

them, rather go naked, than vote for him (Dr. Jenkins.)

Hon. Mr. HENDERSON was surprised at the manner in which the hon. Leader of the Government was acting in relation to this Bill. There appeared to be some misunderstanding between him and His Excellency the Lieut. Governor. He was astonished that some hon. members should contend that raw recruits were as good as trained soldiers. They might with equal justice say, that the shop boy with one day's acquaintance with his business was as good as the trained clerk. He did not understand how the Militia movement could be regarded as a Confederate "dodge." Confederation was a new question, while Militia Acts were of old standing. Though he did not advocate carrying the matter of Militia training too far, still it was absurd to suppose that people could be prepared for action in the field with only a few days' notice.

Hon. ATTY. GENERAL would assure the hon. member for Murray Harbor, that there was no misunderstanding with His Excellency in the matter of this Bill. All anxiety on that point might be dismissed.

The amendment that the words "and the performance of Statute labor," be struck out of the clause, was then put and carried.

Dr. JENKINS in rising to move that the members of Fire Companies should be exempt from service as militia-men, remarked that no one who knew the manner in which the members of these Companies were obliged to do duty, would surely object to the motion he was about to make. They were obliged to keep their engine in repair and good working order, and were liable to be called out at any hour, and were subjected to great danger in extinguishing fires. He believed that certain very ardent members of the Militia force were opposed to such exemption, but he trusted that anything which they might say, would have little weight with hon. members. He believed that the firemen already performed more than their share. If this exemption would injure the efficiency of the Militia system it would be very different, but the number exempt would be so trifling, that it could injure it very slightly. He would, therefore, move that the following clause be inserted in the Bill;

"The members of the several Charlottetown and Summerside Fire Engine Companies, shall be exempt from attending muster, and from actual muster at any time except in case of war, invasion or insurrection, and that whenever such exemption is claimed the burden of proof shall always be upon the claimant, provided that the number so exempted, shall not exceed 80 for the Charlottetown Companies, and 20 for the Summerside Company, and that the senior members of the said Companies shall have the privilege of such exemption."

Mr. BRECKEN would support his colleague's resolution, for he believed that the firemen should be exempt. They were really volunteers for the defence of property in the city, and as such were liable to be called out at any time. They did not, however, ask to be exempt when the time came for action, but only to be so in times of ordinary muster. If they were compelled to turn out in such cases, they suffered a

greater sacrifice of time and labor than any other persons in the community.

Mr. KICKHAM would also support the resolution; and indeed was of opinion that firemen should be exempt from service on every occasion, since if they were called out and were absent at the time when a fire occurred, no one would be able to protect property.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL.—As so few would be exempted by the clause, he saw no objection to it. They could not be expected to perform their own drill as militia in addition.

Hon. LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION was opposed to the amendment when first mooted, because there was then no limit set to the number who were to be exempted, and the result would have been that every one would join Fire Brigades, and the militia law would be a nullity. Since a limit had been set he would support the clause. He would, however, wish to move as an amendment that the name of Georgetown be inserted with those of Summerside and Charlottetown, as a Fire Company might be organized there, and it was but right that they should also be exempt.

After some further remarks from hon. members, Mr. Owen considering that the Resolution would require further consideration, moved that progress be reported—carried.

The Bill to alter the Education Act was then read a third time and passed; as was also the Bill to alter and amend the Small Debt Act.

House adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, May 15.

The order for engrossing the Loan Bill, having been on motion discharged, and the Bill re-committed to a committee of the whole House,

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL moved that the Bill be amended by inserting the words, "in this Island," in clause 2, line 13 of said clause.

Hon. Mr. HOWLAN seconded the motion.

Hon. Mr. McAULAY thought the expression in the Bill, "out of this Island," was not a proper one.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL did not understand the hon. member.

Hon. Mr. McAULAY would prefer the word "beyond." The expression as it now stood was too ambiguous.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL hoped that next session the House would have the benefit of a grammatical adviser.

Hon. Mr. McAULAY.—Parties might say to you that they could not give the money, as they would have no guarantee that it would be repaid, because the money the Bill authorized you to borrow, had to be obtained "out of" and not beyond the Island.

The motion being then agreed to, the Bill was reported with an amendment, and ordered to be engrossed.