

The Newfoundland.

No. 6,568.

St. John's, Wednesday, February 10, 1869.

S PILLS

Wonderful that the world has ever known. and in whatever shape disease exists, equal to its subjection and cure.

THE SICK.

One of the household remedies of all nations, they attack the very root of the complaint, and restore the drooping energies of the system from sickness to health.

THE STOMACH.

What is the operation of the Pills? They excite and irritate the stomach into a natural and healthy state of the system from sickness to health.

OTHER AILMENTS.

It is the most important and efficacious remedy in every disorder to which they are subject, and against evil consequences.

THE IMPURITIES OF THE BLOOD.

The blood is in an impure state, let such resort with confidence to this powerful and health and strength will be the result.

KNOWN FOR

Complaints. Stone and Gravel. Secondary Syphilis. Weakness, from whatever cause, &c., &c.

Dr. Williams' "Yellow Pills" are directed in directions around each box; which is sold at the manufacture of Dr. Williams' respectable Druggists and Dealers in 22s., and 33s.—There is a considerable saving for use are affixed to each Box.

BONUS EVERY THREE YEARS

SURANCE COMPANY

Capital—One Million Sterling.
Offices—Dublin—48 & 49 Upper Sackville Street.
London—17 & 18 Cornhill, E.C.
General Manager—John Innes, Esq.
Secretary—J. C. Fisher, Esq.

Unprecedented success of the ETNA in the Kingdom, owing to its liberal dealings with the insured, is a fact which strongly recommends the company to the people of Newfoundland.
Income of the Company from NEW PREMIES ALONE is progressing at the rate of £100,000 per annum.
Company do not advance high premiums.
Company are sure to all insurers.
Company for losses shall be promptly and liberally.
Company from other offices can be effected free of charge.
Company by payment of SIX years premium of SEVEN years only.
Company is the only OFFICE WHICH OFFERS BONUS EVERY THREE YEARS TO POLICY-HOLDERS HAVING NO LOSSES.

Under-signed having been appointed General Agent for Newfoundland for the above Company, and to effect Insurances against LOSS OF LIFE BY FIRE on all descriptions of property and real estate, and have been appointed a share of the business of those having business to effect.
Company shall have prompt attention.
Company for proposals and further information can be at the office of
ROBERT J. KENT,
Solicitor.
291 Duckworth Street St. John's.

ointment

Believing and curing old wounds, sores, however inveterate. Few medicines afford a grand remedy not only cures in such cases, as a proof it needs but a trial.

BRONCHITIS.

Coughs, and colds, may be infallibly cured by rubbing this remedy twice a day upon the chest, and a cure quickly follows.

FEASTS, ETC.

Remedy is now in general use. In the Physicians regularly prescribe its use in the chests of sailors and emigrants.

SWELLINGS.

This Ointment will prove invaluable. It cures, and restores natural circulation.

ETC., ETC.

Parts, of either sex, may be readily cured by this cooling and healing Ointment.

OF YOUTH.

Successfully cured by the joint agency of this Ointment.

ly in most of the following cases:—

Sore Throat. Sore Head. Tightness of Throat on the Chest, with difficulty of Breathing.

Dr. Williams' "Yellow Pills" are directed in directions in every leaf of the book of the factory of Professor Holloway, 244, in Medicine, in pots at 1s. 11d., 2s. 6d., and 3s. 6d.—There is a considerable saving by taking the larger size.

Printed and Published every Tuesday and Friday morning by EDWARD DALTON SHEA, at his Office in DUCKWORTH STREET. Terms—One Guinea per annum, payable in advance. Advertisements not limited (Auction Sales and notices which determine themselves excepted) are repeated, until ordered in writing to be withdrawn. This paper is sold, and may be seen free of charge at Holloway's Pill and Ointment Establishment, 244, Strand, London. This paper is not issued to any Subscriber for a shorter term than six months.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

THURSDAY, February 4.

The House met pursuant to adjournment. Pursuant to the order of the day, and on motion of Mr. Godden, the House resolved itself into a Committee of the whole on the Address of Thanks in reply to His Excellency's speech. Mr. Knight in the chair.

Mr. RENOUF had much pleasure in rising to support the amendment which had been moved by his hon. friend, Mr. Parsons, to the second paragraph in the Address of Thanks. The paragraph says:—

"We fully approve of the course taken by the Executive Government in issuing the Proclamation in June last, that relief in future would be confined to destitute widows and orphans, and to the sick and infirm poor. We believe this act was well timed, and we cordially hope and trust that the Executive may be successful in its efforts to suppress the demoralizing system of able-bodied relief."

This was a perfect echo of His Excellency's speech, and the amendment reads thus: "While we admit the necessity of the large outlay under the head of relief for the able-bodied poor, we cannot refrain from expressing our disappointment of the injudicious mode in which such outlay was effected, and our regret that no remedial measures had been adopted by the Government to relieve the evils accruing to the poor from its sudden stoppage." Now he (Mr. R.) approved and endorsed every word contained in that amendment. We had been accused of bringing all our influence upon the Government to induce them to issue meal and molasses to the poor. It was however, well known that the opposition had brought no such pressure, they had no interest in bringing it, and none of that meal and molasses stuck to their hands or contributed to line their pockets. He well recollected how the hon. member, Mr. Shea, in his last great speech upon the tariff, paraded a letter signed by him (Mr. R.) and his colleagues, and endeavoured to prove from it and to convince the country that we were the parties who had brought a pressure to bear upon the Government to induce and coerce them to issue this poor relief. But that letter should be placed side by side with the one which had been received by him (Mr. R.) from the Chairman of the Board of Works. In 1864, when this Amalgamated Government came into power, this Government that was the greatest curse to the country, was going to work wonders—it was going to improve the condition of the people, stimulate enterprise, and be a blessing to all. It was said that the hon. member Mr. Shea, and the hon. Receiver General left this side of the House purely to trample down all angry sentiment feelings. Well, we had a trial of them for four years and what had they done? When we look around can we see any evidence of progress or of administrative ability? No. Nothing but starvation among the people, as he had stated the other day, but which statement had been suppressed by the official reporters to this House. In 1864 then this unholy alliance was consummated, and before the session met we were summoned to attend a meeting in the office of the Colonial Secretary. We went there and we were asked by the Premier, Mr. Carter, whether we would consent to an advance of £200, being made on account of our road grant to support the able-bodied poor in our district. He (Mr. R.) had said that he would not consent to sacrifice the industrious agriculturist for such a purpose. The hon. and learned Attorney General then said we sent for you to ask your permission, but if you do not give it we will do it without your sanction. We protested against such a proceeding, but it was of no avail. Last year when applications were made to us, we merely brought them under the notice of the Government, leaving the responsibility with them. He (Mr. R.) had addressed a communication to the hon. Colonial Secretary, relieving himself and his hon. colleagues from any responsibility, and placing that responsibility upon the shoulders of the Government, who were bound not to let any one starve. Here the hon. member rose and the communication was referred to, and commented upon them at considerable length. Was there any evidence that he, or any of the Opposition, had coerced the Government into the lavish and extravagant expenditure that had been made? We had no desire to force the Government, we merely placed before them the position of the people, and refrained from telling or asking them to do anything. The members of the Government had a direct interest in fostering this system of pauper relief, and but for it, their household Gods would come to nothing. There were men who came to us and said the Government will give us relief if you sanction it, and if we do not get it, it will be your fault. What then could we do? We were driven into the necessity of sending to the Government the communication that we did—communication which has been twisted and tortured to suit the ends of the Executive. Here the hon. member commented on the speech of the hon. member Mr. Shea last year in reference to this matter, and said that the issue of poor relief was what the Government desired and connived at. He referred to the issue of meal and molasses in the Eastern districts, and said it was made use of for the purpose of filling the pockets of members of the Executive, and not for the relief of the people. He charged certain of the Executive with selling meal to the Government at a price far above its market worth, and being full of Purser's figs, rotten and lumpy. He then referred to the permanent poor grant, contending that it was made the means of the vilest abuses and corruption, and that half the money voted was not expended. The system, he said, was corrupt and rotten at the core. The Proclamation might be a step in the right direction, but it should not have been issued until the Government had in some way prepared the people for its reception. He would refer to the public accounts to show the robberies and jobberies that were contained therein.

The Government had taxed bread and other necessities of life to such an extent as to leave the market without that active competition which was necessary to equalize prices, and this was done in order to raise a revenue to meet their extravagance. They went in debt to the Union Bank to the amount of £70,000, and cared not how the revenue went while that held, and then when the Bank called for payment they had no means of responding, except by increased taxation. His side of the House had put forth their views, with regard to this taxation, but they were scouted, and they were told they were neither financiers nor politicians. What is the result of their Tariff, why that His Excellency is obliged to acknowledge that the Revenue falls short of the Estimate. The Government claims credit for playing a bold and an honest policy in the matter of this proclamation, and that it was issued solely with a view to suppress able-bodied pauper relief, but they would not have adopted that course had not the Union Bank frightened the Purser's friends. They make a virtue of necessity, and parade their virtues before the country. It is said St. John's absorbs the lion's share of Poor Relief, but it was well known that the people from all parts of the country crowd into St. John's. It was not the poor of St. John's who absorbed this Poor Relief. There were last winter in St. John's West not less than 75 outport families, and they absorbed no less than £500 of the road grant of the district, which properly belonged to the industrious agriculturist. The proclamation may have been good up to this, but if hon. gentlemen would visit the poor in their hovels, they would see an amount of misery which would soon convince them that it cannot be carried out in its integrity. He (Mr. R.) was directly opposed to the giving of relief to those who did not require it, but to those who were in danger of starvation, relief should be given, though it took the last farthing in the public Exchequer. It was not how the people were brought to want, they must not be allowed to perish. The Government won't do anything, all their affection, all their attention is centred in the one thing, they have mismanaged the public affairs, they have misappropriated the public funds, and feeling that they stunk in the nostrils of the people, they look to only one avenue of escape—Confederation, that is a new Amalgamation—an Amalgamation with Canada, which is 1000 miles away, with a people who are ignorant of the resources of the country, and yet, as we are told, to do for us more than we can do for ourselves. He (Mr. R.) need not tell the House nor proclaim to the country, all the wiles and tricks which had been played off in order to effect a change in the views of the people on this question. The other evening when his hon. colleague, (Mr. Talbot,) lightly touched on the question of Confederation, the hon. member for Placentia and St. Mary's, (Mr. Shea), took him to task and then spoke for two hours on the very same subject. Had they on that side of the House no right to speak on the subject. On no! They were not honest, so it was said, and only hon. Mr. Shea and a few other disinterested parties were entitled to speak. His colleague had also spoken of the necessity for economy, and hinted that a saving to the extent of £25,000 might be effected. This he (Mr. R.) believed also, and so did the people, yet it was characterized as nonsense, balderdash, buncombe. We are told the public salaries amount to only £32,000, and asked how 25,000 can be saved out of that. The salaries may come to only £32,000, but the public expenditure amounted to 150,000. Will it be said that £25,000 cannot be saved out of that, and that such a saving effect more benefit for the country than this wild scheme of Confederation. But we are not to touch the salaries of the fat officials. If the funds are not sufficient, the remedy is increased taxation. In their wild desire to maintain this position, they were like the man who killed the goose that laid the golden egg. They were in effect told that it was useless to save, that the country was going into Confederation, at least so they say. It was very evident that nothing could be expected from the Government, they were so absorbed by this one matter. They hope the matter will be discussed in a spirit of fair play, and that no clap-net will be used. They are to have a monopoly of clap-net, and no one was to interfere with them, or meet them with their own weapons. The question was come before the constituents, and he (Mr. R.) hoped that all traitors will meet with traitors down. The hon. member Mr. Shea had adduced the late election in Harbor Grace as a proof that the policy of the Government was sustained by the people and merchants of Conception Bay, and said that the hon. member Mr. Godden had been sent to this House to support that policy. There were two candidates, but neither of them in the addresses made any mention of the question of Confederation though it had been before the country for over four years. The election took place and Mr. Godden was returned by a bare majority of 40 though the Government used all possible exertion, and the merchants all their influence to secure his return, and this was the return which was so much boasted of. The hon. Mr. Shea and the hon. learned Attorney General went to Quebec to hear what the other delegates had to say. They came back with what were called good terms, and every machinery was put in operation to accept them. The scheme came in for consideration, and was rejected by the House and people. A number of dodges were tried, dodge No. 1 was a dockyard which was to employ all the shipcarpenters, joiners &c. &c. Dodge No. 2 was a great new road from St. John's to Placentia, which would absorb all the surplus labor of the Colony. Dodge No. 3 was a grand road from St. John's to Willingdale and Pogo, which would give employment to the Northern people. Dodge No. 4 was steam, we were to have coastal, intercolonial, and direct steam, yet have got none of them. Last session the necessity for a new dock and a Railway to Cape Race was got up. He (Mr. R.) could not but admire the honesty of the hon. and learned Attorney General who said it might as well be called a railway to the moon.

HON. ATTORNEY GENERAL.—I did not. I firmly believe in it now. Mr. RENOUF.—Then you have changed your opinions. He (Mr. R.) agreed that if such a Railway were undertaken, it would be of benefit for the building of the Grand Trunk Railway and spend a great deal of money on Canada. A notice of resolution was placed on the paper, and aspended towards the close of the session, and then they would have pushed it through without fair discussion of it were it not for hon. Mr. R. The resolutions were passed and sent to Canada, and nothing had ever been heard of them since. Does any man believe in the construction of this Railway? The capital was to come from Canada, yet the Canadians were not able to build their own public works, but had to go to the United States for money. Of course they had the report of a Canadian Engineer, Mr. Fleming, who made the best of the matter, but it was well known how these reports were got up, especially when a Government wished for them. A new dodge was wanted this session, and he (Mr. R.) would not be surprised if the hon. member would produce a telegraph, authorizing him to engage 800 or 1000 men for employment in Canada on some Railway or other. He (Mr. R.) had enquired from a friend in Ottawa, for he too had friends there, what were the chances of our people getting employment there. (Here the hon. gentleman read an extract from a letter addressed to be from Ottawa.) He asserted that the labor market of Canada was already overstocked, and if there was a demand for labor, that demand could very readily be supplied from the United States. From the very first that Confederation scheme had been supported by trickery and dodges and then dodges had been all so transparent as to render their exposure unnecessary. The hon. gentleman then commented at great length on the course which the Government had pursued with regard to Confederation. He denied that the time had come for disposing of the question. He denied that this House had power to entertain it. Let Canada propose to us some well defined terms as a basis for our consideration and then it will be high time for us to enter upon the discussion of the matter; we had no trade with Canada, Canada was now as free to us and all British subjects as under Confederation it could possibly be. If Canadians found it for their interest they could as well come here now with their capital as if the Union were an accomplished fact. A member of the Confederation would never be sufficient to induce capitalists to embark their money in enterprises which would result to the advantage of this colony. On the other hand Canada could offer no advantages to our labouring population. The labour market was already overstocked and were it not so, the facilities of communication with the United States, would effectually debar us from this benefit. The hon. member concluded a very lengthy speech by strong animadversions upon the policy of the Government in withholding seed potatoes from the poor of the Island.

MR. LITTLE fully concurred with the amendment of his hon. friend, Mr. Parsons, that is he amendment moved in answer to that part of the Speech referring to the Proclamation of June last. Now, what was that proclamation? "That owing to the gross imposition practised by underservant applicants for relief, the insufficiency of the only means available to the Government for confining relief within legitimate bounds, the inadequacy of the revenue, the extraordinary expenditure thus occasioned, &c., &c. It goes on to state that "hereafter relief will be confined to sick and infirm and to destitute widows and orphans." We find in the very wording of the Proclamation an admission by the Government of its own incapacity. They had made that incapacity a law, they had placarded it over the city, and out of their own mouths they stood condemned. The Government do not dare to assert that there exists no necessity for this relief, they do not assert that members are not justified in soliciting this relief, but the assertion is simply that Government had not sufficient machinery to carry out the details of the distribution in such a manner as to protect themselves from fraud and imposition. Was not the honest but unfortunate fisherman, the really deserving man who had lost his all by shipwreck, were not these entitled to the consideration of the Government? Do such cases really exist? Has that Proclamation been a panacea for all our evils? Has not pauperism been as rife in many localities as when that distribution was taking place? Did Government put an addendum to that Proclamation as to the substitution of any means by which the unfortunate poor of the country might be relieved? Not at all. Last year some £32,000 was expended and suddenly, without remedial measure, they throw broadcast this Proclamation, proclaiming to the country that the thriftness of their own officials, they are obliged to do the Government chest, and rather than that fraud should be continued it is desirable that the people should die. The other day the hon. Attorney General had stated that there would have been no purchase seed potatoes because of the high price and the shortness of the supply, and those who had not means to purchase would be constrained to do without them. And this was prudence, this was wisdom. He must certainly condemn the mistaken policy of the Government in this respect. The Government were now feeling the effects of it and unless they were like a corporation without a soul to be damned or a body to be kicked, they must feel for the destitution which every where exists. Attempts had been made to afford relief through temporary establishments. Though he respected the motives which had induced benevolent men to enterprise these establishments, he could not see that any permanent good could possibly result from them. He agreed that it was the duty of every hon. member to use his best endeavours to extricate the country from its difficulties and it was the intention of this party to place before the House their ideas on this subject—ideas which would be endorsed throughout the length and breadth of the country. Government business should be conducted on the same principles of economy which regulate the private affairs of men. He (Mr. L.) had much pleasure in expressing his support of the amendment of the hon. member Mr. Parsons. He did not find fault with an honest endeavour on the part of the Government to suppress this fearful evil which is eating into the very vitals of the country, but he censured their mode and manner of carrying into effect their intentions.

MR. HOGSTEDT stood up to give his support to the amendment before the Chair, and not to enter at length upon the many subjects in the Address. Had this rule been followed this debate ought to have been finished last evening. The hon. member, Mr. Pinsent, last evening had not merely attacked the resolution, but had gone into a debate upon His Excellency's Speech and the various matters therein referred to, and which very well would be subject to discussion as they came singly before the House. When the question of Confederation came formally before the House would be the proper time to express opinions upon it, and look at it in all its bearings. But the hon. member Mr. Pinsent is not content to wait—he must flash at once into everything, and must throw down the gauntlet to this side of the

House. He says the Opposition have a right to point out a remedy for existing evils. Well, he did so last spring when we asked for a grant for seed potatoes, but because that issue could not be turned to profitable account by members of the Government, because they could not make money out of it, it was refused. There had been thousands of acres prepared in anticipation that seed would be given, and the owners of them were now shivering with the cold, starving and dying, but you give them His Excellency's Proclamation, as much as to say to them, digest that if you can. One Executive Council had sold meal to his (Mr. H.) district, and forty barrels of it were so bad that the pigs would not eat them, and that was charged for at 3s. 6d. per barrel, and was taken out of our road bill. Was it not time indeed to put an end to a fraud like that? You ask for a remedy. Why do you not send your Surveyor General to open up the fine land about Torbay and Bay Bulls, and employ the people in clearing it? You could thus make a profit out of your lands and pay at the same time cash to the poor labourer. Look at how the road money was misapplied. Go to St. Mary's and Placentia and see the vast sums that have been expended, and do you see any improvement? There was not an acre of land opened up. Go and see all the districts except his (Mr. H.) and the same state of things would be found. You talk of your resources. If a man goes into the wilderness of Canada he is helped by the Government either with implements or seed, and thus Canada has been raised to what she is now. Look at California, and see how her resources were developed. They were developed by the Government of the day and hence she flourished and is what she is.

HON. ATTORNEY GENERAL.—I suppose the Government made the gold? MR. HOGSTEDT.—The Government made the country before the gold was discovered. What gold has your celebrated Geologist discovered? We have been paying here for four or five years £700 a year while the people were starving, and what good had resulted? The hon. member contended that the Geological Survey was a waste of public money and only added to the burdens of the country, and that if the seed potatoes had been furnished to the people last spring there would be an absence now of the starvation which was to be seen on every side. MR. RENOUF.—The House had listened to a very long speech from the hon. member Mr. Renouf, and he (Mr. R.) had no doubt that the Government were well able to meet and refute the charges which had been made against them. There was a unanimous feeling throughout the country that poor relief to the able-bodied must be put down, and it was reasonable that when a man was in good bodily health and able to do work, he had no right to claim support from the Government for six months out of the year. If such a system as that which has heretofore existed were to be continued, the country must financially be ruined. We see the terrible effects that it has produced up to the present time, and no matter what the disposition of the Government might be, he believed that it was utterly impossible for the financial condition of this colony to sustain the heavy outlay that was placed upon it. Last year we had a new tariff, a tariff which could not be defended but by the peculiar circumstances of this Colony, these circumstances being purely exceptional, rendering it imperative that the liabilities of the Colony should be met; looking at the present tariff, from any other point of view, it was indefensible, and although he (Mr. R.) might have had something to do in fixing the rates upon certain articles, yet it had not his support as a whole. He thought that this Government would be fully sustained by the public in the proclamation issued by them, that no relief would be furnished to the able-bodied poor. He was aware that much suffering did exist, and all must feel it deeply, and deeply deplore it. There was not a season passed when poor relief was distributed, but we found it subject to the grossest abuse and corruption. He would say that in his own district, he had been disgusted at the way in which it had been abused. He knew one place where the test of an oath had been required, and it had been ascertained that the party had actually removed a barrel of flour from his house to that of a neighbour, so that he might be in a position, as he erroneously supposed to satisfy his conscience by swearing that he had nothing in his house. More there was a striking example of the terribly demoralizing effects of this system. The sick and infirm should of course be provided for, and he trusted that the spirit of Christian charity was not yet extinct, but that all were ready as far as their means would permit to relieve such cases. But relief to the able-bodied should be put down. At present great want was no doubt felt, but he believed that the people would be able to struggle through. In cases of course where such utter want existed that loss of life was to be feared, it was the duty of the Government as well as of every individual to prevent such a calamity. It was indeed difficult sometimes to understand the views and opinion of the opposition. At one time they support the action of the Government, and at another they turn round and denounce it. One thing, however, appeared to him (Mr. R.) to be perfectly clear. A Proclamation had been issued, and the people must abide by it. If the Government do not now carry out the Proclamation what will the people think? They will in the future regard all Proclamations of a like character and object as mere moonshine. With reference to seed potatoes he (Mr. R.) could speak of the result in his own district of the refusal of the Government to furnish any. The fishery there had been by no means an abundant one, the people were not prosperous, and yet a greater breadth of land had been sown under potatoes than year than for many years past. He believed that all the really industrious succeeded in getting potatoes, and they who mostly claimed poor relief, he believed, had no gardens to plant potatoes even if given to them. After all, what was the extent of land that was cultivated in this colony? It was a mere nothing. He thought that in some way the people had lost the art as well as the habit of cultivating the soil. The present generation instead of being habituated to it as their forefathers had been, neglected it altogether and trusted too much to the fisheries. It was idle now to tell the people that the cod fisheries alone could support them. He (Mr. R.) did not believe it and no one intimately acquainted with the trade and circumstances of the colony would credit it. Some families where there are five or six men manage to do, as do also some who have large craft and means for prosecuting the fishery, and it is

House. He says the Opposition have a right to point out a remedy for existing evils. Well, he did so last spring when we asked for a grant for seed potatoes, but because that issue could not be turned to profitable account by members of the Government, because they could not make money out of it, it was refused. There had been thousands of acres prepared in anticipation that seed would be given, and the owners of them were now shivering with the cold, starving and dying, but you give them His Excellency's Proclamation, as much as to say to them, digest that if you can. One Executive Council had sold meal to his (Mr. H.) district, and forty barrels of it were so bad that the pigs would not eat them, and that was charged for at 3s. 6d. per barrel, and was taken out of our road bill. Was it not time indeed to put an end to a fraud like that? You ask for a remedy. Why do you not send your Surveyor General to open up the fine land about Torbay and Bay Bulls, and employ the people in clearing it? You could thus make a profit out of your lands and pay at the same time cash to the poor labourer. Look at how the road money was misapplied. Go to St. Mary's and Placentia and see the vast sums that have been expended, and do you see any improvement? There was not an acre of land opened up. Go and see all the districts except his (Mr. H.) and the same state of things would be found. You talk of your resources. If a man goes into the wilderness of Canada he is helped by the Government either with implements or seed, and thus Canada has been raised to what she is now. Look at California, and see how her resources were developed. They were developed by the Government of the day and hence she flourished and is what she is.

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Last year we had a new tariff, a tariff which could not be defended but by the peculiar circumstances of this Colony, these circumstances being purely exceptional, rendering it imperative that the liabilities of the Colony should be met; looking at the present tariff, from any other point of view, it was indefensible, and although he (Mr. R.) might have had something to do in fixing the rates upon certain articles, yet it had not his support as a whole. He thought that this Government would be fully sustained by the public in the proclamation issued by them, that no relief would be furnished to the able-bodied poor. He was aware that much suffering did exist, and all must feel it deeply, and deeply deplore it. There was not a season passed when poor relief was distributed, but we found it subject to the grossest abuse and corruption. He would say that in his own district, he had been disgusted at the way in which it had been abused. He knew one place where the test of an oath had been required, and it had been ascertained that the party had actually removed a barrel of flour from his house to that of a neighbour, so that he might be in a position, as he erroneously supposed to satisfy his conscience by swearing that he had nothing in his house. More there was a striking example of the terribly demoralizing effects of this system. The sick and infirm should of course be provided for, and he trusted that the spirit of Christian charity was not yet extinct, but that all were ready as far as their means would permit to relieve such cases. But relief to the able-bodied should be put down. At present great want was no doubt felt, but he believed that the people would be able to struggle through. In cases of course where such utter want existed that loss of life was to be feared, it was the duty of the Government as well as of every individual to prevent such a calamity. It was indeed difficult sometimes to understand the views and opinion of the opposition. At one time they support the action of the Government, and at another they turn round and denounce it. One thing, however, appeared to him (Mr. R.) to be perfectly clear. A Proclamation had been issued, and the people must abide by it. If the Government do not now carry out the Proclamation what will the people think? They will in the future regard all Proclamations of a like character and object as mere moonshine. With reference to seed potatoes he (Mr. R.) could speak of the result in his own district of the refusal of the Government to furnish any. The fishery there had been by no means an abundant one, the people were not prosperous, and yet a greater breadth of land had been sown under potatoes than year than for many years past. He believed that all the really industrious succeeded in getting potatoes, and they who mostly claimed poor relief, he believed, had no gardens to plant potatoes even if given to them. After all, what was the extent of land that was cultivated in this colony? It was a mere nothing. He thought that in some way the people had lost the art as well as the habit of cultivating the soil. The present generation instead of being habituated to it as their forefathers had been, neglected it altogether and trusted too much to the fisheries. It was idle now to tell the people that the cod fisheries alone could support them. He (Mr. R.) did not believe it and no one intimately acquainted with the trade and circumstances of the colony would credit it. Some families where there are five or six men manage to do, as do also some who have large craft and means for prosecuting the fishery, and it is

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