

be easily provided for: twelve of them could get seats in the Senate, and their services could be very well dispensed with, while on the other hand the popular branch should have been kept as large as possible.

The resolution passed.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Mr. COWIE introduced a bill relative to a new bridge at Liverpool.

Mr. KULBACK introduced a bill to revest in the Crown certain lands in the town plot of Chester.

Mr. KULBACK presented a petition from E. D. Davison complaining of a grievance. He said that the petitioner had erected a large mill on the Lahave River, and for that purpose had constructed a dam. The Sessions had ordered a large break in the dam, and a serious loss was feared on the petitioner. The petition was referred to the Committee on Fisheries.

Mr. ARCHIBALD introduced a bill to authorize the sale of a school house and land at Brookfield.

Hon. ATTY. GEN. introduced a bill to amend the Act to incorporate the Roman Catholic Bishop of Arichat. He said that the object of the bill was to restore certain powers bestowed by a section in the Revised Statutes, which had been unintentionally repealed last session.

The resolution introduced by the hon. Prov. Secy. respecting the Legislative Council having contained a provision for a joint address of both Houses to Her Majesty, the Council announced by message that they had agreed to the proposed conference on the subject of the resolution. Hon. Atty. Gen., hon. Prov. Secy. and Mr. Archibald were appointed a committee of conference, and subsequently reported that they had discharged their duties.

THE LOCAL CONSTITUTION.

Hon. PROVINCIAL SECRETARY moved the third reading of the bill relative to executive and legislative disabilities. He said that on consideration the Government had decided not to alter the bill, as the difficulty mentioned on the previous day could not be readily obviated, and it was so improbable that any such should arise, that it might safely be left to take care of itself.

Mr. S. CAMPBELL thought the bill did not express what the Government intended it should—it did not prevent a person offering for seats in both the Local and Federal Legislatures.

Hon. ATTY. GEN. thought the bill contained all the provisions that should be inserted. When a man was once elected for the House of Commons, or appointed to the Senate, his seat in the lower Parliament would be vacated, but there was nothing to prevent a man being simultaneously elected for both Houses. This was all that could be done, for if the bill provided that the seat should be forfeited if a member were elected to the other Parliament with his consent, great difficulties would arise in proving his consent. It was very improbable that any man would offer for a seat which he was ineligible to fill.

Hon. PROV. SEC. said that there did not seem to be any means of preventing a candidate from offering for both Houses,—all that could be done was to vacate his seat in the lower House elected to the House of Commons.

Hon. FINANCIAL SECRETARY said that would be easy to prevent the double nomination in one county, but a man might be nominated for the local Parliament in one county and for the House of Commons in another.

Mr. COFFIN thought the difficulty could be obviated easily.

Mr. ROBERTSON said that the difficulty would not occur in the case of gentlemen on the Government side, for they would have difficulty enough in securing seats in either House.

Mr. McLELAN thought that a man should not be allowed to be nominated for two seats. The ineligibility caused by his election to both would cause the trouble of a second election.

Mr. ARCHIBALD said that the difficulty could only arise in the first election, and could not be well met because if a provision was inserted that election by the assent of the candidate to both seats would vacate one, then a man elected without his assent could sit in both.

Hon. ATTY. GEN. said that the seat should not be vacated by the mere nomination; the incompatibility arose only from his accepting the two positions.

Mr. S. CAMPBELL thought that the bill was ineffectual to accomplish what the Government had expressed as their intention. It was admitted that some difficulty might arise from the framing of the bill, and he did not see why the language should not be adapted to meet the requirements of the case.

Mr. ROSS expressed his approval of the system followed in some of the other Colonies, of allowing gentlemen to sit in both Parliaments. He also advocated as an improvement the election of the local Governor by the people.

Mr. McLELAN remarked that the Province was being dealt with in this respect differently from the other Provinces, and the history of the past few months showed that the case of Nova Scotia was peculiar. Some gentlemen professed more respect for a few old volumes than for the opinions of the people. A measure should be passed which would prevent those gentlemen who had effected Confederation from coming into both Legislatures, and thus leaving the people practically unrepresented. If Mr. Archibald ran for both Houses and carried both seats, the country would be unrepresented, because that gentleman would not hesitate to hold up a book and say that he valued more highly the author's opinions than those of the backwoodsmen of Colchester.

Hon. ATTY. GEN. admitted that Nova Scotia was in a peculiar position, for it presented the first instance in parliamentary history in which a minority of one-third of the Legislature undertook to represent the people. It had been said that the people of this Province were opposed to Confederation, and the delegates had heard across the water that petitions from an overwhelming majority of the electors were to be pre-