

Continued from first page. ad to any wholesale and hasty legislation as is now attempted, and the result of the working of this Bill would prove the truth of his words. Is it not found that the present Crown Lands Act works well? Are there any petitions before the House asking for a change in the present law? He trusted that the Government would reconsider this matter, and hesitate before attempting to force what he felt satisfied would prove injurious to the best interests of the colony.

After some desultory discussion, the Committee then rose and reported that they had passed the Bill, with some amendments. Upon motion, the report was received. Ordered that the Bill be read a third time to-morrow.

On motion the House then adjourned till to-morrow at 3 1/2 o'clock.

TUESDAY, April 6. The House opened at half-past three o'clock.

Upon motion of hon. Surveyor General, the Bill was read a third time.

Ordered to be taken to the hon. Legislative Council for their concurrence by the hon. Surveyor General and Mr. Scott.

Upon motion of the hon. Receiver General, the House went into committee of the whole upon Supply Bill.

Mr. Watson in the chair. A message from the hon. the Legislative Council announced the passing of the Wreck and Salvage Bill without amendment, and the Bill for the Prevention of Small Pox with some amendments, to which they asked the concurrence of the House of Assembly.

Committee of the Whole on Supply. Committee rose and reported that they had passed the bill without amendment. Ordered to be read a third time to-morrow.

Pursuant to the Order of the Day, the House resolved itself into committee of the whole upon the Road Bill.

Mr. Norman in the chair. The committee rose and reported the bill without amendment.

Ordered to be read a third time on tomorrow Committee upon Supreme Court Commissioners' Bill.

Upon motion of Mr. Kent the House went into committee of the whole upon the bill.

Mr. Rendell in the chair. The committee rose and reported the bill without amendment.

Ordered to be read a third time on tomorrow.

Hon. Mr. Winter presented a bill to amend the law relating to fraudulent marking of merchandise.

The Bill was, upon motion, read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on to-morrow.

Hon. Mr. Winter also presented a Bill respecting certain appraisements made under the Acts relating to the General Water Company.

Upon motion the bill was read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

The House then adjourned until to-morrow at 4 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, April 7. The house met at half-past three o'clock.

Mr. Penney presented a petition from Richard Hayden and others, of Small Point, on the subject of a road.

Mr. Rice presented a petition from Stephen Read and others of Danel's Arm, district of Twillingate and Fogo, praying for a grant of money to construct a canal there.

Mr. Kent presented a petition from Thomas Cadigan and others, of Logy Bay and eight other petitions from various settlements in the District of St. John's East, praying for the opening up and repairs of roads and the construction of bridges.

Mr. Parsons presented petitions from Peter Ellard and others, from Nicholas Ellard and others, and from Thomas Larkin and others, inhabitants of the district of St. John's East, on the subject of roads and bridges.

working of the provisions for the preliminary polling of the electoral districts was such that in the district of Twillingate and Fogo, reason of the extensive coast line, and the several islands wherein, indeed, the principal Harbors are situated, it was almost impracticable to carry them out. The amount of labor and expense necessitated tended to deter those from entering upon the work who were otherwise desirous of availing themselves of the benefits offered by this Act. The petitioners prayed for such relief as would facilitate the accomplishment of the objects contemplated by the law, and of such a kind as the wisdom of this honorable house might deem best and most expedient. Possibly at this late stage of the season little could be done beyond presenting the petitions, but if such were the case, he trusted that next session he would see such an amendment proposed to the existing Act as would amply meet the views of petitioners. In conclusion, he would commend the prayer of both petitions to the favourable consideration of the house.

Dr. Skelton presented a petition from Rev. Wm. Kirby and others, of King's Cove, in the district of Bonavista Bay, praying for the erection of a lock-up in that place. The petitioners state that this want has been long felt, and has now become an absolute necessity. The growing trade and consequent increasing importance of King's Cove makes the absence of a lock-up yearly more and more felt. He hoped that the Government would see the necessity of granting a sum of money for this most desirable object.

Mr. Saint, as one of the members for Bonavista Bay, had much pleasure in giving his support to the petition just presented by his hon. colleague Dr. Skelton. A petition so numerously and respectfully signed upon such a subject should receive the approval and support of the whole House.

Hon. Mr. Winter presented a petition largely and respectfully signed from several places in the district of Burin. The subject is one of considerable importance, and he understood that there were several petitions of similar nature to be presented for other parts of the country upon the same subject. The subject matter of the petition is the mode of carrying into effect the law relating to the prohibition of the sale of intoxicating liquors. There is a law in this country at present upon the subject but the Petitioners call the attention of the House to the difficulties which the provisions of the present law throw in the way of its being carried into effect. The existing statute extends its application to the whole electoral district, and when a poll is required under the whole district is called upon to make its election. Petitioners asked the Legislature to reconsider the present Act and to make each amendment as will permit the application of the law to a section of the District. He [Mr. W.] believe that when the measure was first introduced about ten years ago, it was in the modified or more contracted form which the petitioners now ask for. The reasons urged by the Petitioners, for the amendment, are very cogent and well deserving of the attention and serious consideration of hon members on both sides of the House, not only from the point of view of petitioners, but for other and equally as strong reasons. If the amendment asked for is made, it will enable many persons to escape from the operation of a law from which they might possibly dissent, as the Petitioners asked that the law may be made to apply only to particular sections and that a portion only of the District may be thus affected by its operation in case a poll. For as now many portions of a District may be opposed unanimously to the operation of the law, so then if the proposed amendment to have a poll only in particular sections when applied for were carried into effect those portions which would object to the law would escape. Under the present law the election has to take place for the whole electoral District and a poll of the Electors taken in every part and all parts of the District. This is accompanied with great trouble and expense, almost as much in fact as the election of a member for the House of Assembly. To obtain a poll in any District under the existing Prohibition Law it is necessary to use all the machinery necessary for a contested Election; and though in the past this has been accomplished without a breach of the peace, it may in the future be accompanied with more unpleasant consequences than the mere trouble and expense. All this expense and trouble and those unpleasant consequences would be avoided if the law were so altered as to have the poll taken in small sections of the District.

Mr. Parsons presented petitions from Peter Ellard and others, from Nicholas Ellard and others, and from Thomas Larkin and others, inhabitants of the district of St. John's East, on the subject of roads and bridges.

Dr. Skelton presented a petition from Samuel Snowden and others of Musgrave Town, and one from Joseph Lester and others, of Greenspond, on the subject of roads.

Mr. Mackay presented a petition from James Runock and others of Petties in the district of Burgeo and LaPoile.

Hon. Mr. Rorke presented a petition from John Boyd and others, inhabitants of Carbonear.

Hon. Mr. Winter presented a petition from Solomon Mathews and others inhabitants of the district of Burin, which was received and read.

Ordered that these several petitions do lie on the table.

Mr. Rice presented two petitions, one from the inhabitants of Twillingate and the other from the inhabitants of Moreton's Harbour, both of which were largely and influentially signed, on the subject of bringing into operation in these localities the Permissive Prohibition Act. In moving that these petitions lie on the table he (Mr. R.) would observe that the law as embodied in this act was entirely in accord with the views of the petitioners, but the

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