

May 21, 1874

The House then went into Committee of the Whole, and reported the Bill without amendment.

The Bill was then read a third time and passed.

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PRIVATE BILLS

With the consent of the House, **Mr. MILLS** presented the report of the Committee on Miscellaneous Private Bills.

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MILITIA

Hon. Mr. ROSS (Victoria) introduced a Bill to amend the Act respecting Militia and Defence in the Dominion of Canada, and extending its provisions to Prince Edward Island. He explained that the amendment was to avoid the necessity of enrolment every year, and not compel it to be made more frequently than once in four years, giving the Government power, however, to have it done more frequently if necessary.

In answer to Right Hon. Sir John A. Macdonald,

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE stated it was intended to have an enrolment once in four years, which the Government believed to be ample.

The Bill was then read a first and second time, and the House went into Committee of the Whole to consider its provisions.

Mr. ROSS (Prince Edward) enquired if it was the intention of the Government to take out the volunteers this year, in what force, and at what season.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that he believed measures were taken by the Department to have some of them out who were not out last year. It was the intention to call them out at an early period in June, but the force would not be so large as usual, as it was the intention of the Government to cut down the expenditures as much as possible. Those who had not drilled last year would be called out this year.

Mr. ROSS (Prince Edward) enquired what pay the active volunteers would get and if those who were cut last year would be compelled to come again.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the pay would be higher than before, and it was the intention not to call the force every year.

Mr. BOWELL enquired if the Companies were going to be reduced.

Hon. Mr. ROSS (Victoria) said they would probably be reduced to about forty men each, and the officers.

Mr. BOWELL enquired whether the Government had decided that the Aide-de-Camp to the Governor General should be an officer of the volunteers or of the regular army.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the wishes of the Governor General would be consulted on that matter. (*Hear, hear.*)

The Bill was then reported, read a third time, and passed.

MANUFACTURING INTERESTS

Mr. WOOD (Hamilton) moved that so much of the report of the Joint Committee on Printing as refers to the report of the Select Committee on Manufacturing Interests be referred back to the said Joint Committee.—Carried by consent of the House.

It being six o'clock, the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

PERMANENT BUILDING SOCIETIES

On the order for the third reading of the Permanent Building Societies Bill,

Mr. MOSS moved that the Bill be not now read a third time, but that it be referred back to Committee of the Whole with instructions to amend the same so as to allow societies having a paid-up capital of not less than \$40,000 and not more than \$200,000, to receive deposits to the extent of their paid-up capital.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON expressed the opinion that the Bill was almost, if not altogether, a purely Provincial measure, referring only to the Province of Ontario, and that the amendment made in the Committee on Banking and Commerce and carried in the House yesterday raised the question of whether it had not become practically useless. Whether it ought not to be thrown out on the third reading was also a question which might fairly present itself to the minds of hon. members.

The House then went into Committee, **Mr. STEPHENSON** in the chair. The amendment was incorporated in the bill which was reported with amendments. The amendment was read a second time and adopted.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON suggested that it was for the Government to say whether the Bill was one which could pass the House, which, in its amended form, was nothing more or less than a revival of the policy of the country with regard to Savings Banks.

Hon. Mr. DORION thought there was no danger arising from the quarter spoken of by the hon. gentleman from Châteauguay (**Hon. Mr. Holton**). His hon. friend must know, from his connection with a Savings Bank in Montreal, which never had a copper of paid-up capital, that the security of a Savings Bank did not depend upon paid-up capital. He himself thought the smaller the capital the less danger there was. He had very grave doubts as to whether it was competent for this House to legislate at all upon the subject. He, however, thought it would be invidious to raise that question upon this particular Bill.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell) thought there could be no particular objection to the Bill on the ground referred to by the hon. member for Châteauguay, but the point raised by the Hon. the Minister of Justice was a much more grave and serious one. He was not prepared to say whether that objection was valid or not, but he regretted that the Government had failed this session to propose the creation of a Court which would be competent to set all such matters at rest. He suggested that the third reading should be left