

Mr. CHURCHILL presented to the Government a petition from Five-mile River. The house then adjourned till Monday.

MONDAY, April 8th.

The house met at 3 P. M.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Hon. FIN. SEC. introduced a bill to amend chap. 2 Acts of 1866. He said that the object was to enable parties to withdraw from bonded warehouses articles for manufacture, giving bonds for the payment of the duties.

Mr. TOBIN said that some cargoes of merchandise, after being deposited in the warehouse, could be re-gauged before being taken out, and the duty paid according to the last measurement, but articles of bulk could not be re-weighed. There was frequently a great loss of weight in a cargo of sugar, after remaining warehoused for some months; and it was unfair to dealers and consumers to charge the duty according to the original weight. This circumstance had seriously diminished the trade with Canada, for purchasers there had preferred going to New York, where they could get the article re-weighed. There was no danger of embezzlement from the warehouse, and it was unfair to make parties pay for quantities which they did not get.

Hon. FIN. SEC. thought that the practice of paying duties on the original weight must have originated in a desire on the part of the wholesale dealers to sell at the original marks. There was no desire to exact a revenue from that which did not go into use. He would make enquiries and ascertain the position of the matter.

The Legislative Council announced that they had agreed to the bill concerning departmental officers and their salaries.

Mr. S. CAMPBELL presented two petitions—one for the removal of obstructions in Salmon River, the other for a way office at Indian Harbor.

Mr. TOBIN presented a petition from A. M. Uniacke and 1500 other citizens of Halifax, against the bill to amend the charter of the City Street Railway Company.

Mr. Hill presented a petition from Hants, on the same subject.

Mr. ANNAND presented three petitions from Dartmouth, Bedford, and Elmsdale, on the same subject.

Mr. MCKAY presented four petitions from Pictou, on the same subject.

Mr. PRYOR presented a petition from citizens of Halifax, praying for an amendment of the charter of the City Street Railway Company.

Mr. ANNAND presented a petition from Waverly asking for a change of Polling place.

Mr. TOBIN presented a petition from 875 merchants, grocers and liquor dealers asking such a change in the license law as would prevent the separation of the sale of groceries from that of liquors. The petition also contained a recommendation from nine Aldermen.

Mr. PRYOR presented a petition from forty junk dealers asking a reduction in the charge for their licenses.

Dr. BROWN introduced a bill to incorporate St. George's Lodge of Freemasons, Wolfville.

Mr. PARKER presented five petitions from Colchester County against the proposed am-

endment to the Charter of the City Street Railway Company.

Mr. HATFIELD introduced a bill to authorize the inhabitants of Argyle to sell a fire engine.

Mr. ANNAND called attention to an omission in the Act recently passed in reference to representation: In the Acts of 1859 there was a statute providing for nominations in the different ridings. There was nothing in the bill to show in what localities the nominations could be held under the new law.

Hon. ATTY. GENERAL said that the matter had not been forgotten, but would be dealt with when the amendment to the Act relating to Elections was introduced.

Hon. FIN. SECY. by command laid on the table several petitions in reference to loss on the Railway. They were referred to the Railway Committee. Also a petition in reference to loss of money through the Post Office, which was referred to the Post Office Committee.

Hon. PROV. SEC. laid on the table the Calendar of King's College. Also further papers relating to the removal of Tweedell from the Insane Asylum.

Mr. C. J. CAMPBELL asked the government to lay on the table a return of the quantities of American coal admitted to the Province during last year.

Mr. PRYOR presented a petition from a number of inhabitants of polling district No. 11, West Halifax, against a proposed change in that district.

Mr. MACDONNELL moved that papers which he had previously asked the Government to lay on the table, in reference to a grant of Crown Lands, be referred to the Crown Land Committee. Passed.

Dr. HAMILTON introduced a bill to authorize the purchase of land and erection of a poor house in Cornwallis.

Mr. ANNAND said that as the time was approaching when gentlemen would be anxious to become acquainted with the financial condition of the country, he was desirous of knowing whether any contracts had been entered into with the Pictou Railway beyond the contract with Mr. Fleming.

Hon. FIN. SEC. said that no contracts had been entered into for matters included in Mr. Fleming's contract, but purchases of rolling stock had been made.

WINDSOR AND ANNAPOLIS RAILWAY.

The house then went into Committee on Bills, and took up the bill to incorporate the Windsor and Annapolis Railway Company.

Mr. KILLAM thought that this was not the time for such a measure. It was essential to ascertain the financial state of the country, so as to see how the construction was to be provided for. He did not wish to oppose the extension, provided the Province had sufficient means, and it should be remembered that the revenues would be very small after Confederation. It would be seen also that the bill was not the same as last Session, and the House should be cautious in making the change which would leave too much power in the hands of the contractors. The bill gave them the right to build the road to Annapolis or Troop's Point, and as to the bridge, it was stipulated to be built of iron, or otherwise as they might think proper, while the former agreement was for a