

GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.		
Canada 6 per cent. Jan. and July, 1877	107½	to 108½
Do 6 per cent. Feb and Aug.	105	to 107
Do 6 per cent. March and Sept.	105	to 107
Do 5 per cent. Jan. and July	95	to 96
Do 5 per cent. inscribed stock	94	to 96

Mr. KEARNEY was glad to hear that the question of the French Shore was drawing towards a settlement, which would be favorable to the interests of the people of this country, and that his Excellency was prepared to issue licenses of search on that part of the island, and He (Mr. K.) could not deny that the potato crop of last summer was a good one, but of what use was that to the thousands of poor people who had no seed, and were now perishing for the want of potatoes or other food? He did not want the Government to break through the Proclamation which they had issued, but he would be glad to see the people furnished with some employment which would enable them to earn their bread. If a ship, with a large number of people on board, was known to be in distress, would there not be a great cry against any one who would refuse to render her all the assistance in his power? To allow them to perish for want of assistance would be a disgrace to the country; and could it not be as disgraceful, if not much more so, to permit our people to perish for want of timely aid? The people might have employment in preparing for the repairs of the roads, when the time comes. They might now be employed in the hauling of sand over the snow to such places as it will be required when the season opens. That is work which can be done now much better than in the summer. The people of St. John's might be employed in hauling building stone and ballast, which would always be valuable, and which is in plenty on the South Side of Hill. The people of Portugal Cove might be employed in repairing their breakwater and giving them a place of refuge, and enabling them to give up their present miserable position in fishery. Witless Bay is a wild place, but there is a Pond on the east side of it, and by cutting through a few yards of beach, it could be made available as a splendid harbor. To repair Toad's Cove Breakwater and finish the Store Bridge at Briggs Sound, build a wooden bridge at Riverhead, Cape Broyle, and at Riverhead, Caplin Bay, would furnish employment to good many people in these localities. Again, the main beach at Ferryland might be staked and walled, so as to prevent the sand from entirely choking up the Pool. The Bar Renewers, of which He (Mr. K.) had so often spoken, might also be attended to. A great deal of property had been lost there for want of his recommendation being attended to. As these matters would give employment to the people; and he begged the Government to give employment to those who so sorely needed it and not bring disgrace on the country by permitting any of its people to die of want.

persistent claimant for pauper relief for his District, and he has made all his party follow his views and bow their necks to his yoke. He, Mr. Prowse, gave the hon. member, Mr. Glen, credit for "educating his party" in his skill in party discipline must be great indeed, in the course of three short days, he can so manipulate his followers as to make them ignominiously eat their words. No man could oppose pauperism more vehemently, or sustain the Proclamation more ardently than did the hon. member, Mr. Lumsden and the gallant Major, the Secretary of the Mendicity Work House. Why, his position there was a living testimony against pauperism, and yet come a more pauper agent. If ever there was a man honest at home by any Government, or by any party in this Colony, surely it was the issuing of this Proclamation. No popularity could be gained by it, and every harsh feeling amongst a starving population could be easily excited by unscrupulous demagogues, against a Government attempting it. He, Mr. Prowse, considered it was the duty of every right thinking man in the community to aid the Government in their honest and sincere endeavours to suppress so demoralizing a system. The Government deserve credit for resisting the pressure put upon them in this matter, and they get credit for it. Every good and generous citizen will aid the Government by his private charity, and cheer them on in their whole work. This question is now of the most vital importance to the Colony. Our financial integrity, our social morality, almost our very existence as a civilized community, depend upon the issue of this trial. Pauperism with us is not an epidemic; it is a chronic disease; it ruins our credit, demoralizes our people, saps the energy of every man who once receives the pauper's dole, and utterly destroys those manly independent feelings and those habits of self-reliance without which no people can prosper. This demoralizing system has dried up the fountains of private charity in the outports. Everywhere government meal has more or less choked up the springs of individual benevolence. He (Mr. P.) believed that no industrious, thrifty man need be a pauper in this country. Last fall he had been in the District of Ferryland. He travelled over the worst road he had ever seen in Newfoundland, from Ferryland to Broad Cove, near Cape Bolland; and in Broad Cove he saw an example of what industry and thrift could do. He stayed in Broad Cove with a man who had brought up a family of nine daughters and three sons, in plenty and comfort. He had acquired, by his own hard industry, 25 cows and 32 sheep. He had cleared land enough to support his stock. He had then ashore 148 cwt fish, and during the month of November, he caught 40 q. ls. more. He bought everything at cash prices, and got the highest price for his fish. For 30 years he had never owed a merchant a shilling. Now how was it this man thrive, whilst his neighbours in the same little harbor, with the wealth of the sea and land around them, were miserable paupers? Of a few days they lay in bed, whilst he worked at his land. When bait could not be got, they idled away their time ashore. He kept a stock of clam bait in the little stream that ran through his land, always ready for such an emergency. His daughters cured all his fish, made his bay and worked at everything on his farm. None in his house ate the bread of idleness. Consequently they were prosperous and contented, whilst many of his neighbours were beggars. Everywhere in Newfoundland the same results can be seen. The independent man always makes a voyage. The dependent one is always behind. He (Mr. P.) never heard a good man in this country who did not denounce pauper relief, and he regretted very much to see the present position of the hon member, Mr. Bonaparte, on this question. Was it the duty of the opposition simply to denounce, abuse, and revile independent members of the Government? He (Mr. P.) had heard pretty much the same speech for years, as to one delivered to-day. He could tell beforehand where the hon member, Mr. Shea, would come in, where the Receiver General would be denounced, and where the Late member for St. John's West, Mr. John Cassey, would be flagellated. He knew the address and the propensities of the members for St. John's West: by next week they were a couple of political Jeremiahs. They always prophesied evil things, and the rejected man that evil day had come upon us. He (Mr. P.) considered it was the duty of every hon. member in this house to assist in every plan for the regeneration of the country. He considered that the address was a most reasonable address, and he was astonished at the opposition's flimsy fault with it.

Mr. PROWSE.—Because Confederation embraced it. Reciprocity was a necessary appendix to Confederation. The only possible question that could arise on the address was as regards the first part of the paragraph on Confederation. If we agreed that the time was now arrived for us to consider terms, all the rest followed as a logical sequence. He (Mr. P.) regretted the position in which hon. members opposite were placing themselves on this question of union. In their hearts they were favourable to it, but out of deference to the prejudices of ignorance they were going to use it as a party question. Confederation, in this country, never ought to be a party question. It involves the interests of the whole country too deeply and too seriously to be treated in that way. The whole House should join in this address, should agree on the terms, and should be represented on the Delegation. Of course, it cannot be so if the paragraph is opposed, and the terms are not agreed to on one side. Confederation had never been fairly treated by its opponents in this country. Every prejudice had been unscrupulously stirred up against it. Fortunately the bleaching bones and the oppressive taxation cry had been killed out by the incontrovertible logic of facts—but the Union of Ireland still remained, though there was not one point of similarity between the Union of Ireland and Confederation. The sore that rankled most in the breast of the Irishman, as regards that Union, was the unfairness with which Roman Catholics had been treated. The land tenure never raised his indignation half so much as the Irish Church Establishment and the Catholic disabilities. Now, thanks to poor D'Arcy McGee, even the prejudices of the Roman Catholics as regards sectarian education have been respected. None of the evils complained of under the Union of Ireland exists under the Dominion of Canada. He (Mr. P.) wished the Opposition would follow the course he had mentioned, for Confederation must come. The country were being led to get their eyes open to the truth.

Mr. HOGSETT was not a little astonished at the course taken by the Government with reference to this question of Confederation. To the clause in the address which was under consideration the opposition had proposed an amendment, and he (Mr. H.) defied the Government to show that it contained anything which ignored the necessity for this Proclamation. It only went to say that the Proclamation would be a good course if it had been followed by that which was suggested, not only by the opposition, but by the whole House, that is, if the people had been unable to cultivate the potatoe crop, which He (Mr. H.) contended was every thing to the poor man. The hon. member for Ferryland, Mr. GLEN, had given a barrel of seed potatoe to a man in his District. That man had seven children. He planted the barrel of potatoe. He had to sell his fish green, and in September commenced digging them for the support of himself and his family.— They lived on them until October, when after all, they dug 15 barrels out of the ground. He (Mr. H.) did not attack the Proclamation. He was always for putting the people of the country on their own mettle. They would then be independent and clear of all influence. It was the system he attacked, for it was made use of for party purposes, and not for the poor. On his side of the House they were willing to aid and assist in a strict supervision of the relief. The poor should be relieved, which not at the expense of the industrious. He told sure that no man in the House would permit a poor man to starve, no matter by what means starvation had been brought on him. He (Mr. H.) was not a pauper agent, and never would be one. He had sought to teach his people that the surest way to independence was to rely on themselves, and could now point to his district as the most independent in the island. This question of pauper relief was not a party question. It was one which they should deal with like men. He (Mr. H.) disagreed with the system as it was. The hon. and learned Attorney General knew that he disagreed to the giving of the Road grant to the able-bodied poor. The people didn't care where the relief comes from, so as they get it. It may have been well intended as a check, but it had been productive of more evil than any other scheme. It had stopped all public improvement; and worse those who tried to be industrious to lose all the benefit of their exertions because others chose to be idle? For himself he hoped that while the Government would check all imposition, they would allow no man to die. If there were a proper surveillance of the really poor would get relief, whilst the indolent, and those who did not require it, would not. He would not then travel into the question of Confederation. There will be a debate when the clause referring to it comes up before them. When the terms were brought down he would be prepared to debate them, not in a factious spirit; but broadly, fairly, and squarely on their merits. He would commit himself to no position until he had seen the Government programme.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL could not forbear
make some remarks of the nature
made and sit down. He was surprised

to bear that destitution prevailed in the locality referred to by the hon. member. A large amount of relief was last year conveyed thither and no return had ever been made. There was a supplying merchant resident there, and surely he, when he receives the benefit of these poor man's services, should in some substantial manner display his sympathy with their distress. There is really no part of this island so capable of sustaining a population as the district of Placentia and St. Mary's. There exists the most fertile land in the country. There the industrious man can find fish almost at his door. And yet that fertile land has been lying untillied and almost calling aloud for cultivation. It stands in cold contrast to the sterile land of the Northern districts, where the people are now sustaining themselves. But the people of Placentia would ruin their lives upon the chance of what little sustenance they could get from the Government rather than exert themselves to their own permanent independence. Only last session there were three thousand barrels of flour distributed among the people of that district through the wreck of the *Summer*, and hardly a man of the locality but got a barrel. There could not have been a single man but must have been in a position to commence the fishery infinitely superior to the men of other districts. The same pressure was last year attempted to be brought to bear upon the Government, although in addition to the flour so obtained, some £3000 worth of Pauper Relief was distributed in the district. He (hon. A.G.) had as much sympathy for the suffering poor as any man. He would go to any legitimate extent to assist them. He hoped that the Road money of the people might be preserved for them, for a purpose which he had in view. He wished to provide against the necessity which would compel the poor to sell their greenstuff at an enormous sacrifice, leaving them nothing for the sustenance of their families, and it was with a view to the prevention of this state of things that he hoped to get the sustenance of hon. members in the course which he had marked out. From Twilingle every possible pressure was brought to bear upon the Executive. Petition after petition was sent in, and a grave responsibility devolved upon the Ministry. In a very short time all communication with that district would be cut off by ice. Nevertheless the Government felt it to be their duty to resist these appeals, and the consequence was, that not only in this district, but in Bonaville and even in Trinity Bay, where it was found that the Government were indulgent in their intentions, persons were found to come forward to the relief of the destitute. In his own district two Vigilance Committees had been appointed, and the people had taken upon themselves the task of assisting the distressed. Hon. members would find that, if there were a proper resistance to all appeals, for a sufficient length of time, the people of the country would be for the first time in a long series of years in a position of comparative independence. He (hon. A.G.) was well aware that individuals, interested parties, attempted to get up an outcry to the prevailing destitution, in order to force the Government into the issue of relief, that these agitators might profit by the large sales of meal and mangles, which would necessarily follow. The people themselves were well disposed and well conducted, and it any *agents* should take place, would be found, upon enquiry, that these interested parties were at the bottom of it. It would be very desirable that the really destitute should be relieved, but there can be no check against imposture, and the moment you begin the infernal system it becomes general, and you cannot distinguish between the impostor and the deserving poor. But there was besides these difficulties, another and a paramount obstacle. The Colony has not the funds at its disposal sufficient to meet this demand. There has been the greatest care manifested to keep the expenditure within the Legislative grants; but still the drain upon the Revenue had been so enormous as to put it beyond the power of the Government, even if they had the desire, to renew the issue of relief. He (hon. A.G.) gave the hon. member, Mr. O'Reilly, credit for sincerity; but he could not help thinking that sufficient care had not been taken to impress upon the people the nature of the Proclamation. If that had been effectually done he did not believe that this pressure would have been brought to bear upon the hon. member.

Mr. RORKE.—Although he had listened with great attention to the speeches of hon. gentlemen opposite, he had been unable to come to any other conclusion than that they were a mere rehearsal of the same speech, which for three or four sessions, we had been the habit of hearing. The paragraph before the chair says that the proclamation has been well-timed. It might be well timed, but though it would have been better timed had it been adopted 25 years ago. Had that been so, he believed that the distress now universal would not have been one hundredth part of what is. He remonstrated the introduction of this system. He was personally aware of the imposture which was then attempted, imposture which had continued ever since, and he was firmly convinced that were it not for that proclamation the thing would never have come to an end. It might be asked how the poor were to be relieved. As far as he could, he had assisted the destitute. God forbid that he should see the people starve, without extending to them a helping hand. But he could not forget the lesson which the Cotton Famine in England had taught, that wealthy people came forward and organised a fund by which the operatives of Lancashire were sustained against a pressure far worse than any we have ever experienced. His (Mr. R.) had looked to hon. members opposite to display of sympathy for the poor struggling men? Were hon. members going to drag down such men? The Government has been taunted with account of the immense taxation, which they have been constrained to impose. For his part he (Mr. R.) had been one who had assisted in imposing this taxation. He said him and many others who acknowledged the necessity for it, it had proved a bitter pill.

[SEE SECOND PAGE]

The House met pursuant to
The hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL
on this day fortnight, he was
into Committee of the Whole
the Union of this Island with
Canada.

Mr. GLEN gave notice that he would ask the hon. Colonial Secretary of the amount expended by the Government for relief of the able-bodied poor in the District, viz:—

Amount expended by.—L
 " " by Wm. C
 " " by M. W.

The following notices, given the session, were accidentally omitted from the proceedings:

Mr. TALBOT also gave notice he would move that the report of the Debates of the House, and for be discontinued.

Mr. TALBOT also gave notice he will ask leave to bring in present office of Surveyor General for the Land Service, by certificate of the Chairman of the

Pursuant to Order of the Board
and itself into Committee of the
address of thanks, Mr. KNIGHT
The fourth section of the

"We are pleased to learn that personal exertions in endeavouring to solve the vexed question of the French far successful that there is a plan being arranged in a manner satisfactory to all the parties interested in it, and that the Government of Lord Carnarvon's despatch, 1865, has been so far modified that the full efficiency will now be enabled to be secured without the territorial restrictions for Miners in that locality."

LION. RECOVERER GENERAL—
 in the world's history, and not
 particular country. Sweep our
 we think, you there observe
 that must alarm and surprise
 The very crust that envelope
 seems to be worn out by the
 central fires. Earthquakes to
 crust and suddenly engulf
 man but man himself. Volcanoes
 these central fires, are loud
 Some sweep the ocean and
 argosies that career upon its
 the treasures and the man who
 us circumscribe our view and
 what do we see? The stalwart
 country fleeing from its shores
 are stricken with poverty and
 self-reliance. Widows weeping
 who have been torn from their
 their sons who have been untaken
 children looking in vain for
 never again return to careen the
 did not speak of these things
 fostering despair. He still
 the elements of wealth which
 Her fisheries were liable to be
 New elements of wealth pre-
 capitalists are anxious to exploit
 as this we surely ought not to
 and temper in imprudent and
 That was why he spoke of the
 I stated these circumstances
 every one acquainted with the

T. those who feel with the sufferings of the people, it must be Representatives of the people trusted the serious care of some of the misfortunes of the people passionately to the consideration us to embody in Legislative processes which will in some overwhelming afflictions, which he hoped hon. gentlemen exaggerated, he would enter the substantial matters contained in speech. The first important itself is the circumstance taken upon themselves the Royal Excellency to issue a Resolution the issue of Poor Relief? I affirm. He (hon. R. G.) had consequences of indiscriminate bodied poor. He had foreseen the population of self-reliance the people, and drag down the industrious men of the subject had been repeated and their publication had so ultimately to the loss of the Le had the satisfaction of seeing time every one recognised upon those principles which time laid down. In 1868 the rate relief reached its culmination nearly a quarter of a million expended; it was high time to his hand. It required great supporters of the Government curive policy, and it was highly Matthew had done so, and honest or two exceptions, had to the necessity of the act, which attention is called is rights on the French Shore. (R. G.) had crossed the Atlantic interviews with the Duke of made promises which he had