

dering how far it was legitimate for any gentleman to sit in the other branch of the Legislature, when, according to the Royal Instructions he had deprived himself of the right to the seat. It was well known that a member of the Legislative Council could not take his seat if he was absent for a year from the Province without permission under the Royal sign manual.

Mr. S. CAMPBELL said that it was hardly to be expected that he should rise to speak in reference to this matter, since it appeared to be simply a personal question between the Government and a gentleman in the other branch. He thought, however, the hon. members had hardly done justice to the case as stated in the paper in his hand. As he remembered it, the suggestion that the question should be submitted to the committee on Privileges did not originate with the hon. gentlemen referred to, but with the President of the Council.

Hon. PRO. SECY.—Who made the motion?

Mr. S. CAMPBELL said that looking over the report he found that he was quite right. The President of the Council was reported to have said previously to the remarks of the Hon. Mr. Almon:—

"Hon. President was very desirous to meet the views of the Government, but he thought that by passing the resolution the house would not be acting in conformity with its privileges and dignity. He disliked that part of the resolution which gave a member the opportunity of being absent from the house for two years. The seat of a member absent for one year should be declared vacant. The resolution ought to be referred to the Committee on Privileges."

Hon. PROV. SEC. said that it was, however, the hon. Mr. Almon who had made the motion to refer the question to the Committee on Privileges.

Mr. ANNAND said if the measure was a good one—if the Government believed it was sound in principle, he did not see why the action of any gentleman in the other branch should divert their attention from it.

Hon. PROV. SECY. said that the object in view would still be carried. The motion made by Mr. Almon was only prevented being brought to a vote by the initiation and adoption of a new resolution. If the house proceeded any further in the matter, it would be tantamount to an admission that there was something in the charge that had been made. Nobody would deny that the house had a perfect right to touch the constitution of the Council.

Mr. MCLELAN said it was perfectly legitimate for any member of the Council to question any resolution that came up from the house.

The subject then dropped.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Mr. TOBIN presented a partial report from the railway committee.

Mr. S. McDONNELL presented a petition from Charles McCoy and 140 other residents of Wyecoomagh, in the county of Inverness, asking for a special grant for the erection of a wharf at that place. He said that on the completion of the railway to Pictou, it was expected that there would be one continu-

route to Sydney, and the necessity for a wharf at the place mentioned was very evident.—This was not a matter of merely local importance, for the work would shorten the time of travel very materially. While the journey to Inverness at present occupied two days, after the opening of the Pictou line, and the establishment of the necessary accommodation at other places, the trip could be made in ten hours. This matter affected the interests of the whole island of Cape Breton, and the petition was very respectably and influentially signed. He trusted that this matter would not be lost sight of in the supplementary estimate which was usually brought down.

On calling over the list of committees, Mr. ROSS remarked that the attention of the committee on Indian Affairs had been directed to the fact that large sums were due to the service from the proceeds of lands which had been sold.

Mr. TOBIN urged that the petition of Mr. Hyde for compensation for depreciation of property by the railway extension be taken into consideration by the house, instead of being investigated by the committee, as it was a matter that would occupy a great deal of time and delay the committee's final report.

Mr. ARCHIBALD briefly explained the nature of Mr. Hyde's claim.

The house then adjourned.

MONDAY, April 15.

The House met at 3 o'clock.

A number of private and local bills were forwarded.

Hon. FIN. SEC. moved the adoption of the subdivision of the ordinary road grants. He said that this was the same subdivision as that of last year. Passed.

Hon. ATTY. GEN. presented a petition from the trustees of Preston school section, in reference to a difficulty which had arisen in obtaining a proper title to certain lands, which it was considered desirable to purchase for school purposes. Referred to committee on Education.

Hon. PRO. SEC. laid on the table the Catalogue of Acadia College.

Mr. ARCHIBALD asked leave to introduce a bill to provide for the inspection of petroleum, coal oils, burning fluid, and to regulate the sale thereof.

Hon. PRO. SEC. laid on the table a statement asked for by the hon. member for East Halifax showing the liabilities incurred in the construction of the Pictou Railway.

Mr. PEYER, chairman of committee on Private and Local Bills, reported up the following:—

To incorporate the trustees of St. John's Church, Abigon Mines.

To provide for the erection of a Court and Poor House at Cornwallis.

To enable the Sessions of the district of Argyle to sell a fire engine.

To alter the bounds of two school sections at Shubenacadie.

To alter a polling place in the County of Pictou.

To amend the act relative to the Roman Catholic Cemetery, Dartmouth.

To incorporate St. George's Lodge, of Free masons, Wolfville.