of the claim; he would not positively say it was an illegal one; but he thought so. The Act of the Legislature of New-York, passed in 1754, to which he had already referred, proved that it was impossible to collect those rents without the sanction of an act of the Legislature; but he (Mr. S.) would be ashamed to return to his constituents, if he ever consented to the passing of such an act; and he hoped every hon. member would be of the same opinion. It appeared by the Attorney General's letter, that the government were brought to a complete stand. Then let them go on with their difficulties; and in the mean time let the House petition his Majesty, and take such other steps as would insure their representations reaching his Majesty. They would never do any thing till they did that; because there was a pernicious influence on both sides of the water, that prevented the proper effect of their representations.—If all failed; then they might apply to the Imperial Parliament; and there could be no doubt that a reformed Parliament would procure redress for them.

Mr. KINNEAR replied at considerable length; but as his speech on the same subject, delivered on Saturday, is given in another part of to-day's paper, we must pass briefly over his present reply to Mr. Simonds, in order to make room for the opinions expressed by other hon. members, on the all-engrossing subject of the Quit Rents.—Mr. K. referred to some of his former statements as to the great difficulty and expense that would accrue to individuals, were the payment of these rents to be enforced; and insisted upon the legal right of his Majesty to the rents, which, he maintained, the Attorney General's letter went to establish.

The reason (continued Mr. K.) why the Att'y Gen. had recommended the passing of a law by the Legislature was, to do away with the difficulties that had arisen from the opposition of the people, and to enable those grantees who paid the rents, to recover a proportion from other holders under the same grant; and in the same way to enable lessees to recover from lessors. This mode was devised with a view to relieve all parties from their present difficulties, and to prevent litigation and confusion; but there could be no question as to the impolicy of collecting the Quit Rents at all. With respect to the act of Charles II. quoted by his hon. friend, with a view to shew that all former and ancient services were thereby abolished, and that all tenures were reduced to free and common soccage, he (Mr. K.) would explain the simple difference between the two modes. The old tenures before that act, were held in this way.—The person holding land of the king or lord held it thus: there was no certain reservation or service; but whenever the lord thought it necessary to go into the field of battle, or to increase his expenditure for any particular purpose, it was in his power to exact from the holder of his land such aids as he thought proper to demand. Originally, it is said, it was discretionary with the tenant what he should pay; or he was not absolutely bound to pay the aid; but afterwards it became an arbitrary exaction which he was bound to comply with.—This was one of the most arbitrary, despotic, and unjust things possible: that a man who held lands should be bound to pay whatever his lord thought proper to demand; and therefore it was, that the parliament determined to put a stop to such exactions, and put the tenant on a better footing. The tenures were all changed to free and common soccage; by which system every man acknowledged that he held his lands on a *certain* and *defined* service. This was the whole distinction between the old and the new system. [The hon. member read an extract from *Jacob's Law Dictionary*, referring to *Wright's Tenures*, (p. 144-5,) in confirmation of this statement.] After that view of the case, which was very simple, it was wholly unnecessary to refer to the act of Car. II.; but he [Mr. K.] would just mention, that the New-York law expressly took up the case in the point of view which he had just mentioned: it recognised the right of the King, but pointed out the difficulty of collecting the Quit Rents, both to King and people. [The hon. member here read the preamble of the act referred to.]

After some further remarks, Mr. K. stated, that many years ago, a strong censure on the conduct of a governor of a colony was delivered to his Majesty by two very eminent lawyers, one of whom (Ryder,) was afterwards Lord High Chancellor of England, and the other (Murray) was afterwards Earl Mansfield, and Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench. Those eminent men highly censured the governor of that colony, for having granted lands without reserving quit rents; which, they said, should never, in any case, be allowed.

The hon. member concluded an able speech by commenting on the scenes of litigation and confusion that would ensue from the collection of the Quit Rents—scenes such as had never before been witnessed in this Province; and stated his willingness, if possible, to do something to relieve the people of the burden.

Mr. SIMONDS would beg to be answered two questions, by some of the hon. legal members of the house:—viz.—Whether aids in money to his Majesty were not military services? and whether one of those two distinguished personages mentioned by the hon. and learned Recorder of St. John, (Lord Mansfield,) had not spent a long life in attempting to increase the prerogative of the crown, and to abridge the rights of juries ?—He (Mr. S.) thought aids in money were in every point of view military tenures; and, if so, lands subject to the reservation of such aids, could not be held in free and common soccage.

Mr. CHANDLER strongly insisted on the impolicy of collecting the Quit Rents; and observed that it was highly important that the house should be agreed in opinion as to the legality of the measure; because, if any hon. members continued to think it illegal, they might not be disposed to take such effective measures as ought to be taken. He had fully hoped, after what had been said the other day by his hon. and learned friend; after the full and complete opinion delivered by him, and after the legality of the measure had been recognised and confirmed by the House, on the former negociation respecting it, that all ideas as to its illegality would have been done away.—The hon. member commented on the importance of convincing Mr. Simonds of the legal right of the King, and the injurious effect which would be produced on the public, if so influential a member were known to maintain a contrary opinion. The hon. member then proceeded to reply to Mr. Simonds, for the purpose of convincing him of the legal right of the King. That hon. member, after quoting the act of New-York, had drawn the inference, that because such an act had been passed, that, therefore, the collection of the Quit Rents would not have been legal without the sanction of such an act; but if that hon. member would look at it fairly, and read the preamble of the act, he (Mr. C.) could not see how he could come to such an inference. The very preamble of that act itself recognised the legality of the King's claim, though it points out certain difficulties in the way of collecting the Quit Rents; and that local act was consequently passed, for the very purpose of obviating those difficulties. Could, then, any inference be drawn from that act, that the King's claim was illegal ? The inference must be exactly contrary: it must be, that the claim was perfectly legal, and that the act itself was merely a provision to remedy certain obstacles which impeded the due collection of the Quit Rents. The hon. member had also said, that H. M. Att'y Gen. had, in his letter, acknowledged that those rents could not be collected. If that were the case, what were the Committee now discussing about? If they absolutely could not be collected, what use was there for any debate at all ? Why should the Committee trouble itself with devising means to prevent what could not happen ? But the tenor of the Att'y General's letter was of a far different nature; and he (Mr. C.) lamented that that hon. member did not see it in a proper light.—He deeply felt the importance of convincing that hon. member of the legality of his Majesty's claim; because the public mind would probably be greatly affected by it. The Att'y Gen. had not pretended to say that the Quit Rents could not be collected, or that they were not constitutional dues; but he merely stated, that the proceedings to be taken for their collection, must, from their very nature, be *coercive;* that the mode must be, *by distress.* He (Mr. C.) thought, that when the hon. member viewed this fairly, he would alter his mind on the subject.—With respect to the act of *Car.* II., that hon. member had shewn a highly laudable anxiety to obtain information on the point in question, and he (Mr. C.) hoped he would be able to obtain such information as would completely satisfy him. It was no disparagement to him to say that he had floundered in his researches; because he had got into a labyrinth of abstruseness, in which professional men themselves were often at a loss for a time. He (Mr. C.) would observe, however, that that act was passed to relieve the subject from the burden of a very arbitrary power then vested in the King and in all lords of whom lands were held, and to render every thing relative to tenures clear, defined and certain. The very meaning of " *free and common socage,*" was " *certain* services."—This act was introduced for the very purpose of abolishing all the old, *uncertain services* by which lands were then held; and of substituting in their room distinct and certain compacts, which should be voluntary and obligatory on both the contracting parties.—The tenure by free and common socage, therefore, thenceforth absorbed and swallowed up all uncertain tenures. It was a compact to hold lands by fealty, (or allegiance,) and a fixed rent; which proved, that all the service to be rendered by the tenant was to be certain and defined. The hon. member alluded to, had put a wrong construction on that old act; and had asked, whether aids in money were not military tenures. It might as well be asked, whether the grants of money to his Majesty, from time to time made by that House, were not military tenures or services. They were aids: aids towards his Majesty's public service; and such grants of money were made by the House every session. It was their constitutional right to grant money—one of their highest privileges; but surely it was no military service; and that, he (Mr. C.) thought a sufficient answer to that question.—Much of the hon. member's argument was predicated on the principle, that the demand made by his Majesty was illegal: it was, therefore, highly important that the question of legality should be definitely settled. If, however, the hon. member should still be of the same opinion, he (Mr. C.) hoped, at least, when he found the majority of the Committee of a contrary opinion, he would yield his private impressions, and adopt the measures resolved on by the Committee, as if he were of the same opinion.—The question now to be considered was, what was to be done ? He (Mr. C.) certainly was not now prepared to offer a certain sum to redeem the Quit Rents. He would rather be disposed to let the government proceed; by which means they would discover how vain was the attempt to collect the Quit Rents; and he thought they would then be disposed to accept a much smaller sum for their redemption. If that, however, should not be the case, it would then be for the House to consider what further measures should be adopted. Something must be done to set the question at rest. If the government thought the civil list could not do without the Quit Rents, he (Mr. C.) thought that when they considered the offer made by the House, to take the whole burden upon themselves, upon being granted the crown revenues; and when they also considered the extremely harrassing and impolitic measure of collecting the Quit Rents, they would be disposed to abolish those rents altogether; without the necessity of any very arduous exertions on the part of the House. He thought, when the government were in full possession of all the facts and circumstances of the case, the government would never continue such a burden on such a people as the inhabitants of New-Brunswick.—The hon. member then proceeded, in reply to Mr. Simonds, to vindicate the character of Lord Mansfield, whom he considered as one of the greatest judges ever known in England or in any other country.—With respect to what was now to be done by the House, he (Mr. C.) was prepared to give a positive opinion. He thought the House could not well adopt any measures on the subject, till they had received an answer from his Majesty respecting the Crown Revenues and Civil List.—A deputation to the Mother Country would cause a great expense; and he thought further consultation and deliberation necessary, before adopting any decisive measure on so important a matter. He hoped that the doubts of the hon. member from St. John would now be entirely removed, respecting the legality of the Quit Rents. If, indeed, they were illegal, they would be worse than the notorious Stamp Act of the old Colonies; and, if enforced, might probably almost produce rebellion. If the people of this Province were made to believe that they were an illegal exaction, their allegiance would soon be worth nothing. They might smother their indignation for a time; but at the very first opportunity, the fatal consequences would be discovered; and it was therefore the duty of every good man, and every good subject, to lend his utmost aid to put down such an erroneous and dangerous impression.

Mr. Gilbert said, that after the subject had been so fully and so ably discussed, it would ill become him to offer an opinion of his own.—As had been well remarked the other day, by an hon. member from St. John, the eyes of the whole Province were on the House, and they were confidently expected to do something to stop the progress of a measure so odious to the country, as the collection of the Quit Rents. It behoved them to do their duty in such a manner, as to give no opportunity for the finger of scorn to be pointed at them, or for it to be said, that they had attempted much and brought nothing to pass. It had been said that it was the duty of every member of that House, to bring forward such occurrences as fell within their own knowledge, relative to the various abuses complained of in the Province.—It had been said in that House that no distress existed in the country, and that no exception was to be taken to the manner in which the Crown Lands were disposed of, under the present system ; but that if there were any specific charges that could be sustained, they should be brought forward. He (Mr. G.) had heard so much of charges against the crown land office, that he now felt fully charged on the subject, and should state what he knew. The hon. member then read some extracts from an old document, containing the original proposals from the governor of Nova Scotia to persons desirous of emigrating to these provinces from the old colonies, and the conditions and allowances therein offered; which, the hon. member maintained, included no mention of Quit Rents; and which conditions, &c. he also insisted had not been fulfilled, the effects of which he and his family felt to this day. But there were other grievances to complain of. Solomon wisely said, that " *he who despiseth small things, shall fall by little and little* ;" and it was now time to make a stand.—The hon. member here expatiated on the loyalty of himself and family, which he hoped none would doubt. He had nothing but loyal blood in his veins; and if he thought there was any other, he would consent to let it out. But he was bound to state the grievances within his knowledge; and he would now relate a lumberman's story, which had been told to him, relative to the mode of disposing of timber on crown lands.—[As, however, the hon. member afterwards stated, that the story he had related came to him merely by *hearsay*, and was not within his actual knowledge, we cannot convince ourselves that it would be right to insert it.] The hon. member proceeded to observe, that formerly, on going to the crown land office, applicants used to find there a respectable old gentleman, to whom they were immediately admitted, and who could speak " face to man, as a man speaketh to his brother ;" and who would immediately attend to their applications. But who was it now ? That worthy old gentleman was gone.—" *Another king arose who knew not Joseph.*" Nobody knew any thing of him ; none could tell where he came from, or how he got into such a berth. It could not be known whether he had been a land admiral or a lance corporal ; nor what his ancestors or himself had done, to merit his appointment to such an important and warm situation. All that was unknown. But surely, after the loyalists, who had sacrificed every thing in the old colonies, and had come to this country under impressions and expectations which had been disappointed; after having cleared and improved so much of the country, and borne the heat and burden of the day; if any good birth or lucrative office became vacant, every thing required that it should be bestowed on one of them, as some acknowledgment of the merits of the loyalists. But it was far otherwise, unfortunately; and the House had no controul over those things. It was necessary, however, that they should use every effort to remedy the grievances existing in that office ; because the people ought to have free access to the officers concerned in it, and due attention paid to their applications. The hon. member then proceeded to relate another story which he had heard, from a person who had had occasion to apply to the Crown Land Office. It was a very different place from which it formerly was. The applicant had to pass down a long range of gratings, bars, doors, locks, &c. which made the place look more like a menagerie for wild beasts than any thing else. The various boxes or inclosures appeared to be all inhabited, but whether they were domestic animals or not, or whether they were a collection of apes or baboons, he could not say. The applicant, however, did not see lions, tigers, or elephants; but he did see Gog and Magog exalted in high places.—The hon. member proceeded in a similar style, very minutely to describe the ideas and adventures of the applicant; but we regret that our time will not allow us to do justice to his picturesque details. The climax of the adventure was, that the worthy old man was at last asked what he wanted : he replied that he wanted a timber license. He was instantly asked : " have you got any money ?" " Yes." " Fork it out, then."—It was *forked out* accordingly ; and after waiting some time, without any accommodation in the shape of a chair, table, stool, or any such thing, the applicant was desired to " call again to-morrow ;" and was so required to dance daily attendance for several days before he could obtain his walking " ticket."—The hon. member, however, observed, that all the preceding information he had obtained by hearsay, although from persons of undoubted veracity.—He now came to a statement that he could vouch for ; because it had actually happened to himself, within a few days past, since the Legislative Session had commenced. He went himself to the Department or menagerie : but saw neither Gog nor Magog : they had come down from their high places. After exploring his way into the deep recesses of the place, he at length found the person who had made the survey which he wished to see. He enquired if he could see it; and was told he could. After waiting some time, expecting in vain to see it, he again applied, and was referred by the Clerk to another Clerk: who, after great delay, produced the plan ; he then enquired to see the description ; when he was again referred to another clerk ; but on being about to proceed as directed, he was hastily called back, and told that he need not go, as he had been merely directed there to get rid of him ! Was it come to this? That a Member of that House should be subjected to such treatment at a public office ? *Was it come to this ?*—And that reminded him of an anecdote of a poor girl, during the siege of New-York ; who, when destitute and houseless, at a cold and dreary season of the year, after wandering hither and thither for a long time, vainly seeking for food and shelter, at length fortuitously entered a house, where an officer was preparing his supper. That officer was reduced to his last morsel of food, wich he was then engaged in roasting on the point of his sword. The poor girl implored his charity ; upon which, in the language of the Apostle, he replied : " Silver and gold have I none ; but such as I have, give I thee ;" and immediately handed over his last morsel, still fixed on the point of his sword. The wretched girl instantly exclaimed: " What ! *Is it come to this !* That I must receive the *staff of life* from the *point of death* !" and took the offered succour. The hon. member seemed to imply that he was driven to an equal extremity; and observed, that if it was come to that, it was full time to make a stand. Upon receiving the treatment he had mentioned, he immediately asked the Clerk, whether he really had sent him away merely to get rid of him; who replied, " Yes: to gain time;" upon which he (Mr. G.) instantly told him that he did not thank him for his civility or his manners. He was then going away, when the person asked him what it was that he wanted. He (Mr. G.) replied, that he wanted to be received there, when business led him there, as every inhabitant of the province ought to be received in a public office; with courtesy and civility; and that he should take care to report his conduct the next day.—" Very well, Sir," said the Clerk ; " I shall be ready to meet you ;"—upon which he (Mr. G) left the office with indignation; and certainly, if he had had the strength of Samson, as he fully had the will at the time, he would have brought the pillars of the house away with him. But he was sorry to say that " though the spirit was willing, the flesh was weak."—He came away with a full determination, that while he had a dollar in his pocket, he would never cease to endeavour to obtain redress of the grievances complained of, with respect to that office.—The hon. member proceeded to state, that after having reached his lodgings and sat down to ruminate, he found that as he had resolved never more to go to the office, the office had come to him; or rather, the officer in question did, and not only apologised for his rudeness, but also brought with him every thing that could throw any light on the subject respecting which he had made enquiry; showed him all that he wanted to know, and more than he wanted, and behaved altogether with the utmost civility and attention.—But he (Mr. G.) nevertheless, could not help reflecting, that if he, a Representative of the People, was thus treated by the clerks of the Crown Land Office, other persons were liable to similar treatment; and he therefore felt it his duty to lay the matter before the House. The officer alluded to could have no private feeling against him, because they were utter strangers to each other: so that there was no ostensible cause for the uncourteous conduct. But he [Mr. G.] thought, that if he, as an individual, had so far succeeded in obtaining an acknowledgement and reparation of the offence; the House, unitedly, as a Legislative body might effectually " put down the mighty from their seats, and exalt the humble and meek," and thus secure for the people at large a free and fair consideration at that office.—With respect to the finger of scorn which had so often been mentioned of late in the House, and especially by an honorable and venerable member from St. John ; he [Mr. G.] scarcely knew what it meant. He had heard of only one instance in which the finger of scorn had been well exemplified. It was this. He had heard an anecdote of some person who was a preacher; he did not know whether he was ordained or not; but believed he was merely a self-created preacher. He was also a baker by trade; and after he had for some time continued his double occupation, he received a hint from his congregation, that he must leave off preaching. Upon asking the reason, he was informed, that his bread was a little too light. It was " weighed in the balance, and found wanting." The preacher exclaimed, that surely his people would not cast him off for such a small thing ; but the congregation replied, that they did not complain of the smallness of the loaves, but of the iniquity of the baker.—The hon. member then proceeded to declare, that for his own part, he had never coveted any man's ox, or his ass, or his wife, or any thing pertaining unto him. If any man would assert that he had ever wronged him in any way, he now called on him to come forward. He called on every one to whom he was known, to state any thing they might have against him. He would freely consent to be tried; and if he were found wanting, to be hung on a gallows, fifty cubits high; but, till then, let those who had injured him forbear from persecuting him. He would still do his duty in that House without flinching; and if his enemies would still hold up the finger of scorn towards him, he would say to each of them: " Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam that is in thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote that is in thy brother's eye." Perhaps, indeed, he was himself no better than he should be; and few there were who were so. But if every man's faults were written on his brow, where would be found one who would not pull his hat over his eyes ?—If, then, after all his efforts, his constituents should at any time reproach him with not having done his duty, he would say : " Let him that is without sin among you, cast the first stone."

Colonel Allen called upon the hon. member who had just sat down, to state who it was that had said in that House, that there was no objection or exception to be taken to the Crown Land Office or system ?

Mr. Gilbert replied that he believed the honorable member for Gloucester had said so the other day; and also called on other honorable members to bring forward specific charges.

Mr. End would be very sorry to deny any thing alleged by a gentleman of *royal* blood. [Cries of " *loyal : loyal.*"] No ; he had understood the hon. Member from Queen's county distinctly to say, that he was of *Royal* blood: nevertheless he confessed, that he saw nothing in the rosy cheeks of old Georgy there, [*pointing to the portrait of George III.*] which seemed to shew any affinity to that hon. member. He therefore did deny with the utmost indignation any such charge as that just made against him ; a charge which, were he not on the floor of that House, he would say was utterly false, and the result of vile, malicious feelings. [Loud cries of ' *Order, order.*'] He believed he was perfectly in order; and would endeavour to continue so; but he could not help expressing himself warmly when so unwarrantably assailed. His feelings would come out. There was something peculiarly unfortunate in making these personal attacks. He was always the last man in the world to do so: but he had on this occasion been unnecessarily provoked; all that was said in that House would go forth to the world, through the medium of the Press. The Press might happen to fall into vile hands; and so become a curse instead of a blessing. The Press was then watching them, by means of its Reporter; and it was therefore cruel and unjustifiable to make such attacks as had been made on him. He denied most fully that he had ever said there was no grievance in the country, or any such expression. He gave the assertion his most explicit, unqualified denial.—The hon. member then proceeded at some length to maintain his sentiments on the subject of the Quit Rents; by arguments similar to those advanced by the hon. member in Committee on Saturday last.

Mr. Simonds made some observations on the necessity of moderation and temperance in debate, and of the necessity of avoiding personalities; and then proceeded at some length to support the opinions advanced by him in opening this debate.—The hon. member also thought the Committee greatly indebted to the honorable member from Queen's, for the statements he had made in his place respecting the mode of conduct at the Crown Land Office; and observed, that if a Member of that House, while the House were actually in session, were liable to such treatment by the officers of that department, how could any poor man, or any other subject in this Province expect to be better treated, after the house had risen ? When an hon. member of that House was told, that he was passed from one part of the office to another merely to get rid of him; was that to be borne ? What could be a greater indignity, or a more decided insult ? Prompt measures ought to be taken by the House, to punish that officer; for if they did not take care to preserve their own dignity, who would do it for them ? Were the members of that House to be insulted by such persons? He [Mr. S.] had never heard of a greater outrage on common civility in his life.

Mr. End thought it very extraordinary, that hon. members should step so much out of their way, when discussing such grave and important measures as those now under consideration, as to allude to such petty occurrences as those which had just been related and so strongly commented on. He was surprised that any hon. member should have condescended to notice such a trivial occurrence, especially when it had been confessed by the party offended, that the *amende honorable* had actually been made on the spot. If, then, any charge was to be made against any officer, why not at once bring him to the bar of the House, and hear both sides of the question ? He would ask, was it ever heard, by any one, that any individual whomsoever, had ever been treated with a want of courtesy or attention in the Crown Land Office, or by the Commissioner ? He (Mr. E.) would positively maintain that quite the contrary was the case. He very frequently had occasion to enter that office, and he declared, that he never went into it in his life, without being treated with the greatest courtesy, attention and respect.

Mr. Chandler and Mr. Simonds respectively made a few additional observations in support of their opinions and views; and Mr. S. Humbert recommended that the Chairman should report progress, and ask leave to sit again; as from what had taken place, the committee did not seem sufficiently calm and moderate in their feelings, to continue the discussion at present in a favourable manner.

Mr. Cunard opposed Mr. Humbert's motion; and observed that there was no want of moderation or calmness in the committee. But they had naturally heard a strong comment on strong language. The hon. member who had just caused the occurrence, might have gone through all his grievous details; he might have made out all his menageries and anecdotes, and mixed up scripture with his tales and assertions; he might have done all this, and nobody would have cared for it; had he not alluded particularly to another hon. member.—With respect to the Quit Rents : after almost every hon. member had admitted the legality of his Majesty's claim; it had been urged, that an old act of Charles II. had done away with all the old tenures of the country, and therefore virtually abolished the Quit Rents. Nothing shewed such great fallacy and perversion of ingenuity as that attempt. He would say, with the hon. and learned Recorder, that if they now suffered the process for the recovery of Quit Rents to go on, they would be forcing the people to take up the subject. If the House had done their duty properly, they would have taken the offer of Sir George Murray; and then levied a tax on the large landholders, to provide for the commutation or purchase money. That would have answered a good end, and saved a good deal of time since lost in discussion. But he believed there were some who wished to excite the country, and to keep up agitation and ferment.

Mr. Simonds, said he had intended to move a resolution, respecting the casual revenue; but it was now too late in the day, as it might cause further discussion. As to what had fallen from the hon. member for Northumberland ; he (Mr. S.) did not pretend to any ingenuity; he would leave all the ingenuity to that hon. member himself.—The hon. member repeated his convictions of the applicability of the statute of *Car. II.* to this province; as a part of the constitution of the empire.

Mr. Weldon made some observations on the importance of conducting the debates more coolly and moderately; and repeated, at some length, the arguments he had advanced, when the House was lately in committee upon the same subjects. The hon. member also strongly urged the necessity of waiting till the answer to the address on the subject of the casual revenue, &c. should arrive, before taking any measures respecting the Quit Rents, which were so entirely included in that subject.—He also objected to the expense which a deputation would naturally occasion; and with respect to requesting information from His Excellency, as to whether the officers having the controul of Crown revenues, gave any security or not, he doubted whether it would be proper for them to do so; because those officers were officers of the King, and not of the legislature; they were not accountable to the House for those Revenues; and if any defalcation ever should happen, the loss would be to his Majesty, and not to the House; while those revenues remained in his Majesty's possession.

After a few further observations from Mr. Cunard, the resolution for reporting progress was carried; and the committee rose, and obtained leave to sit again.

Friday, February 8.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY.

Mr. Brown proposed, before proceeding with any of the ordinary appropriations, to adopt a scale of retrenchment, perhaps £10 per cent. on all the allowances for the public service; beginning with the Members' pay.

Mr. Simonds was equally desirous of retrenchment; but thought the proposition of Mr. Brown too sweeping a measure. He would be for abolishing all useless and extravagant grants; cutting down those allowances that were excessive, and continuing without alteration those that were not beyond what was proper. A general reduction of ten per cent, or any per centage, would affect the door-keepers, clerks, light-house keepers, &c. who would feel more than those with large allowances; and some of whom could barely live now.—He would cheerfully begin with Members' pay.

Mr. S. Humbert supported Mr. Simonds's views with respect to the per centage proposal; but also advocated the necessity of retaining members' pay, on similar grounds to those advanced by the hon. member, when the Pay Bill was formerly in discussion.

Colonel Allen, at great length, advocated the necessity of general retrenchment, including first of all the members' pay; but concurred with Mr. Simonds with respect to the per centage.

Mr. Scott also advocated retrenchment in other things than members' pay ; and particularly urged the abolition of the appropriation for the *Militia.*

Mr. Chandler thought the discussion respecting Members' pay any thing but dignified and delicate ; and the per centage proposal as inapplicable, as a general principle. The hon. member appeared to concur in the views of Mr. Simonds.—He thought that the very best way to retrench the expenses of the Legislature would be, by every hon. member using his utmost efforts to expedite the business of the Session; and thus, if possible, to get through it in 30 or 40 days, instead of 50. That would save more to the country than all the paltry deductions from the salaries of minor officers.

Mr. Partelow was decidedly of the same opinion.

Mr Taylor (as well as Mr. Brown,) thought it would have been better to defer commencing the Committee of Supply till the Finance Committee had made a report.—He thought the Militia and College were fair objects of retrenchment, if possible. He was of the same opinion as other hon. members, with respect to retrenching small things, which would not bear it; but was desirous to effect every possible saving where it could be done.

Mr. Partelow said the report of the Finance Committee could not be made in less than a fortnight ; and that if made, it would not affect the Committee of Supply for the first day ; because on that day nothing but a few ordinary and necessary services would be brought forward.

Mr. Simonds repeated his arguments ; and Mr. Kinnear followed on the same side; observing, that in making reductions in the expenditure, care must be taken, not to " stab the little flies and let the great flies go free."

Mr. Speaker supported Mr. Brown's views ; excepting as to an indiscriminate scale of retrenchment, which would injure those having small allowances.—The hon. Speaker maintained the necessity of either reducing the appropriations, or finding ways and means to increase the revenue.

Mr. Clinch also advocated retrenchment, and also observed that retrenchment was now actually going on ; because the fish and grain bounties would most probably not be revived, which would save £7,000 per annum to the Province ; and there were other savings of a similar nature. The hon. member suggested that the best mode to pursue would be, to watch every appropriation as it came up in Committee of Supply, and to make every effort at retrenchment wherever it was practicable and proper.

Mr. Weldon said they had already lost about £8, because they had spent about an hour in discussing the subject of retrenchment, and had done nothing. The hon. member expressed views similar to those of Mr. Clinch.

After some further observations of a similar nature from Messrs. Scott, Wyer, Slason, S. Humbert, and Brown, the business of the Committee was proceeded in, and a few of the ordinary appropriations, usually first brought forward, were made.

COPPER COINAGE.

The Bill to provide for the importation of a copper coinage for the use of the Province, was committed.

Mr. BROWN stated that the bill was a copy of the Nova Scotia Act for a similar purpose; excepting that instead of appointing Commissioners, it authorised the Province Treasurer to contract with some proper persons, for the importation of a copper coinage for the use of the Province.

A good deal of very desultory discussion arose on this bill, but no important or interesting debate. The bill contained no provision against the loss to be sustained by individuals, who might be holders of any of the old coppers now in circulation, and which would be rendered worthless and useless by the circulation of a new and far better coinage ; nor for making the copper a legal tender at the Treasury after it had been paid out thence, although the Treasurer might pay warrants with it, as far as the payers could conveniently take it.—The majority of the Committee being of opinion that the measure was unnecessary,—Mr. Slason moved that its further consideration be postponed for six months; which motion was seconded by Mr. Scott, and carried.

Saturday, February 9.

NEW-BRUNSWICK MINING COMPANY.

The Bill for incorporating the New-Brunswick Mining Company was committed; but excited no discussion till the limitation clause was read, when Mr. Simonds moved that the blank be filled with the word " *sixty*" years.

Mr. Harrison and Mr. Allen objected to so long a term.

Mr. Cunard supported the motion.

Mr. Simonds said, that the capital stock of the company would be so small, that there would be very little danger in allowing them 60 years operation. There were many places in the Province were coal abounded ; but the operations of this company would certainly be confined to Grand Lake; so that any other persons might speculate elsewhere. He (Mr. S.) did not think it would prove a profitable speculation to the shareholders; but that on the contrary, they would sink a large portion of their capital in the exploration; while they would confer a great benefit on the Province, by developing its mineral resources at their own expense, £100,000 would not be too much to carry such a project profitably into operation ; but the stock of this company was only £10,000, and could never be allowed to exceed £30,000, which would be mostly swallowed in the attempt.

Mr. Slason thought sixty years too long for any monopoly; because the company might establish works any where, wherever they could find coal.

Mr. Allen said, his only reason for not opposing the Bill, was, on the understanding that, if any petition were presented against it, it would be thrown out at the third reading.—He wished to ask, how this mining company intended to get their coals over the shoals at the mouth of the Grand Lake ; whether those obstructions would be removed by them, or at the public expense ?

Mr. Gilbert said that he had understood the company would have a steam-boat, and flat boats, for the purpose of towing the coals down to the mouth of the Jemseg.—He thought no body of people would be found willing to embark their capital in a speculation of this kind, with a less term than 60 years ; because, if the time were shorter, they might just get fairly embarked, and begin to find their scheme valuable, and then be dispossessed of all their advantages.

Mr. Slason said, that the legislature could at any time extend the term, if it were found necessary. He understood that the vein of coal found at Grand Lake extended all the way up to the mouth of the Nashwaak. Perhaps, in less than 20 or 30 years it might be found necessary to open coal pits there; where the coal could immediately be put into large vessels, and exported at once; while the shoals at Grand Lake would considerably increase the expence of transportation.—He was therefore for a shorter term.

Mr. Simonds contended, that if the bill should pass for sixty years, it would not prevent others from obtaining the like privileges, to work at the Nashwaak or any where else. He very much feared that His Majesty's government would not grant a lease of the mines for less than 60 years. A large portion of 30 years would be consumed, before the works would fairly get into operation; and if a lease should be obtained for that time only, the mines might no sooner become fairly established, than they might be taken out of the hands of the company.

Mr. S. Humbert objected to granting any exclusive privileges, for so long a term as 60 years. He would not object to 30 years; but he could not consent to a long monopoly.

Mr. Harrison thought that this company might perhaps, obtain a lease from his Majesty of all the mines in the Province, and thus monopolize every thing of the kind.

Mr. Simonds replied, that the amount of their capital would utterly prevent that. It was impossible that they could work all the mines of the Province with such a capital. If the bill were to give them liberty to increase their capital to an unlimited extent, there would be danger ; but they were strictly confined to a maximum of £30,000.

Mr. Slason followed up Mr. Harrison's idea, and again expressed his fears of a monopoly.

Mr. Partelow said, that even if the company were to get a lease of all the mines in the province, and work them, it would be a public benefit; because it was clear, that in the present state of the Province, if they did not work them, nobody else would. They came forward for the patriotic purpose of developing the natural resources of the province; and ought therefore to be encouraged.

Mr. Harrison pressed his objections, and moved as an amendment to Mr. Simonds' motion, that the blank be filled with " *thirty*" years ; which amendment was carried.

The bill was then agreed to, with amendments.

ROADS.

Mr. Cunard, Chairman of the Road Committee, brought in the report of that committee ; by which it appeared, that the sum of £15,600 was recommended to be appropriated to the great and bye Roads of the Province for the present year. The hon. member observed, that every part of the report was passed unanimously by the committee ; by all of whom it was signed. They were all of one mind, that the sum of £15,600 should be expended on the roads this year; and the scale was very fairly apportioned. The committee were also unanimous in opinion, that if one part of that appropriation should fail in another quarter, all must fail. They were determined to have that sum on the roads, and no other ; and that both the great and the bye roads should share the same fate. He therefore hoped, that as the report had been so unanimously approved in committee, no attempt would be made to alter it in the house.

Messrs. Simonds, Partelow, and S. Humbert, said a few words in recommendation of the report.

Mr. Wyer wished to know how it was, that £400 were appropriated to the Indian Town Road at St. John; when the hon. Chamberlain assured the House, that he would never ask for any thing for that road ? He would like to know if it was finished ?

Mr. Chandler also supported the report; and in reference to Col. Wyer's questions, stated, that the hon. Chamberlain certainly had not this year asked for any thing for the Indian Town Road. He had thrown himself on the mercy of the committee; and though he asked nothing, he looked unutterable things. Indeed, he looked so distressed and anxious, that the committee generously gave him £400, not because he asked it, but because he did *not* ask for any thing. The hon. member corroborated the statements, as to the unanimous determination of the Committee to sustain their report, and to let the great Road money share the same fate as that for bye roads. If the bye road appropriations were thrown out