

Said message, containing Despatches from the Secretary of State, was received, read, and laid on the table.

Hon. Leader of the Government then presented the Postmaster General's Account with the Government for the year ending 30th September, 1870. Also the Money Order statement of the Postmaster General for the same year.

Ordered, That the said papers do lie on the table.

House in Committee on Privileges and Elections, to consider the petition of T. W. Dodd, against the return of Hon. D. Davies, as a member for Charlottetown and Roynally.

Hon. Mr. Perry in the Chair. After some time spent in Committee, the Speaker resumed the Chair, and the Chairman reported progress.

House adjourned till ten o'clock to-morrow. I. O.

THURSDAY, 9th March. House in Committee on the petition against Hon. D. Davies' election for Charlottetown.

AFTERNOON SESSION. Hon. Leader of the Government presented a message from His Honor the Lieutenant Governor, transmitting Despatches, which were received, read and laid on the table.

Lunatic Asylum. On motion of the Hon. Leader of the Government the House resolved itself into a Committee of the whole, to take into consideration the advisability of extending the Lunatic Asylum, or of removing it to Falconwood.

Mr. Richards in the Chair. Hon. J. C. Pope's speech in favor of procuring suitable Building for Lunatic Asylum.

HON. LEADER OF THE GOVERNMENT said that the question in reference to the necessity for increased accommodation for lunatics had received prominence in the Lieutenant Governor's Speech at the opening of the Legislature and the House had promised in the Address in answer to the Speech, that the matter should be duly attended to.

It was well known by every member of the Committee, that the present building suited the wants of the Colony very well when our population was much less than it was at present, but that it was now far too much crowded, and not sufficiently ventilated.

Owing to the want of room in the Asylum building for the increased number of applicants, a number of rooms had been fitted up temporarily in the Jail of both Prince County and Queen's County, for their accommodation. He believed there was every disposition on the part of hon. members of the Legislature to provide sufficient accommodation for that unfortunate class of persons, and that everything that was necessary would be done to render their condition more comfortable.

In all other countries where Lunatic Asylums had been established, there were considerable spaces of land in connection with them, for the purpose of giving employment to such lunatics as were capable of performing manual labor, in cultivating the land, in order to facilitate their recovery, and assist in paying the expenses of the establishment.

In connection with the present building there were ten acres of land, a large portion of which was occupied by buildings, and the remainder as pasture. That small quantity of land was not sufficient to give employment to many of those persons, and they were not in a fit condition to be employed in improving the public high ways and streets, for they often got astray and frightened women and children.

In one instance, one of them met Hon. Mr. Duncan upon the public road, and took charge of that gentleman's horse and said it was his own, which showed that they should not be employed upon the highways. The question now was whether the present building should be enlarged, or whether the whole establishment should be removed to Falconwood, which was generally known as the Stock Farm.

That farm had been rented from the proprietor for seven years, at £100 per year, with liberty to purchase at any time during that period, at £1000 sterling. A large amount of money had been spent in improving it, and there was no doubt it had always been the intention of the Legislature to purchase it within the term of the lease for it was cheap at the price at which it could be purchased. He believed it contained about 250 acres of land and a large marsh.

On the farm there was a spacious brick dwelling-house, which might be enlarged and fitted up for the purpose required, and good out-buildings. The question for the House to consider was, whether the farm should be purchased and the brick building enlarged, or whether the present Asylum building should be extended and allowed to remain on the old site. If the Stock Farm were purchased, the old Asylum building and the land in connection with it might be sold to a company which might purchase it for an hotel, and fit it up properly with bed-rooms for that purpose, and as it was in a good situation, and near good bathing ground, it might perhaps realize a considerable sum of money.

Whatever was done in reference to the Asylum, the Stock Farm should be purchased, for the lease was near expiring, and if the opportunity now offering itself for the purchase, were lost, it could never again be purchased so cheaply. The principal reason why the Asylum establishment should be removed was, that there were only ten acres of land in connection with the building, while the Stock Farm was large and suited such an institution. Several of the lunatics were fit to labor, and therefore might do a large amount of work on a farm, such as planting fields of vegetables, weeding, cultivating orchards, and various other kinds of labor performed on farms, and thus greatly lessen the expenses of such an establishment. There was no doubt that their labor would pay more than half the expenses of their support, and at the same time greatly conduce to their health and complete recovery. He knew that many of them were

quite able to work, for he had seen carts loaded with them, pass daily near his residence, during the summer season, to work on the keeper's farm, upon which they performed a great deal of useful labor. This practice, of course, should not be allowed, but a farm should be provided upon which to employ them, in order that the establishment might reap the benefit of their labor.

To bring about the desired result, the whole establishment should be transferred to Falconwood. He thought it would be well for the House to appoint a Committee, to act in concert with a Committee from the Legislative Council, to visit both the Lunatic Asylum and Falconwood, and to report to the House their opinion as to what course should be pursued. It was not a government matter, but was one which the representatives of the people would do well to consider carefully.

Hon. Mr. Wightman thought it better to repair present Building than spend money on new one.

Hon. Mr. WIGHTMAN did not rise to oppose increased accommodation for the Lunatic Asylum, for he believed it was very much required; but as the present position of the building was a very good one, he could not see why the establishment should be removed. Why not spend the money on the building now occupied, instead of going to the expense of erecting new buildings?

If the plan suggested by the hon. Leader of the Government were carried out, he thought a large sum of the public money would be expended, without sufficient reason for doing so; but he approved of the appointment of a Committee to ascertain whether the present buildings could be extended so as to afford suitable accommodation for its inmates, without going to the expense of purchasing property elsewhere, or not.

Dr. Robertson.—Lunatics should have open air and ventilated rooms.

Dr. ROBERTSON quite agreed with the hon. Leader of the Government in reference to the desirability of removing the Lunatic Asylum to larger grounds, for it was a matter of the utmost importance that young lunatics especially, should have considerable employment in the open air, in order to assist their restoration to health and soundness of mind. He had visited the building a short time ago, and found that the rooms were altogether too small, and that the patients suffered from want of fresh air.

Young lunatics stood a good chance of recovering, if they had well-ventilated rooms and sufficient exercise; but if they did not recover in a short time after being taken charge of in the institution, there were ninety-nine chances out of a hundred that they never would; it would therefore be the means of making them lunatics for life, if the present system were continued. If the establishment were removed to Falconwood, where there was a considerable space of land upon which they could be employed, they might be classified and put to various useful kinds of farm work, and thus assist in their own maintenance.

In order to improve the condition of lunatics, they required well-ventilated and well-lighted rooms, and a considerable space of ground to move about in; he therefore thought it would greatly conduce to their benefit to remove the establishment to Falconwood.

Hon. Mr. Sinclair recommends a full report on both places.

Hon. P. SINCLAIR thought that considering the position the Government were in with regard to the Model or Stock Farm, they would require to purchase it, for there had been too much money expended upon it to allow it to pass out of their hands without losing by it. There might be a difference of opinion among hon. members in reference to the removal of the Asylum to Falconwood; the air was just as pure there as the Model Farm, but there was not sufficient room at the former place to allow a sufficiently large enclosure, and still have enough land left for cultivation, for the purpose of giving employment to those lunatics who required a certain amount of exercise. If, therefore, the present building was on the farm the situation would be far more conducive to the health of the inmates, who required to be a good deal in the open air. It was true that Falconwood was rather far from the city, but perhaps that difficulty might be got over. The question was, whether the removal would cost more if the present building were sold, than adding to the present one. If the Colony would be left in as good a position financially by removing the establishment, it would undoubtedly be better to do so; but, if the expenses were found to amount to a great deal more than by enlarging the present building, the matter would be different. He thought the Government were about to take the proper steps to ascertain the real state of the case, by the appointment of a Committee to visit both places, and to give a full report on the whole matter.

Hon. Mr. Callbeck thought it well for Government to purchase Stock Farm.

Hon. Mr. CALLBECK had been connected with the Lunatic Asylum in the capacity of trustee, during the last three years, and agreed with the hon. Leader of the Government that the building now made use of was too limited in its accommodation for the purpose required; but, he thought that if there was a sufficient quantity of land, the site was all that could be required. The position was salubrious and healthful. The building required enlarging, and even when that was done, it would not meet the present requirements of the country, for the rooms were too small and confined. He was of opinion that if lunatics had plenty of outdoor exercise, it would conduce very largely to their restoration; and in order to have that, it would be necessary to have a larger extent of land in connection with the building. He agreed with some hon. members who had spoken on the subject, that the Stock Farm should be purchased by the Government, and that it was worth more than the amount required to be paid for it. The receipts which might be derived from the sale of the old establishment were not likely to meet the expenses incurred in extending the Stock Farm building so as to give sufficient accommodation; a considerable outlay in addition would be required.

But, as there was an absolute necessity for enlarging the present building, there would be a considerable outlay required in either case. If it was advisable for the Govern-

ment to purchase the Stock Farm, and he believed it was, the removal of the Asylum to that place would be a step in the right direction, if a heavy outlay in addition to the receipts derived from the sale of the old building and the land in connection with it, was not required. He would agree to the appointment of a Committee to investigate the matter, and report as to what course should be pursued by the Legislature.

Hon. G. W. Howlan on duty of Government to provide for improvement of Farm Stock.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN said that the matter before the Committee was one of the greatest importance to the people of this Island. It was unfortunate that a portion of our population were unable to take care of themselves, and had to be provided for by the State; but it was the bounden duty of the Legislature to provide everything that was necessary for the comfort and accommodation of those unhappy creatures. In Germany there was a regular town inhabited solely by lunatics, with guardians appointed over them to attend to their wants and necessities, and in which they lived in harmony. At that place there were no less than 2,500 patients, over whom a commissioner was appointed, who reported once a month to the Government. Those lunatics lived much in the open air, and mingled much together, cultivating farms, orchards, gardens, &c., and it was found more conducive to their health and recovery than any other means that had been employed. The United States Government had the whole matter in reference to lunacy rigidly investigated, and it was proved from the statistics of all countries that, as civilization advanced, a larger proportion of the people became lunatics. If our Lunatic Asylum were removed to Falconwood, the inmates would find plenty of employment in agricultural and horticultural operations, which would greatly conduce to their health and restoration, and at the same time materially assist in paying the expenses of the institution. Last year the Canadian Government sent a Commissioner to Belgium to ascertain the best way to manage such institutions, and that gentleman made an able report, showing that in France and Belgium they employed their lunatics in agriculture and horticulture, in order to improve their condition mentally and bodily, and that the results were found to be very satisfactory. As the Stock Farm was really necessary, and the lease near its expiration, it should be purchased, especially as it could be obtained at such a reasonable price. We had exported a large number of horses, and had more money invested in that kind of stock than in any other. It was the duty of the Legislature to provide for the further improvement of our Island stock, and in order to do so, it was necessary to have a farm where stock could be bred and kept till required. (Hon. Mr. H.) had purchased one of the horses imported by the Government, but had the misfortune to lose him. Another imported horse had been lost at the Stock Farm. It was very expensive to import pure-bred horses from England; but if we could get one or two really first-class horses, we might have in a few years, quite a number of horses of the best description bred on the Stock Farm. If that farm were purchased and properly arranged, he saw no reason why it would not pay a large part of its expenses. The outlying portions of the country had reaped no particular advantage from it; but by our importing a few very superior animals, and raising stock upon it, the whole country would be greatly benefited. Such Farms had been made to pay in other countries, and why should this one be any exception? It should be made a sort of agricultural school, in which our young men, who intend to follow agricultural pursuits, could learn valuable lessons. If we had a veterinary surgeon in the Colony, he should have charge of the stock, in order that it might be properly taken care of, and turned to the best account. (Hon. Mr. H.) had the Report of the Canadian Commissioner to Belgium before him, and found that the Model Farm in that country was nearly made self-sustaining by means of the quantity of farm produce raised and sold from it. The young men who learn the art of farming in that establishment work also on the neighboring farms, some at one thing and some at another, to learn what every farmer ought to learn. They have in Belgium beautiful hedges and rows of trees, which ornament and beautify their farms; but here we have few farms that have anything of the kind, although the most beautiful tree anywhere to be found is our own spruce, which looks so rugged, hardy, and green-looking. We have not the thriftyly-managed farms our people ought to have, and it is all owing to neglect. Our Stock Farm might be very easily made a Model Farm, self-sustaining, and a credit to the country, both in reality and appearance. We have been managing, hiring and draining it, and surely it ought to pay just as well as other farms adjoining it. We should reap great benefits from both the farm and the stock. We have some good horses on the farm already, but we want one or two more first-class horses to diffuse some fresh blood and make still further improvement. Blood horses and heavy horses should follow each other in succession.

Hon. Mr. Duncan.—Rooms of old Lunatic Asylum too small.

Hon. Mr. DUNCAN thought the condition of the Lunatic Asylum should receive the serious consideration of the House, for the building was over-crowded and badly ventilated. The land in connection with it was too limited in extent, and it was well known that people whose minds are affected, were the better for being employed in some useful occupation. He therefore thought it would be better to remove the establishment to Falconwood, in order to attain that desirable object. The only objection he had to the Stock Farm was that it was rather too far from town; but perhaps that difficulty might be obviated in some way or other. If the old Asylum building were increased, it would require a considerable outlay, and after all would not meet the wants of the establishment, for the rooms were too small. On the other hand, if the building on the Stock Farm were enlarged, it might not cost more than would be spent on the old one; and many great advantages would be offered to improve the health of the patients, and to give them useful employment in weeding, hoeing potatoes, and cultivating the land in various ways, while at the same time it would greatly lessen the expenses of the establishment. The Farm would have to be purchased whatever, for the lease was near expiring, and the country could not afford to lose all the money that

had been spent in improving it. The quantity of land connected with the present building was far too small, and if the building were made ever so commodious and comfortable by expensive additions, the advantages to be derived from a good farm would still be wanting.

Hon. B. Davies thought present Asylum could be sufficiently enlarged for £3,000 to meet wants of Colony.

Hon. B. DAVIES—The present Lunatic Asylum building was not sufficient to accommodate the number of applicants for admission to that institution, and had not been large enough for some years past, and although repeated applications had been made to the late Government to increase the accommodation by enlarging the building, they had not been in a position to take the matter up, for want of funds. The question now was whether it should be enlarged or removed to the Stock Farm. In his opinion it could be sufficiently enlarged for £3,000 to meet the requirements of the country. It had been stated by the hon. Leader of the Government and other hon. members that the lands in connection with the building were not sufficient for the requirements of the institution. If this was to be the case, the appointment of a Committee would be necessary to investigate the matter, and ascertain whether this were so or not, and report to the House. It should then be considered whether the Colony has sufficient means to carry out the recommendation of the Committee, if in favor of the removal of the establishment, for the Legislature should keep within the bounds of prudence in reference to the matter. A great deal had been said about the results which might be expected from the Model Farm, but his opinion was that it had been a complete failure. It had never been a Model Farm, for it had been about as slovenly and badly conducted a farm as any that could be found anywhere. All the returns that had been received from it would not pay the wages of the laborer; and the horses produced by it had not realized the expectations of the country; but the Government of the Colony had been continually making large outlays in improving the condition of the land till it had become very valuable. He believed the farm was worth what the Government could purchase it for; and besides, there is one of the finest mansions on the Island now in it. If some alterations were made in that building, and large additions made to it, it might be converted into a building suited for an Asylum. The grounds were also well suited for the purpose; but the Committee should well consider whether he had the means to meet the great expenditure necessary to accomplish all this or not. If the money spent upon that farm had been expended in the purchase of stock of the purest and best breeds, it would have proved of far greater benefit to the colony; and if it would continue to be as expensive in the future as in the past, its purchase would not be advisable. If pure-bred horses, cattle, and pigs had been imported direct from England, and distributed among the different Counties the results would have been more satisfactory than breeding them on the Stock Farm.

Resolution of Hon. J. C. Pope. Hon. Leader of the Government moved the following Resolution: Resolved, That a Committee of six members be appointed, to join a Committee of the Legislative Council, and to report whether it is advisable to afford the required accommodation for lunatics by adding to the present Asylum, or by adding to the brick house at Falconwood, and transferring the establishment to that place.

Hon. Mr. Brecken on necessity of immediate action in reference to Asylum.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL seconded the resolution submitted by the hon. Leader of the Government, and said that it appeared that the present Asylum building was in a pleasant and healthful locality, and convenient to the town, but that it was not suited to the increased requirements of the country. There were 48 or 49 patients in the building, and the apartments were small and ill-ventilated; the consequence was, that there was a necessity for immediate action on the part of the Legislature, to provide proper accommodation. There were only ten acres of land connected with it, and if the building were enlarged by the expenditure of a large sum of money, there would still be a difficulty to contend with, in not having sufficient ground for cultivation; for it was now well known that employment and open air exercise, greatly conduce to the health and restoration of these unfortunate creatures. By providing spacious and well-ventilated apartments, and a sufficient quantity of land upon which to employ such of them as require exercise, their comforts would be increased, and their chances of recovery would be greater. The Stock Farm is in a fine situation, and the land, which is constantly increasing in value, might yet realize one hundred pounds per acre. It could be purchased at less than its present value to the Government, and as the lease is about expiring, and as large sums of money have been spent upon it, in bringing it to its present high state of cultivation, it should be purchased without delay. There is a large brick building on that farm, and as it is not required for farming purposes, it might, by the expenditure of a moderate sum of money, be converted into a building which would answer all the purposes required for an Asylum. The old building being in a fine situation, might be disposed of at its full value, and converted into an hotel. If the Model Farm were purchased, it would be a question as to what use the house could be put to; but by following the course proposed by the hon. Leader of the Government, it would be put to good account, and by a moderate expenditure, answer the purpose of an Asylum, suited in every respect to the present wants of the country. At the same time, the Colony would have the benefit of the labor of those lunatics who were fit to be employed in keeping the farm in proper order, and in planting, weeding, and other easy farm labors, which would conduce to their health and recovery. He thought the matter worthy of the serious consideration of the Committee, and if a Committee were appointed by the House, they would send in a report which would supply all the information desired, in order to come to a conclusion upon the matter.

R. Munro, Esq., in favor of Resolution. Mr. MUNRO said that as Charlottetown was situated pretty nearly in the centre of the Island, persons of unsound mind were

taken to it with more convenience than to any other place. Two very dangerous persons had lately been brought to the Asylum, from King's County, but owing to the want of room in the building, the authorities did not know what to do with them; the jailer at Georgetown refused to admit them, even for examination, and said that he was there for the purpose of taking care of debtors and criminals, and not of lunatics; and that these dangerous persons were much more troublesome to take care of than persons of sound mind. He also insisted that if he was obliged to receive lunatics, he should be allowed an addition to his salary, or an assistant to take care of them. The (Mr. Munro) approved of the course which the hon. Leader of the Government wished to pursue in reference to the Asylum, and as there is not sufficient accommodation in the present building, and but a small quantity of land connected with it, it should be disposed of, and the proceeds appropriated to the fitting up of a more commodious and comfortable building at Falconwood, where the labor of those persons could be turned to advantage, and where their condition might be improved.

The Resolution was then put and carried. The Speaker then took the Chair, and the Chairman reported the Resolution agreed to.

The following members were appointed a Committee, to join a Committee from the Legislative Council, to visit the Asylum and Falconwood, and to report in accordance with the Resolution, viz: Hon. Messrs. DUNCAN, OWEN, SINCLAIR, B. DAVIES, and Messrs. LeFurgy and Robertson.

Petition of Mr. James N. Cogswell. Light Duty Act. Mr. MUNRO, from the Committee to whom was referred the petition of James N. Cogswell and others, to examine the same and report thereon, submitted a Report which was read at the Clerk's table, and is as follows: "Your Committee to whom was referred the petition of James N. Cogswell and others, shipowners, at Georgetown, praying for an alteration of the Light Duty Act, having given the petition their favorable consideration, have to report, that the words of the receipt to be given to the shipowners be altered, and read as follows:—'In any port or harbor of this Island, until the first of March next,' instead of the first day of January as the Act now says."

Ordered, That the said Report be committed to a Committee of the whole House to-morrow.

Hon. Mr. Kelly, from the special Committee appointed to report on every private Bill, and to whom was referred the Bill to authorize the sale of St. Andrew's College farm, presented a report. Said Bill was read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

House adjourned till ten o'clock to-morrow. I. O.

FRIDAY, March 10. Two messages were received from the Legislative Council stating that they had passed an Act to continue certain Acts therein mentioned, without any amendment, and also an Act to make better provision for the dealing by executors and administrators with mortgages, to which they desired the concurrence of the House of Assembly. The latter was read first time, and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

The House then resolved itself into a Committee of the whole on the Report of the special Committee, to whom was referred the petition of James N. Cogswell and others, praying for an alteration of the Act relating to Light and Anchorage duties.

Mr. Richards in the Chair. The Chairman read the Report. Hon. LEADER OF THE GOVERNMENT said that a petition had been received from Georgetown praying for an amendment of the Light Duty Act, and was referred to a special Committee to report thereon. The report of that Committee had been received by the House, and made the order of the day to-day. He presumed that the Chairman of that Committee would explain the nature of the amendment recommended.

Mr. MUNRO had not much to say in reference to the report before the Committee. He had never heard any person speak in reference to the petition, and carefully perusing it, he thought the prayers of the petitioners should be granted. Although the petition was from Georgetown, the amendment of the Act would not benefit his constituents alone; it would benefit the people of the whole Island. The petition sets forth that, according to the present law for the collection of Light duty, the receipt given will exempt vessels from the payment of light dues from the first day of January in the next year, till first day of January in the next year, and no longer; that any vessel coming back to this Island in the month of December, after a long voyage occupying more than a year, has to pay light duty, and if she remains in any open harbor, and leaves during the month of January, she is at present liable to pay light duty the second time on that voyage; and that, as the law requires that vessels are only to be taxed once a year, the statute should be amended so that the year for the collection of that duty shall commence on the first of March, instead of the first day of January as at present, in order to exempt vessels till the first day of March following, and thus prevent the necessity for any vessel to pay twice on one voyage. As vessels frequently come into the harbor at Georgetown late in December, and leave again after the first of January, they are compelled to pay a light duty of six pence per ton twice during the one voyage; and if the vessel be a foreign one, it is a very great hardship to be taxed twice for the same thing before leaving the harbor. Any of our Island vessels that have been out on very long voyages, extending over a year, would be subjected to the same hardship. The law should therefore be amended so as to suit every harbor on the Island, by causing the year for the payment of the duty to end on the first day of March, when every harbor in the Island is closed by ice.

After several hon. members had made a few remarks explanatory of the nature of the proposed amendment of the law, and in accordance with the views of Mr. Munro, the Speaker took the chair, and the Chairman reported that the Report was agreed to on an amendment.

On motion of Mr. Munro, a Committee of three members was appointed to bring in a Bill in accordance with the Report.

Ordered, That Mr. Munro, and Hon. Messrs. Owen and Sinclair, do compose said Committee.

Hon. Leader of the Government submitted a message from the Lieutenant Governor, containing the correspondence between Captain Hardinge and the Administrator of the Government, &c., in reference to the fisheries.

Received and laid on the table. House adjourned till ten o'clock to-morrow. I. O.

SATURDAY, March 11. Various Matters. Hon. the Speaker in the Chair. Hon. Attorney General introduced a Bill relating to the Registry of Mortgages and Memorials of Judgments, which was referred to a Committee of the whole House, which was reported agreed to, and ordered to be engrossed.

The Bill intitled, "An Act to authorize the Government to prohibit the Exportation of Arms," was read a third time. Hon. Leader of the Government, as a member of Her Majesty's Executive Government, laid before the House the Colonial Treasurer's Accounts with the Government, from the 1st day of January, 1870, to the 31st January, 1871, which were ordered to lie upon the table.

The Engrossed Bill from the Legislative Council, intitled "An Act to make better provision for the dealing by Executors and Administrators, with Mortgages," was reported agreed to, without any amendment.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Howlan, the Bill authorizing the sale of Saint Andrew's College Farm, was read a second time, reported agreed to, and ordered to be engrossed.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Perry, the following Resolution was agreed to, and ordered to be published in each of the newspapers published in Charlottetown: "Resolved, That no new matter, on which a Bill can be founded, be introduced to this House after Thursday, the 16th day of March instant."

House adjourned until 10 o'clock on Monday. G.

MONDAY, 13th March. Mr. McLean presented a petition from inhabitants of New Glasgow, Rustico, and adjoining settlements, praying the passage of a general law, confirming the right of the public to the Sea Manure lound between high and low water mark.

Referred to special Committee of Mr. MacNeill, Hon. B. Davies, and Mr. Sinclair. Hon. Leader of the Government laid on the table the Road Correspondent's Accounts, and Returns of thirty-three Road Commissioners, and from several Small Debt Courts, for the past year, also Returns of the state of the Bank of Prince Edward Island, Union and Steam-train Banks.

The Bill regulating the mode of dealing by Executors and Administrators with Mortgages, was read a third time and passed, as was the Act relating to the registration of Mortgages and Memorials of Judgments.

Mr. LeFurgy presented a petition for the incorporation of a Lodge of Free Masons, at Summerside.

In reply to a question from Mr. McMillan, Hon. Leader of the Government said that the late Government had appointed Commissioners on a proposed new line of road, leading from the Linklater Road to the Main Road, from St. John's to Summerside, and that their Report had been ordered by the then Government, to be over. With reference to information requested relative to the wharf at West Point, he would give all information he could, but he supposed the subject had been submitted to the Board of Works.

The License Law. The House went into Committee to consider the expediency of amending and consolidating the several Acts relating to the sale of Spirituous Liquors.

Mr. Beer, Chairman. Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL stated that there were at present eight or nine laws on the Statute Book relating to the subject, and it was desirable to obviate the necessity of referring to several laws, of which the provisions had been repealed. Doubts had arisen as to the construction of that portion of the Act passed last Session, which prescribed the number of meetings to be held in each rural school district for the purpose of sanctioning applications for Tavern and Store Licenses. The late Government had read the Acts authorizing two several meetings for each County. His own opinion was that legally, but not as intended, while he construed the law in that sense, he considered that it was preferable that two meetings should be held for each class of license. That was, however, a matter for the Committee to decide upon, and he would merely ask their assent to a Resolution to the effect that it was desirable to consolidate the several Acts now in force, referring to the subject, and that a special Committee be appointed to report by Bill or otherwise.

In the House, the Resolution having been reported agreed to, and Hon. Attorney General, Messrs. Perry and Sinclair, having been appointed as the Committee.

Hon. Attorney General reported a Bill on the subject. Read first time. Hon. Mr. Owen, from the Committee on the subject of altering the present mode of collecting Light and Anchorage Dues, reported a Bill providing that the year for which those dues should be considered as paid, should be deemed to expire in March, instead of December, as at present. Read first time.

Vaccination Act. Hon. Leader of the Government moved the House into Committee to consider the Acts relative to Vaccination; and that the Accounts of the Superintendents of Vaccination be referred to the Committee. At present the Vaccination of many families, perfectly able to pay, was paid for by the public, and it was necessary to limit the liability of the Treasury.

Hon. Mr. Perry, Chairman. Hon. Mr. KELLY said that whilst it was necessary that the obligation to be vaccinated should be made as stringent as possible, and that all classes should be vaccinated, yet it was unfair that those who were able to pay for the operation should have the expense of it defrayed by the public.

Hon. LEADER OF THE GOVERNMENT agreed that those who were unable to pay should be vaccinated at the public expense, but a certificate of inability to pay would cost as much as the Vaccination. At present the law only authorized the appointment of seven Superintendents for the whole Island. It would be better to appoint others in various districts. If the present system of paying for all Vaccination by the Treasury continued, the country would soon be called upon to pay £1,000 a year for this one service. He considered it advisable to repeal the first section of the Act, and substitute other provisions in lieu thereof.

Mr. McLEAN was surprised at the charge for Vaccination at Soutis. There were not children enough there to justify the amount claimed—279. He agreed with the remarks of the Hon. Leader of the Government.

Hon. Mr. SINCLAIR concurred in the propriety of making a distinction between those able and those unable to pay. The Superintendents could be paid by Government for their services to those whom they should report as being unable to pay for themselves. All classes would be desirous to be vaccinated.

(To be Continued.)

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