

selves, as they recently contended, but by their representatives. Attempts were being made to frighten people by the idea that they would be drafted for military service in Canada, but that scheme proposed that Nova Scotians should be taxed to an unlimited extent, and be liable to be drafted away to any part of the world. That was the scheme of these gentlemen—they admitted that a change was necessary, and they were willing that it should be made by the people's representatives with the arbitrament of the Imperial Parliament.

Mr. COFFIN said that the hon. member must fancy himself stumping the County of Lunenburg.

Hon. Mr. MCFARLANE, from the committee on Mines and Minerals, introduced a bill to amend the present law relating to mines, one of its objects being to prevent pilfering at the gold mines.

The house adjourned.

THURSDAY, April, 25.

The house met at 3 o'clock.

Mr. HATFIELD called the attention of the Speaker to the fact that there was not a quorum of members present.

The house therefore stood adjourned to 10 o'clock on the following morning.

FRIDAY, April 26.

The house met at 10 o'clock.

THE COUNT OUT.

Hon. PRO. SECY. said it would be gratifying for the member from Argyle to know that the journals would record in connection with his action of yesterday a notoriety such as no member of the house had ever attained before. They would show that a member in discharge of what he considered his duty to the country availed himself of the opportunity immediately after the reading of the journals to count out the house. The records of the house would be searched in vain to find an instance in which any member was so regardless of the waste of public time and money. The people would have to pay a pound a day to each member of the legislature for no consideration whatever because he had chosen to exercise a power never exercised in a similar way by any member before. So unseemly a spectacle as a member counting out the house before the time when members usually assembled, and before the opening of the galleries was never before presented,—he could easily understand why this step was taken before the galleries were open and the reporters in their place, for a member who desired to take such a liberty with the house and to insult the people by preventing the legislature from doing business at that period of the session might well desire to screen his action from the country. He, (Prov. Secy.) would feel himself unworthy of his position if he did not denounce and discountenance so unseemly an act, but it was the only act at the close of the hon. member's public life to which he could point as having been achieved by himself.

Mr. HATFIELD said that as to the public money being wasted, the history of the past two years shewed how much regard was attached to that. The Pro. Sec. had had the ho-

nor of being appointed on a delegation which would take an enormous sum out of the pockets of the poor people of the country. He contended that he had done perfectly right in calling attention to the state of the house yesterday. When prayers were being read only three members were present, and there were only five when the clerk counted. As to the time and pay of members being wasted, the fact was that the house only sat about three hours a day, and if the Prov. Sec. was so anxious about the public business, why could not the house meet twice a day, and do the business as it should be done?

Hon. PRO. SEC. said that the hon. member had failed to make the only apology that he could have made: that he was not responsible for his action of yesterday.

Mr. HATFIELD replied that he had done nothing but what was consistent with his duty.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Mr. MILLER introduced a bill to enable the Sisters of Charity to hold certain lands. He said that the object was to enable the Sisters of Charity to convey certain property at present under mortgage.

Mr. ARCHIBALD reported a bill from the Committee on Law Amendments in reference to Dyke and Marsh Lands. He said that some difficulty had arisen in the township of Falmouth, but instead of approving of the bill applicable to that locality, the committee proposed to make the law general, and to provide that the parties interested in the lands should meet once a year, and that the commissioners should lay before them an account of the year's expenditure, and if the commissioners failed to do so, his office should thereby be rendered vacant, and then successors should be elected by two-thirds of the parties interested.

Mr. CHURCHILL thought the bill unobjectionable.

Dr. HAMILTON thought that a difficulty might arise in localities where different meetings would have to be held if they were convened on the same day.

Hon. PRO. SEC. laid on the table the road scale of the Co. Cumberland.

Mr. COLIN CAMPBELL introduced a bill to change the name of Petite Passage in the Co. of Digby.

Mr. ARCHIBALD reported from the Committee on Law Amendments, an act to amend the practice of the Supreme Court, in connection with Prothonotaries. He also reported against a bill (from the Legislative Council) in reference to evidence in matrimonial cases.

Mr. ROSS presented the road scale of Victoria.

Hon. PROV. SEC. laid on the table the petition of Hector McLeod in reference to Crown Lands in Cape Breton. It had been presented to the Government by Mr. Bourinot.

The bill respecting the sale of Petroleum was read a second time.

Mr. ALLISON presented a petition in respect to the setting of nets in the Liverpool River. Objection was made to the receipt of the petition at this late period, but it was finally received.

Mr. C. J. CAMPBELL presented a petition from Middle River, Victoria, respecting Presbyterian Church property.

Hon. ATTY. GEN. introduced an act to amend