

Hon. Mr. CALLBECK said there was a difficulty in managing any body of men who were not paid for their services, and such might account for the apparent want of discipline in the City Fire Department. He said apparent, for there were operations going on under the control of the companies which would not be noticed by those who might collect around the fire. The Government property in the city was valued at £40,000, which, if assessed as property of the citizens was, would yield to the city a revenue of £200, yet the Government had not given more than half that sum, and there were reasons which justified such a course. £50 was now brought down and he believed as much more would be given.

Progress was reported, and the House adjourned for one hour.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Supply.

House in committee on the further consideration of supply.

Hon. Mr. HAVILLAND remarked that when the House adjourned in the morning, they were discussing a resolution in which, among other items, was a grant of £75 for a teacher of Indian children on Lennox Island. There could be no objection to this grant, as it was a debt we owed to the Indian race, now fast disappearing from the Island, to do all in our power to give them the boon of education, which we, as part of a civilized race, enjoyed in a much larger measure than these descendants of the aboriginal inhabitants of our Island. To the grant of £10 for the Agricultural Society of Cascumpec no one could object, as agriculture was the foundation of the wealth of this Colony. The next item was £20 for daily telegrams. In this enlightened age, telegraphic communication was a luxury which few would willingly dispense with. In old times, the people of this Island were often three weeks before they heard of important events which occurred in the other Colonies, but now by the aid of the electric wire, news was transmitted from distant parts of the world with a rapidity which would have filled our ancestors with amazement. Before the grant for the protection of the salmon fishery was given, he (Mr. H.) would like to have seen a report showing how the money granted last year was expended; but from the statements made by the hon. member from Bedeque (Mr. Laird,) it would appear that it had been judiciously expended, and as the salmon fishery was likely to become a source of

wealth to the Colony, if properly protected, he (Mr. H.) would not oppose the grant for that purpose. As regarded the grant of £100 for packet service to Souris, he presumed it was for a sailing packet, in case the Government could not agree with the Steam Navigation Company. He (Mr. H.) could not help noticing the rivalry there was between the hon. member from Souris (Mr. Kickham) and the hon. member from St. Peter's (Mr. McCormack) to take all the money to their respective districts. Last year, he thought those two hon. members were tongue-tied, they had been so reticent, but for the last few days, especially since their visit to St. Patrick, they had occupied the floor nearly the whole time. He had been unable to account for the change that had come over those two hon. members until last night, when he discovered that there was a vacant seat in the Executive Council, and this, he believed, was the cause of all the eloquence with which the House had been electrified for the last few days—they had been striving to prove their eligibility to a seat at the Executive board.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN was willing to give £100 to the Fire Department of Charlottetown, but he could not agree with the hon. member for the city that it should be £200, for although that department helped to protect government property, a bill had been sent to the government for its services in extinguishing the fire at Victoria Barracks.

Mr. BRECKEN had hoped to see the hon. Leader of the Government party approach this subject in a more liberal spirit, and not object to enlarging this grant because a paltry sum was given to the young men who had dragged the Fire Engine all the way out to the Victoria Barracks over bad roads. The people of Charlottetown contributed a large amount towards the general revenue, and were this grant £500 it would be only a small share of what they paid into the treasury. The government should take some pride in Charlottetown, as it was the capital of the Island, and not deal with it in such a niggardly manner. There was a large amount of public property in this town, and the documents in the public offices of this building were of incalculable value to the country.

Mr. REILLY thought if the Government were to be called upon to pay £200 per annum for the protection of public documents, it would be a much better plan to provide fire-proof safes at once.