

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

THURSDAY, April 15.

House met pursuant to adjournment at 3 1/2 o'clock.

The hon. Attorney General, by command of his Excellency the Governor, presented to the house the following documents:

Despatches from Secretary of State and documents relating to the application of Mrs. Emma Artors, daughter of the late Joseph Templeman, Chief Clerk in the Colonial Secretary's office, Newfoundland, for compensation in consideration of her late father's long services.

Despatches relative to the case of J. T. O'Mara a native of Newfoundland.

Despatch relative to the extension of Telegraphy in Newfoundland.

Despatches in reference to the establishment of a training ship in St. John's.

Despatches relating to the proposed Craving Dock in St. John's.

Despatches relating to the appointment of a French Consul at St. Peirre.

Despatches relating to the fog alarm at Cape Shear.

Despatches relating to the repairs of fog alarm at Cape Race.

Despatches in reference to Judge Hayward's report on the West and North-west Coast of Newfoundland.

Despatches in relation to the French Shore Fishery Question.

Despatches relating to Wreck of s. s. Burgos.

Despatch from Capt Kennedy of H. M. S. Druid on Protection of the Fisheries of Newfoundland for 1879.

Despatch relating to testimonial to Mr. Delfosse.

Despatch relative to the removal of French Protection on the Importation of Foreign Codfish.

Despatch relating to proposed Training Ship and Dock in St. John's.

Despatch in reference to Representation for St. George's Bay.

Despatch on appointment of M. Burquin as German Consul for Labrador.

Despatch upon the subject of duties charge on goods landed from a wrecked vessel on the West or north coast of Newfoundland.

Ordered that the said despatches do lie upon the table.

The following bills were then read a third time:

Bill to amend the Act relating to Administration of Justice.

Bill for the erection of a Post-office.

Bill for employment of persons sentenced to hard labor on public works.

Ordered that these three several bills be sent to Legislative Council for their concurrence.

Pursuant to the order of the Day, the house resolved itself into committee of the whole on the further consideration of the bill for granting a retiring allowance to Sir Hugh Hoyles, Chief Justice of Newfoundland.

Mr. Watson in the chair.

The chairman reported from the Committee that they had agreed to the bill without amendment.

On motion that the Report be adopted, the house divided, when there appeared—

For the motion 17, and 10 against it. It then passed in the affirmative.

Ordered that the bill be read a third time to-morrow.

On motion the house then adjourned till to-morrow at half-past three o'clock.

FRIDAY, April 16.

The House met at half-past three o'clock pursuant to adjournment.

Hon. Mr. Winter presented a petition from Thomas Winter and others inhabitants of Burin, upon the subject of mail communication with that locality, and other ports in Placentia Bay.

He said that similar petitions had been presented to the house during former sessions, and that hon. members were aware how disadvantageously situated the inhabitants of Placentia Bay were in this respect.

They were difficultly situated from the people of any other section of the Island. The regular mail steamer touched at but two ports in the Bay, the one almost the extreme point and the other the extreme western, the eastern port being only a port of call once a month, while the rest of this large bay had to be supplied with mails and freight, by means of two small sailing craft.

The bay was a very populous one, having a large amount of traffic with St. John's, while the facilities given by steam were altogether inadequate to its wants and disproportionate to that enjoyed by other important bays both west and north.

At this particular time it would not be inappropriate to point out that the western side of Placentia Bay, did not, nor could it, benefit by the present system of telegraphy; neither could it directly participate in the

blessings that our railroad undertaking promised, so that to place it upon anything approaching a fair footing, some radical reform was necessary. The present system worked most unsatisfactorily, by reason of the irregularity of the sailing craft, and this irregularity could not be remedied so long as the work was performed by this class of craft. During the winter the least scum of ice made it impossible for a sailing craft to proceed, and during the summer months calms and currents necessarily retarded her. He (hon. Mr. W.) had some personal experience and could therefore give testimony to the unsatisfactory character of the present system, which had been in existence and practically unimproved for many years. He trusted the Government would at once take this matter into its consideration, with a view to the improvement of the system.

Hon. Surveyor General (Mr. Donnelly) supported the prayer of the petition which had been presented to the House had appended to it the signatures of the inhabitants of Burin alone which fact was entirely owing to the very want of mail communication with the rest of the Bay referred to in the petition. Hon. members must be impressed with the request of petitioners. For a number of years past, the whole Bay was dependent for the conveyance of its mails, freight and passengers upon two sailing craft, which were totally inadequate for the performance of the service. The regular western mail steamer was supposed to one reason and another it was found almost impossible to do so, and so Burin on the western side of the Bay, was the only port touched at.

Mr. Dwyer also presented a petition from the Rev. Father Morris and others of St. Josephs, in the district of Placentia, praying for the construction of a bridge.

On motion of the hon Attorney General ordered that the rules of the House be suspended in reference to bills, addresses and other business during the remainder of the session.

The Chairman of the Board of Works presented a bill to provide for the contingent expenses of the Legislature, which was read a first and second time.

Ordered that the house do now resolve itself into committee of the whole on the said bill.

Mr. Watson in the Chair.

The Chairman reported from the committee that they had agreed to the bill to them referred without amendment, and he handed the bill in at the Clerks Table.

Ordered that the bill be engrossed and now read a third time, and that the bill do pass and be entitled an Act to provide for contingent expenses of the Legislature.

Ordered that the Chairman of the Board of Works and Mr. Conroy do take the bill to the Legislative Council and desire their concurrence.

The Speaker informed the House that he had received a communication from the hon Colonial Secretary stating that it was the intention of his Excellency the Governor to prorogue present session of the Assembly to-morrow at half-past two o'clock.

Then the house adjourned till to-morrow at 11 of the o'clock.

SATURDAY, April 17.

Pursuant to adjournment, the house opened to-day at 11 o'clock.

Hon. Mr. Shea presented a petition from Wm. Barnes, of St. John's, praying for compensation for being deprived of his situation as fishery commissioner.

Ordered that the said petition do lie on the table.

Ordered that the following addresses be presented to his Excellency the Governor, on petition from Judge Prowse and on petition from Nathaniel Norman. Ordered that the select committee on the Contingencies of this house be continued after prorogation until the appointment of a similar committee on the next session of this house, and that the present select committee on Printing and Reporting be continued in office during recess, and until one week after the opening of the next session of the Legislature, or until the appointment of a similar committee.

The following message from his Excellency the Governor was brought down to the house by the Gentleman Usher of Black Rod.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,—

I am commanded by his Excellency the Governor to inform you that this General Assembly is hereby prorogued.

Thus ended the Second Session of the Thirteenth General Assembly.

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A large variety of Pictures, Chromos, Motos and Motto Frames, Looking Glasses and looking

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April 29,

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