

Mr. FOSTER. No, that is for the issue of the stock.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. There was an attempt made in the English House some time ago to put a duty on all transfers of stock. I do not know if it was carried into effect, or whether it affects all stocks. Of course, if it does, we are in no worse position than any other proprietor. But I think there was a proposal to put a duty on colonial stocks.

Mr. FOSTER. I am not sure, but I think there is a small duty on the transfer of stocks, but if so it affects all stocks.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. A great many of those stocks were used as what are technically called "floaters." If there is a duty on the transfer of inscribed stock, it would materially interfere with its free use.

Mr. FOSTER. It would if it were on ours and not on others, but I am sure that there is no discrimination as between colonial stocks and stocks in general.

Inspector. \$1,700

Mr. McMULLEN. Who is the present inspector?

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. George Crookshank.

Mr. McMULLEN. How long is it since he was appointed?

Mr. FOSTER. I think about two years. Mr. Tims, the former inspector, was superannuated, and the assistant inspector became inspector, so that we saved one officer.

Mr. McMULLEN. What is the salary?

Mr. FOSTER. \$1,700, with travelling expenses.

Mr. McMULLEN. I see that Mr. Tims was superannuated at \$1,820 a year, and the assistant now gets the same salary.

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Tims received a high salary—\$2,200, I think.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I think it was \$2,600. How is it he receives over \$1,800 superannuation?

Mr. FOSTER. He was superannuated in the ordinary way and received no additional time.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I suppose Mr. Crookshank is the son of the late inspector at St. John?

Mr. FOSTER. Yes.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. How long has he been in the service?

Mr. FOSTER. He was private secretary of Sir Leonard Tilley for some years before that.

Mr. McMULLEN. The Minister must be mistaken in the date. His name does not appear on the printed list laid before the House.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT.

Mr. FOSTER. It ought to be. We have not estimated for Mr. Tims for, I think, two years.

Mr. McMULLEN. Oh, yes, I now see his name on page B—215. He got it for six months last year. Then he cannot be superannuated two years.

Mr. FOSTER. It is nearly two years. That is for 1891-92.

Assistant Receiver-General's Office.

Halifax. \$8,300

Mr. FOSTER. The decrease here arises from the fact that the Finance Department has, up to the present time, paid rent for the building in which this office is kept. The Public Works Department has now assumed the property, and so this decrease is apparent rather than real.

Assistant Receiver-General's Office.

St. John. \$6,000

Mr. FOSTER. The reduction here is caused by a reduction in the official staff since last year. The Assistant Receiver-General in St. John has been superannuated. He was Mr. R. W. Crookshank, and his superannuation amounts to \$1,540 per year. In his place, Mr. H. D. McLeod has been appointed, and the staff has been rearranged. The total amount of pay under the old staff was \$7,150; the total amount of pay, including the superannuation allowance of Mr. Crookshank, under the new arrangement, is \$7,170; so that there has been an increase in total salaries of \$20. Mr. Crookshank was superannuated on the 21st January this year.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. Was Mr. H. D. McLeod previously employed in the department, or was he brought in from the outside?

Mr. FOSTER. He was previously employed in the department, but that only partially answers the question. He has been previously employed in it for about a year. He was brought in from the outside and now takes charge.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. Is not that rather calculated to discourage officers in the department? It is customary to make promotions from among officers who do their duty well, and here you have brought a party in from the outside and put him over their heads.

Mr. FOSTER. No, I do not think it would have that effect in this case.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. It seems to me that some of these officers were fit to be promoted, and here they are deprived of their promotion.

Mr. FOSTER. I may say that in arranging for who shall have charge of the Assistant Receiver-General's office, it is necessary, in the first place, to get a good capable man, to get a man more than ordinarily capable. In respect to this particular case, Mr. McLeod is