

more than a fine. These remarks were made in a kindly spirit.

Hon. Mr. FOURNIER said his Bill contained a clause increasing the powers of the officers to prevent and punish desertion.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL asked why \$25,000 was asked for the Dominion Police. Last year the expenditure was only \$17,490.

Hon. Mr. FOURNIER said the police force for guarding the public buildings had been found insufficient, and the number had been augmented. Hence the increased appropriation.

The item was concurred in.

On the items under the head of "Penitentiaries "

Mr. KIRKPATRICK called the attention of the Government and the House to the unfortunate position of the guards and officials of the Penitentiaries. While their duties were, perhaps, not very laborious, they were very hazardous. They carried their lives in their hands, and it frequently happened that they were killed or maimed for life by sudden outbreaks among the convicts. Although these men might spend their lives in the service of the country, and discharge their duties faithfully and efficiently, in old age, when they were no longer fit for service, they were turned adrift without any provision being made for their families. The Government could when they pleased grant a gratuity extending from half a year to a year's salary, but what was that for a man who was turned adrift on the world in his last years. He wished to know whether the Government proposed to put these civil servants on the superannuation list and allow them the same payment which was given to other civil servants. He might mention an instance where a store-keeper, who was obliged to give large security to the Government, received only \$700 a year, a small salary for such a responsible position. He asked the Government to take these cases into their consideration.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT said the expenditure was already very large for the number of convicts in the penitentiaries, and the Government could not see their way clear to increase it. It was true there was some risk attending the positions referred to, but for all that there was never

any lack of applicants for any vacancies that occurred.

The item was concurred in.

On item 26,

Mr. KIRKPATRICK asked whether anything was being done under the Act passed a few years ago giving power to transfer Rockwood Asylum to the Province of Ontario.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the Government desired to make the transfer, and had some reason to believe the Local Government would take it, the value to be settled by arbitration on the 1st of January, but when the time came the Ontario Government were not prepared to carry out what they supposed they could do. As soon as they were ready to arbitrate, a valuation would be arrived at, and the institution would be handed over to them. In the meantime the Province of Ontario practically paid the expenses of the institution, as they were charged so much per patient for every one kept there.

The item was concurred in.

On item 27,

Hon. Mr. TUPPER drew the attention of the Minister of Justice to the fact that a rumor existed that it was the intention of the Government to supersede the Warden of Halifax Penitentiary, who was still as capable of discharging his duties as at any period of his life. He would be glad to hear from the Minister of Justice that there was no ground for the rumor.

Hon. Mr. FOURNIER said it was only a rumor. He might add that this officer would be treated with the justice due to all public officers. There would be no exception made in his case.

The item was concurred in.

On item 28,

Mr. DOMVILLE asked why the salary of the Warden of St. John Penitentiary had been increased \$400. He believed that the salary should be proportionate to that of the Warden of Halifax Penitentiary, and therefore did not object to the increase, but he asked the question, seeing that the late Warden had been removed and a new one appointed at an increased salary. Why was the old Warden removed, and why was the salary of the new one increased?

Hon. Mr. BURPEE said the removal was recommended by the Commissioners more than once, and particularly so during