Union of Ireland was also brought forward in eloquent terms, what possible connection was there between the Union of Ireland and this question of Confederation? Hon. gentlemen knew very well that it had none, and it was cowardly, mean and dastardly thus to appeal to the passions and prejudices of the people. His District had suffered a great deal by the withdrawal of local steam. The withdrawal, however was unavoidable, for in the present condition of the colony the subsidy could not be afforded. He thought that local steam should be a *sine Qua Non* of Confederation. They would then have something better than the dirty tub they used to have, and would also have better than the present tub in Conception Bay. He knew that the hon. member for S. John's had tried and were trying to stir up a feeling against Confederation, but he believed that his (Mr. P's) constituents were favorable to it on good terms He hoped these good terms would be got, and that if not none other would be accepted. He had often in that House tried to procure the erection of a Light House in his district, but had failed. Last summer representations on the matter were made to the Dominion Government and without hesitation they sent down a steamer, had a survey held and the site agreed on, and the building will commence at once. There was earnest of one of the benefits of Confederation. The speeches on this question were so long that the subject was nearly worn threadbare, but there was one important matter which was only slightly, if at all glanced at. That was the power given to the Dominion Parliament to negotiate commercial treaties, which would affect this country in the matters of the French Shore and the Spanish trade. He had been told that the Dominion was endeavoring to establish a free trade with the Spanish West India Islands, and that it will be accomplished so soon as the affairs of Spain are settled. Newfoundland had a very great interest in that matter. The differential duty against foreign flags had operated very prejudicially to our interests. This duty had been the means of prohibiting our fish being carried in English bottoms to Spain, and it had been maintained by the interest which a few Mediterranean ship-owners possessed at the Cortes. With the new Government the flag duty would be taken away, and our commercial relations with Spain would, through the influence of the Dominion be placed upon a much fairer footing than at present. It was of the greatest possible importance to us that our interests should be represented at Madrid. The produce of Sweden and Holland had, through the influence of their respective Ministers, been brought into great demand in the Spanish market. Spain consumed annually 900,000 ls. of codfish, and of this we did not send them one-fourth, having been cut out by the Swedish fish. Petitions and memorials sent year after year to the Colonial office had all proved unavailing to remove the invidious obstacles against which we had to contend, and our only chance of success lay in the power conferred upon the Dominion, of making commercial treaties and sending an accredited minister to these Courts. He (Mr. P.) had referred to this point because he knew something of it personally. He trusted when the real question came down, the terms and *bona fide* conditions of Confederation, they will receive that calm and dispassionate consideration to which they were entitled.

The hon. COLONIAL SECRETARY should have taken no part in the debate, did he not consider it the duty of every hon member to express his opinions on the important matters before the chair. For his (hon C. S's) part, he was tied by no pledges, but felt himself perfectly free to deal with the question of Confederation and to give publicity to the views which he had always held. When the question was first brought into notice, though we had a genial tariff and everything in our favour, he had been of opinion that we could not all, ourselves to the neighbouring Colonies without being benefitted He had regarded Newfoundland as a poor family invited to cast in her lot with half a dozen families in comfortable circumstances, and he had been persuaded that such a union could not but rebound to her advantage. In 1865 he had before his constituents avowed his sentiments, and he had told them that whenever the question came up for consideration he would vote in favour of it. If then they had disapproved of his sentiments they need not have elected him. He should now vote in favour of the Address, and if in this he was running counter to the opinions of his district they were perfectly free to elect another man. We could not but regard this question of union as one fraught with importance, as it must affect the weal or woe of the country for all time to come. The settlement of the matter could not without prejudice to the community be longer delayed. Delay would not only be cowardly but suicidal as regarded the interests of the Country and those who were charged with the protection of those interests. He believed the country demanded a decision at the hands of this House, and that seven-tenths of the people of the Island were in favour of a change. Should then that change be such as would continue us in our present position as a miserable fishing dependency? Or should it be such as would unite us with a Dominion growing in wealth and importance every day? With reference to the subject of Reciprocity, though every hon. member admitted its advantages, there was a variety of opinions. Hon gentlemen on this side agreed with his Excellency, that separated from the Dominion we should be in no position to ensure to ourselves the benefits of reciprocal free trade, while hon. gentlemen opposite contended that Reciprocity might be brought about by a reduction of the civil expenditure. With this latter view he (hon. C. S.), could not concur. Wherever there was a useless expenditure or a useless office let it be removed. But retrench as we might he considered it utterly impossible to obtain all the benefits from such a policy as hon. members opposite contemplated, and though these benefits might be obtained, he considered that they would bear no comparison to those growing out of confederation. He (hon. C. S.) had understood the hon. member, Mr. Little, to say that it was the intention of the Government to adopt by resolution the section of this colony to the terms of Confederation. He (hon. C. S.) did not understand it so. If this were so the question would be definitely settled. The measure could not be tested at the general election and the election, would be a question not of measures but of men. The hon. member was throwing dust in the eyes of his constituency, and endeavouring to shirk the responsibility which was incumbent upon him, leaving himself free to accept Confederation as a foregone conclusion, while it was in reality undecided and he might in honesty oppose it. He (hon. C. S.) considered that the time had arrived when we should act like rational creatures. We could not remain blind to the declension of the means of employment and deaf to the appeals of misery and distress. The resources on which the people had trusted did not keep pace with the increase of population. He did not mean to say that Confederation would have the effect of bringing fish to our shores, but he regarded it as a means to an end, and that end the gradual but unceasing and certain improvement of the condition of the country. It would be needless for him to express in detail his views upon this subject, for abler hands had already dealt with it in all its bearings. He hoped that the terms to which this House would assent would be such as would prove advantageous to the country, that there would be no difficulty in obtaining their approval at the hands of the General Government, and that before long Newfoundland would be an integral part of the Confederacy.

Mr. GLEN.—Hon. members opposite seemed to be trying to educate the people on the subject of Confederation, before the terms came down. He only rose to make a remark upon the speech of the hon. Receiver General, which was a very able and argumentative speech. But the hon. gentleman had stated matters which were not facts, tending to delude the people. This statement could not arise from the ignorance of the hon. gentleman. If the statement had come from the hon. member, Mr. Pinsent, he (Mr. G.) would not have taken the slightest notice of it, for he did not consider that that hon. gentleman was quite *au fait* at figures. The hon. Receiver General had stated that our expenditure under Confederation would be $315,000 and the grant from the Dominion $416,000, so that $100,000 would annually be left for roads. Now the Dominion did not grant us $416,000, so the fact stated was not correct. The amount of the Dominion subsidy was $369,000, so that there was a difference of $47,000 against the Colony. That statement of the hon. gentleman had gone forth to the world, had been extensively read, and coming forth with the prestige of his high character, it must have taken effect. The hon. gentleman should have been more guarded. If the Confederate cause were a good one, it would not require misstatements to support it. The hon. member, Mr. Pinsent, seemed to be trimming his wings for a flight to Ottawa, and when bye and bye the ugly rush for situations came (for there would be an ugly rush) the hon. member if he failed in getting a high legal position as Attorney General or Solicitor General, after the display which he had made the other day, would be fully justified in looking for the post of Finance Minister. He (Mr. G.) had stated a few days ago that the Dominion was in difficulties, and that to save themselves from insolvency, they had to issue $5,000,000 in Treasury notes. The hon. member, Mr. Rendell, had said that that could not be, as their debentures were at a premium in London. The hon. member should recollect that at that time parties in England could not get more than 1½ per cent. for their money, on account of the excessive supply of gold. Suppose the Dominion Government had thrown this $5,000,000 of debentures into the London market, would they have been saleable? Certainly not. The Dominion Government were just as insolvent as our own Government. These Treasury notes would have to be called in, and a crash would come. Though they were a Government of great abilities, they were a reckless Government. He (Mr. G.) could not see the expediency of one bankrupt Government going into partnership with another.

The Hon. RECEIVER GENERAL maintained the accuracy of his statement. The subsidy of the Dominion Government would amount to $416,500 and under the Resolutions which were to be brought in, the Government would look for a yet larger grant.

Mr. GLEN.—The Dominion Government deducts the interest on the debt from the subsidy.

Hon. RECEIVER GENERAL.—Yes, but that I have charged under the expenditure. He (hon. R. G.) was amused by the anxiety of hon. members opposite. In Nova Scotia Confederation was carried without an appeal to the constituencies. In Newfoundland the Legislature are determined that the constituencies shall be consulted, and because the very conditions which were denied to Nova Scotia are granted to Newfoundland, Newfoundland forsooth, is the most aggrieved country in the world He was astonished to hear the hon. member, Mr Little, talk of legislating upon Confederation. A simple resolution is not legislation, as legislation requires the concurrence of the three estates of Parliament. We pass resolutions exp anatory of the details upon which we would recommend the constituencies to accept the Union, and after having these conditions assented to by the General Government, we go to the constituencies and say "Look calmly into the question, see the condition of the country and say whether or not we shall remain as we are: if so, sweep from the hustings those men who have ill-advised you, but if you consider they are honest adopt these terms and go into the Union." Hon. members opposite were throwing dust in the eyes of their constituents, and if they could succeed in getting into power, they would carry out the measure of Confederation. That was the meaning of the phrase "men and not measures." He was perfectly astonished at the hon. member, Mr. Glen, saying that he (hon. R. G.) was guilty of acts to delude the people. He was here to instruct the people as far as his powers and his position went, and when he went before his constituents, if they disapproved of him, they could reject him, and end his political influence.

Mr. RENOUF contended that the figures of the hon Receiver General were false, and that the hon member, Mr. Glen, was correct. The hon. member had said that we would have to provide $315,000 for various services. He (Mr. R.) held in his hand a statement which proved that we should have to provide $360,000. Here was an error of $45,000. The Miscellaneous expenditure under Confederation, instead of $5,000, the amount assumed by the hon. Receiver General, could not amount to less than $37,000; for provision for coastal steam would have to be made. He denied that the hon. Receiver General represented the views of his constituents or of the Roman Catholic population.

The hon. RECEIVER GENERAL said, that the best reply to this remark was a letter he had received from the Right Revd. Dr. Mullock, which he read as follows:—

"My dear Mr. Kent, I was delighted with your speech in to-day's *Newfoundlander*. It is argumentative, convincing, and will do a great deal of good. Praying for God continue you in good health.

I remain, yours sincerely,
† J. T. MULLOCK.

The hon. John Kent.

Mr. RENOUF.—Hon. gentlemen on this side had the highest regard for Dr. Mullock, but this was a matter which should be left to the people. Hon. members on this side had fought the battle of the people through good and through evil report, and as long as they had the honor of occupying seats in the House, they would represent their districts independent of any influence.

Mr. BRENNAN.—There was a great deal of conflicting opinions about Confederation. £700 worth of potatoes would cause the people of St. Mary's Bay to be independent, instead of paying it to a Geologist. Where was the property discovered by that Geologist? Not the fall of his (Mr. B's) flat. There was plenty of flags which ought to be used for drains about Torbay. The pipes cost a great deal of money, that came from across the Atlantic Ocean. A gentleman said to him (Mr. B.) that they were a great deal cheaper than the square drain. "Are they?" said he (Mr. B.) "Oh yes," said the gentleman "that is what they have in London." "Are you going to tell me" said he (Mr. B.) "that they are cheaper when the money goes across the ocean and will never return." Whereas, if the money was spent in the country it would be like a weaver's shuttle, no sooner out of one hand than into the other. Have the flags at each side, lay it and cover it with three feet of earth, and it will last as long as the South Side hill. Our people were not here accustomed to heavy labour. The Railway work in Canada was the hardest work that could be. He considered that annexation would be more beneficial to Newfoundland as far as its encouragement of labour was concerned, than Confederation.

Mr. KEARNEY considered the subject before the chair was the most important that could come before this House. It was well known that he was returned to this House pledged to oppose Confederation. In case, however, the government, intended sending delegates to Canada, to adjust the terms of Confederation, he hoped they would not forget this side of the House. The hon. member then referred at considerable length to the supply system, and the detrimental effects produced by the fishermen being compelled to sell their fish green, for food. He referred to some cases of extortion. He drew particular attention to the great want and poverty that existed among the people, and appealed to the government not to allow the people to starve.

Mr. HOGSETT thought that he had said everything that was necessary upon the paragraph before the chair, and the amendment which had been proposed. It appeared, however, that the hon. Receiver General had been hatching an egg, and wanted to lay it. He (Mr. H.) had been told that the hon. Receiver General had flung a letter in the faces of the oppositions which he alleged he had received from the Right Rev. Dr. Mullock. Now he (Mr. H) could not see why that Right Revd. Prelate's name should be dragged before this House, and used as a means of intimidating and controlling that independence of action which this side of the House possesses. Did the hon Receiver General think to whip us into line by a letter of that description? Did we see any Protestant gentleman in this House dragging in his Bishop's name before the House, and making it the subject of debate? Why, the very fact of so violating the privacy of that communication shows that the hon Receiver General would, if it suited his purpose, betray Dr. Mullock to-morrow. The hon Receiver General had received that letter in compliment to the speech which he delivered, and he now hurls it before this House as an evidence that he was the champion of the Catholic interests of this country. Why, the hon Receiver General killed more Catholics, and is answerable for more Catholic blood than any man that ever stepped upon our shores. He drags his Bishop's name now before this House to be the scoffing and sport of those who did not agree with him in his religious views, in order to cover his own insolence and cowardice. There was one Bishop in this country if his faith, who had given the hon Receiver General character and standing in the community, and yet he ungratefully abused him. How often had he (Mr. H.) heard him wag his tongue against his Bishop? Why if the Right Revd. Dr. Mullock associated with the Receiver General, he would lower his position and do injury to his sacred character. The opposition knew their Bishop and respected him, and when he was attacked they would defend him. They would not go behind his back to traduce him. If he (Mr. H.) thought proper to show when the Receiver General forget he was a Catholic and a Christian. He (Mr. H.) warned him not again to drag the name of that exalted individual before this House. It was only cowards and knaves who would do such a thing. He (Mr. H.) had got up merely to give expression to these views. Let him go and put his head in a pudding bag, forswear politics; and do penance for the wrongs that he had done that great and good man, his Bishop, and the insult he had offered to every Roman Catholic from Cape John to Cape Ray.

The paragraph was then adopted.

On motion of Mr. GODDEN, the Committee then rose, and the Chairman reported that the Committee had passed the address without amendment.

On motion that the said report be received, Mr. PARSONS moved and Mr. GLEN seconded the following amendment to the second paragraph of the address:—

While we admit the necessity for the large outlay under the head of relief of the able bodied poor, we cannot refrain from expressing our disapproval 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 stoppage.

The amendment was put and lost on a division,—Yeas, Messrs Allen, Hogsett, Parsons, Brennan, Kearney, Little, Talbot, Major, Renouf; Nays—Hons Attorney General Colonial Secretary, Receiver General, A. Shea, the Surveyor General, Messrs Rendell, Kelligar, Burton, Oakley, Evans, Barnett, Prowse Pinsent, Barron, O'Reilly, Green, Golden, Kavanagh.

Mr. HOGSETT then moved in amendment seconded by Mr. TALBOT, that the fourth paragraph be expunged, and the following substituted in lieu thereof:—

In reference to the French shore question, we fail to discover in your Excellency's speech any thing that relieves this important matter from the difficulties which surrounded it on the occasion of the address of the Legislature in the past session; and whilst we recognise your Excellency's conduct in a desire to bring this subject to a satisfactory conclusion, we cannot but regret that no reply has been made to the resolutions and petitions of this Legislature, and that the policy indicated in Lord Carnarvon's despatch of the 7th December, 1866, is approved of by the late Secretary of State for the Colonies.

The amendment was put and lost on a similar division to the foregoing.

Mr. TALBOT then moved, in amendment, seconded by Major Renouf, that the sixth paragraph be expunged, and the following substituted in lieu thereof:—

With regard to the question of Confederation, we beg respectfully to observe that the only scheme having reference to this matter which has been submitted to our consideration was that known by the name of the Quebec Resolutions, and that scheme has already been rejected by the Legislature and the country; and we further take leave to express to your Excellency our conviction and desire that a subject of such vital importance to the liberties of the country should be submitted to the decision of the people at the polls, before any further action be taken upon it by the Legislature.

The amendment was put and lost, on a similar division to the foregoing.

The original motion was then put and carried.

Ordered that the address be read a third time to-morrow.

The House then adjourned till to-morrow, at 3 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 17

The House met at 3 o'clock.

On motion of Mr. GODDEN, pursuant to order of the day, the address to his Excellency the Governor, in reply to his speech at the opening of the session, was read a third time and adopted, as follows:—

To His Excellency Anthony Musgrave Esq. Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Island of Newfoundland and its Dependencies.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

We, the Commons House of Assembly of Newfoundland, beg to thank Your Excellency for the gracious Speech with which you have been pleased to open the present Session of the Legislature, and for the uniform courtesy which has marked your intercourse with the House of Assembly during your Administration of the Government.

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 pauper relief.

We thank Your Excellency for the promise that the Public accounts for the year 1866, will be shortly laid before us.

We are pleased to learn that Your Excellency's personal exertions in endeavouring to settle the vexed question of the French Shore, have been so far successful that there is now a prospect of its being arranged in a manner advantageous to both parties interested in it, and that the Policy indicated in Lord Carnarvon's despatch of 7th December, 1866, has been so far modified that Your Excellency will now be enabled to issue Grants under certain restrictions for Mining and other purposes in that locality.

The new statutory provisions which Your Excellency suggests, with regard to Licenses for Cutting Timber, shall receive our careful attention

We fully concur with Your Excellency that the time has now arrived for us to take action on the great question of Confederation; and we can assure Your Excellency that we shall give our earnest attention to the consideration of our Union with the Dominion of Canada, on such fair and equitable terms as may be calculated to serve the interests of the Colony, be approved of by the Government of the Dominion, and which we trust may prove acceptable to all classes of the people, when submitted to the constituencies, and also receive the final approval and ratification of Her Majesty.

The Contract entered into by Your Excellency with Messrs. Inman & Co., for the Conveyance of the Mails between St. John's and Halifax, has been so far carried out in a satisfactory manner. The new arrangement with regard to the detention of the Steamer in St. John's has been a great convenience to the Public, and the Boats are admirably suited to the service.

Ordered that the address be presented to his Excellency the Governor by the speaker and the whole House.

The hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL informed the House that his Excellency would receive the Speaker and the whole House with the address on Friday next, at 12 o'clock.

The House then adjourned until Friday, at 11 o'clock. A. M.

FRIDAY, Feb. 19.

The House met at 11 o'clock, A. M.

At 12 o'clock the SPEAKER and the whole House proceeded to Government House, and presented to his Excellency the address in reply to his opening speech, and being returned,

The SPEAKER informed the House that while in attendance on his Excellency the Government House, he had pres[ented] Excellency the address of thanks. [To which] Excellency the reply made the following [address]

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the H[ouse] of Assembly.

I receive your Address with much g[ratitude] am glad to be assured of approval of t[he measures] by the Government, with regard to th[e poor] notifying that Government relief woul[d be] confined to destitute widows and orpha[ns] and infirm poor. I am satisfied that s[uch a course] to this course is essential to the future [welfare of] the whole community. It is the intere[st and] the duty, of all those who can render [assistance] more necessitous of their fellow citizen[s] to assist the Government in their ef[forts to free] Colony of the vicious system which [had] paralyzed all healthy energy, and so gr[eatly fostered] imprudence among large numbers of t[he people].

Her Majesty's Government will lear[n with satisfac]tion that you are prepared to take [the] question of Union with the Dominio[n under] and I have no doubt that you will be [able to arrange] such terms of arrangement for this pur[pose as will be] acceptable to the Government of the D[ominion and] materially conducive to the interests of [the Colony.] In this case the good sense of the cons[tituencies will] scarcely permit them to withold the [sanction to] such an arrangement; and its ratific[ation by Her] Majesty may confidently be anticipate[d].

Mr. HYATT asked and obtained leav[e of absence] for the remainder of the session.

The Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL [said] was sure that all had heard with de[ep and sincere] melancholy intelligence which had [been re]ceived, of the death of the Hon. Ja[mes Cormack.] All who knew him respected him. [He had been] a long time engaged in the business [of life,] and perhaps no where would his l[oss be more] deeply felt than in the locality whe[re his life] long resided. He had for many yea[rs held a] high public position as a Legislativ[e Councillor] and his strict attention to his duties [had won] the approbation of all. He (hon. A.[G.) felt] that this House would testify its resp[ect and sym]pathy for his family, by adjourning [for the day] next. He therefore moved, that the H[ouse do] adjourn, out of respect to the me[mory of the hon.] James Cormack, M. L. C., of whos[e death] has just been received, and in token [of the] esteem in which the deceased gen[tleman was] held, and of the sympathy felt by th[e House for] his widow and family.

Mr. GLEN begged to second the [motion.] The hon. Mr. Cormack was a worth[y citizen,] one whose loss we must all deeply d[eplore.] was but right that we should thus r[ecognize his] merits, and pay a tribute of respect [to his memo]ry.

The Hon. RECEIVER GENERAL [said he was] pleased to see this disposition on the [part of the] House to respect the memory of a ge[ntleman who] had been alike an honor to his na[tive and] adopted country, in every relation o[f life in which] he had been placed. He had [been an] honorable merchant, and had [rendered] service to the people of the [locality in] which he had so long resided, an[d had built up] a large commercial business. [He was known,] his worth was well known, and he [would comfort and happiness amongst all a]mongst whom he would now be deeply m[ourned. In the] political sphere he had discharged h[is duties faithfully to himself. He (hon. R. G.)] self fast approaching the "were and [was"] and thus he the more deeply felt th[e loss of a valued and active friend,] which the country had sustained, la[mented a] public man and a good citizen, while [the community] mourned the loss of a valued and act[ive member.]

Mr. HOGSETT fully participated in [the sentiments] of hon. gentlemen. The death of su[ch a man as] the hon. James Cormack was a lo[ss to the] community at large felt.

Mr. PINSENT might, under ordi[nary circum]stances, not have given voca[l expression] to feelings which might be as w[ell expressed] by silence, particularly after the [eloquent tribute] in which hon. gentlemen who had [preceded him] referred to the deceased gentlem[an, but he] had peculiar reasons for not allow[ing the occa]sion to pass without express rel[ation on his] part to one, the recollection of wh[ich was] associated with his earliest years, [and one who] had ever possessed a warm fr[iendship and] regard, and who, besides the as[sociations of] private life, had been for some ye[ars a member] member in the coordinate branc[hes of the Le]latur, the Legislative Council. [He thought] could therefore speak of the decea[sed gen]tleman, in both his public and priv[ate relations] off life, from intimate experience. [He had ador]ed both most worthily, and his geni[al and] urbane manners, and liberal min[d had won] him endeared and respected by all [who had the] pleasure of his acquaintance. For t[he reason] he (Mr. P.) could not do other w[ise than give] open expression to his sympathy [with the] gentleman's family, and public t[o the] memory of the deceased.

The House then adjourned unt[il] 3 o'clock.

MONDA[Y]

The House met, and adjourned [immediately] afterwards to attend the funeral of [the late] JAMES CORMACK.

The Newfoundl[ander]

ST. JOHN'S

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY

THE Government propositions as to [the terms on] which they think this colony should [enter the Con]federation were introduced for discu[ssion in Com]mittee of the Assembly yesterday by [the Attor]torney General; Mr. Glen, the hon. [Colonial Sec]Mr. Hogsett followed, when the Com[mittee rose,] the debate was adjourned to-day.

These terms (for which we have n[ow no space] *tenso* to-day), are in the first place t[hat the Do]nion Government shall defray a sum [equal to] our public expenditure, being the e[xpenditure] penses of those departments of w[hich we] assume control, Governor, Judges [and Civil] Office, Light Houses, Surveyor Gen[eral.]

In addition to this sum of [$] would be Assets applicable to local [purposes]