

transcript of the present law and is only embodied here in order that all these provisions may be contained in the same Act. That provision has been in force for many years in the Province of Nova Scotia, and I do not think there has been any trouble in regard to it.

Mr. JONES. I am not aware that there has been any trouble about it. I did not know it was in the present Act.

Mr. BLAKE. I would suggest that, in regard to some of the marks appropriated for the stores in the schedule, it would be much more satisfactory if one mark or series of marks were designated by the Act. It is important to involve as little risk and embarrassment as possible to the trade of the country, and, if you are to put the initial of every Department on the stores, it might require a much more extended knowledge than I think is general of all the public departments in order to be quite sure that certain initial letters which were to be found on a bale or what not, represented the cabalistic insignia which would render it criminal to have the property in possession. I suppose it is only in one or two classes or cases that this would come into operation. The hon. gentleman has mentioned the penitentiaries for example, and it seems reasonable that the penitentiary goods should be secured in this way, and so with regard to the railway stores, which, I suppose, will be those principally affected. But why not adopt some one mark, such as "P.S.C." for Public Service of Canada, to be put on all the stores which are to be protected in this way? Then the public would know that this, whether with or without the Royal Arms, was a mark indicating Government property; but this which is proposed would be almost a trap as you would have some thirteen or fourteen different sets of initials.

Mr. THOMPSON. We will amend that.

On section 2,

Mr. THOMPSON. I propose to strike out the words "and also the city court of Halifax." That jurisdiction is exercised really by the stipendiary magistrate of Halifax, and the city court is merely a court in which he sits, so that it is sufficiently described.

On section 15,

Mr. THOMPSON. I propose to amend this so that it will read: "any person convicted or sentenced to imprisonment under this Act before the stipendiary magistrate in Halifax, in his discretion."

Mr. BLAKE. Is it not possible that any person may be convicted in Halifax before any other of the persons named than the stipendiary magistrate?

Mr. THOMPSON. No, he is the only person.

On the schedule,

Mr. THOMPSON. I understand the suggestion of the hon. gentlemen to be that we should use the letters "D.C." with the name of the Department.

Mr. BLAKE. No, I would put only "D.C." or "Canada."

Mr. THOMPSON. The name of any Department, or "Canada."

Mr. BLAKE. If you have the full name of the Department, I suppose that would be a sufficient warning, but it would be simpler to put "Canada" and the Royal Arms.

Mr. THOMPSON. I think it would be better to have the discretion to use one or the other.

Mr. BLAKE. Very well.

On the preamble,

Mr. BLAKE. I have not had an opportunity of examining the references in the Bill. I observe that in some cases

Mr. THOMPSON.

only part of the clauses are adopted. I would ask the hon. gentleman if there is any substantial change from existing legislation.

Mr. THOMPSON. No, the only reason for adopting only part of some clauses is that the other portion has been embodied in other sections.

Committee rose and reported.

THIRD READING.

Bill (No. 5) to amend the Act respecting Public Officers.—(Mr. McLelan.)

SALARIES OF PENITENTIARY OFFICERS.

House resolved itself into Committee to take into consideration certain resolutions (p. 223) respecting salaries to be paid to officers of penitentiaries.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. THOMPSON. In order that the committee may understand the matter I would refer them to chapter 132 of the Revised Statutes, which is the Penitentiaries Act, and especially to page 2222 of the second volume, in which the committee will see a schedule prescribing the salaries of the different officers of the penitentiaries. As I explained to the House when I moved the resolutions, the schedule to the Penitentiaries Act contains, as respects every officer in the penitentiaries, a minimum and a maximum sum between which the salary is to be fixed by the Governor in Council. In practice it has been found necessary and fair to make a distinction between all the penitentiaries according to prison population, Kingston, of course, being very much the largest, St. Vincent de Paul coming next, Dorchester next, then British Columbia, and Manitoba. The salaries of all these officers are graded, from the warden down, according to prison population, but the schedule to the Penitentiary Act makes no distinction as to each prison. What I propose to establish by the first resolution is a scale of salaries for each of these penitentiaries, and a provision that the officers, according as they are newly appointed, shall begin at a fixed minimum, and progress from year to year until they attain a fixed maximum. I think that will be more satisfactory and more economical than allowing this matter to be fixed from time to time as the offices become vacant. When a vacancy occurs, especially in some of the chief offices, it is somewhat individious to appoint the new officer, by the mere act of the appointing power, at a smaller salary than his predecessor received. But that would be comparatively unobjectionable if the officer knew that according to law he would progress from year to year. He is to begin always at a minimum salary. The hon. gentlemen will see by reference to the Kingston penitentiary, it is proposed that the warden shall begin at \$2,600, and he is to progress by \$50 annually, until he reaches the maximum of \$3,000; the deputy warden beginning at \$1,200, and going to \$1,500; the chaplains beginning at \$1,000, and progressing to \$1,200; the surgeons beginning at \$1,400 and going to \$1,800. Then at St. Vincent de Paul the warden begins at \$2,400 and goes to \$2,800; the deputy from \$1,200 to \$1,500; the chaplains from \$1,000 to \$1,200. I may say that it was the original suggestion that the latter should begin at \$800, but I think there are practical objections in the way of commencing at a smaller minimum than \$1,000. That arises to some extent from the fact that the prison population is large, the two chaplains as a matter of course, receiving equal salaries, and the difference between \$800 and \$1,200 would, perhaps, be severe. I therefore propose that the minimum should be \$1,000 and the maximum \$1,200. The surgeon begins at \$1,000 and