

Hon. Mr. HENSLEY introduced a Bill facilitating the division of the estates of coparceners and joint tenants. Read first time.

Adjourned.

SATURDAY, April 16.

The Oyster Bill was re-committed and agreed to.

Hon. Mr. WARBURTON introduced a Bill for the registration of Marriages and Baptisms. Read first time.

Hon. Mr. HENSLEY'S Bill for facilitating the division of the Estates of Tenants in common and coparceners, was committed.

Hon. Mr. Hensley explained that at present a lawsuit was necessary to obtain the authority necessary to effect a partition. Under the Bill a party could apply to a Judge at Chambers, who would appoint a day for argument, and suspend, if he saw fit, further proceedings until the meeting of the Court.

Hon. SPEAKER gave the hon member great credit for his action on this subject. Some years ago he introduced a bill which simplified the proceedings in cases of this nature, but this was a further step in the right direction. In this Island parties often unite in the purchase of lands, and unless they agree to a division are obliged to apply to Chancery. In some instances where partition is desired, all the property would not pay the expenses of proceedings under the present system.

Bill agreed to.

Mr. BRECKEN as Chairman of special Committee, appointed to report on petitions of certain inhabitants of East River, relative to the manner in which signatures were said to be obtained to said petitions, applied to the House for instruction in the matter; after some remarks from the Hon. Col. Secretary and others relative to the impropriety of the question in dispute being any further entertained by the House, the said Committee was discharged.

Hon. J. HENSLEY submitted a Bill to facilitate the recovery of rates and assessments due St. Paul's Church, Charlottetown. Bill agreed to.

Mr. HASLAM submitted a Bill relative to the appointment of additional Small Debt Courts in certain localities of this Island; received and read.

House adjourned.

AFTERNOON.

The order of the day for the House in Committee of Supply having been read, on motion of Hon. J. C. Pope, the Estimates were referred to the said Committee, and the House resolved itself accordingly—Mr J. Yeo in the Chair.

Hon J. C. POPE moved a resolution granting £25 for the house rent of the principal Professor of Prince of Wales College. He said the grant was fully discussed last year, and the Professor was considered fully entitled to the sum, since he had been deprived of living in the College building.

Mr CONROY said he had objections to the grant, but as the subject was discussed last year he would not divide the House on it; still he thought that the item should be struck out of the Estimates.

Hon Col GRAY desired to know if this item were struck out, whether the House was prepared to grant £600 to purchase a

House, as there was no room in the College for the Professor's residence.

Hon Mr WARBURTON moved an amendment to the effect that whereas the expenditure of Prince of Wales College for each pupil at present amounts to upwards of £23, the further allowance of the amount named for rent of residence, would be an unwarrantable outlay of public money.

Hon Mr COLES complained that the Grammar School had been established in the College building, otherwise, with some other alterations, the Professor might have been enabled to reside in it. He also made a charge against the College itself, alleging that sectarian prayers were used there, and that attempts had been made to coerce Roman Catholic students to attend such prayers. He maintained that any prayer, except the Lord's Prayer, was a sectarian prayer.

Hon Col SECRETARY denied the charge that sectarian prayers were used in the College, and maintained that a general form of prayer was not necessarily a sectarian prayer. The fact that the Grammar School was established in the College, was an additional argument in favour of a grant for the Professor's house rent. It was cheaper to pay this small sum than to build either a new school or a new residence.

The main resolution was carried 16 to 9.

On the resolution being read granting a sum for carrying the summer Mails.

Hon Mr COLES said before that resolution was put he had a few observations to make. It was well known that Mr Boultonhouse had tendered to furnish a Steamer to carry the Mails for nearly half the sum that would be required under the proposed arrangement. Besides, though he did not wish to accuse hon members of selfishness, yet he understood that three or four members of the Government were interested in the Island Company, and might be supposed to look after their own interests. He contended, however, that it was the duty of the Government to see that the country was not saddled with £1000 a year more than the service would be performed for by Mr Boultonhouse. And another objection he had to the present contract was that any of the steamers could lie up three months to repair boilers if required, and so far as he could see might continue to draw the pay. Another point he would call attention to, was the insertion in the agreement of the times of leaving for ten years to come. He believed this provision was made to suit the contractors in the event of the Liberals coming into power. This was a matter which was never heretofore inserted in the steamboat contracts for this Island; and he thought that the parties ought to have had confidence in the Government of the day. It was argued that this Steamboat Company would be the means of keeping the money on the Island. But the £15,000 which he understood the new steamer was to cost, had been sent out of the Island to New Brunswick where she was built; whereas by Mr Boultonhouse's tender it would have been brought into the Island. Be this as it might, the poor people of this Colony, by the present contract, would be taxed about £15,000 more during the next ten years than they would if Mr Boultonhouse's tender had been accepted.

Hon Col GRAY remarked that the hon member who had just sat down had taken a wide range. By a resolution of this House at its last Session, the Government were authorized to procure steam communication, and the only offer, excepting the contract now before the House, was from a gentleman abroad for the sum of £3000, sterling. He therefore contended that the Government adopted a wise course in accepting the tender of Robert Robinson Hodge, the only party known to him in the matter. He (Col Gray) fully believed that Mr Boultonhouse did not intend to tender, as his proposal was so entirely different from what the Government required. The hon leader of the Opposition had complained that certain arrangements had been made which might be objectionable were the Liberals to come into power. To this he (Col G.) would reply that it was not necessary that they should come into power (Applause). He then spoke of the excellent accommodations of the new boat, and the advantages which would accrue to the Colony from increased facilities of communication with the neighboring Colonies and the Northern States.

Hon Col SECRETARY entered into an explanation of the differences of the Government with Mr Boultonhouse in regard