

Hon ATTY GEN in reference to Mr Annand's remarks concerning the small advantages to be derived from the railway, remarked that he had that day heard a prominent anti-Confederate say that since the Confederation bill had been promised as likely to pass, he had laid out £1000 on his property, and he would expend another £1000 if the guarantee bill were ratified.

Mr HATFIELD considered it the duty of every member to express his views on the measure before the House. He felt bound to oppose the bill as unfair and unjust. The change from district to county representation would take from the district of Argyle, which he represented, the privilege it had hitherto enjoyed, for Yarmouth had a population equal to two-thirds of the county, and the result would be that Yarmouth would return all the members. Nearly three-fifths of the inhabitants of Argyle were Catholics, and they thus would be deprived of a voice in the representation. Resistance, however, appeared useless, and the opposition must submit; but he could tell the Government that they would meet their reward, perhaps when they least expected it. He believed the bill to be wrong *in toto*, and that the representation which it would establish would be unfair.

The question was then taken, when Mr Annand's amendment was negatived. The clause passed.

Mr ANNAND then moved that the operation of bill be deferred until next session.

Hon PROV SECY asked if the hon member meant to stultify himself by making such a proposition in view of his action when in power a few years ago?

Mr ANNAND replied that he was following the tactics which had been pursued on that occasion by gentlemen opposite.

Mr ARCHIBALD spoke briefly in favour of the bill and said that he must in consistency oppose the amendment.

This amendment was also negatived. The bill passed.

#### BILLS, PETITIONS, ETC.

The bill relative to certain public officers and their salaries was then taken up.

Mr. TOBIN asked if it would not be well to consider the question whether a man assuming office should be obliged to go back to his constituents.

Mr. ANNAND thought the hon member's suggestion worthy of attention.

Hon. PROV SECY said no doubt the question was one deserving of consideration. At present, however, he felt reluctant, as one member of the Legislature, to do anything that would seem to take away from the privileges of the people.

Mr. TOBIN would be sorry to see the principle of re-election removed as regards the general Government, but it seemed to him unnecessary to apply it in connection with the local Government.

The bill passed; also the bill relative to disabilities of members of the local Legislature and general Parliament.

The committee rose and reported.

Hon. Mr. SHANNON introduced a bill in connection with the license law; and presented a number of petitions from members of various religious denominations in the city in connection herewith. They ask that the sale of groceries be separated from that of liquors in the same establishment.

Mr. ANNAND presented a petition from J. Hodgson in reference to a sidewalk at Bedford.

Mr. PRYOR introduced a bill to incorporate the Grand Lodge of Good Templars.

Hon. ATTY. GENERAL introduced a bill to amend chap. 13, Acts of 1865, providing for the construction of two other sections of the Provincial Railway. The object of the act, he stated, was to authorize the Government to issue debentures to the extent of £188,600 sterling, being the capitalization of the amount of the subvention granted for the purpose of constructing the Windsor and Annapolis Railway. The negotiations during the past year required that the amount given by the Province should be capitalized.

Mr. TOBIN presented the following petitions: From James Keefe, for aid to complete a road round Northwest Arm; from William Smith, for compensation for school house; from the people of Portuguese Cove, for aid to deepen the harbour.

The House then adjourned until 3 o'clock on Monday.

MONDAY, April 1.

The House met at 3 o'clock.

#### BILLS AND PETITIONS.

Mr. BOURINOT introduced an act to amend the act relative to the terms of the Supreme Court in the island of Cape Breton—merely a verbal alteration.

Mr. MILLER presented a largely signed petition asking for the establishment of a shipping office at Arichat; also, a bill in accordance with the prayer thereof.

Mr. ANNAND presented a petition and bill relative to the Prince of Wales Lodge of Odd Fellows.

Mr. BILL, a petition of a number of the inhabitants of West Cornwallis, in reference to postal accommodation.

Mr. KAULBACK, a petition from 70 inhabitants of Bridgewater, in reference to the unsatisfactory state of mail conveyance.

#### THE HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE.

Mr. ANNAND asked permission to be relieved from attendance on the Committee on Humane Institutions. He had not sat on the committee, he stated, inasmuch as the paper with which he was connected had expressed very strong opinions during his absence, and since his return, on the subject of the Hospital for the Insane. He had not written any of the articles in question, but he felt it right, in justice to himself and the gentleman whose conduct was impugned, that he should not serve on the committee.

Hon. PROV. SEC. said the hon. gentleman wished to establish a novel precedent when he