

diminished, allow me to say a word or two as to the issue of Dominion Stock, a kind of security which I think it is of considerable importance the country should possess, and to the advantages of which I think the public is not yet fully alive. It is more advantageous to the public than ordinary bonds. It gives no trouble about cutting off coupons every six months. It is inscribed on the books of the Receiver General, similarly to Bank Stock, and there can be no possibility of any loss whatever to the holder. Then it possesses this other advantage that it is transferable at various points in the Dominion, and in small sums. Any person may invest any sum over \$100 in Dominion Stock, and receive the interest upon it half-yearly. This facility for investing broken sums is an advantage which, it seems to me, is not sufficiently understood. Any broken sum whatever may be inscribed on the books of the Government, and transferred in the regular way. I am happy to be able to state to the House that the mode in which this stock was taken up by the country exhibits gratifying features. The number of tenders was 61 under par, and 145 at and above par. It is a pleasing circumstance connected with the distribution of this stock, that it was diffused over the country in small sums, among trustees, executors, charitable institutions and individuals, seeking a permanent investment for moderate means. I consider it one of the most desirable features of the stock, that its distribution in small sums over the country gives the public at large an interest in the permanency and stability and honest administration of our affairs.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON—Will the Minister of Finance please also to state the number of allottees?

Hon. Mr. ROSE—If my hon. friend will have a little patience, till the return moved for by the hon. member for South Ontario is brought down, he will get full information on this point, and on all the others embraced in the motion. As I have already stated, the balance of the sum which has gone in diminution of the floating debt was raised by the sale of securities of Nova Scotia issued on the credit of the Dominion. I am happy to state, that although there were circumstances affecting the general relations of this country at that time which, it might have been apprehended, would have prejudiced the sale, the first financial operation of the Dominion in England was carried out satisfactorily for the interests of the public.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON—I presume it is the Nova Scotia bonds which you speak of as Dominion securities.

Hon. Mr. ROSE—Yes; they were part of the debt which the Dominion assumed.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON—Was the form of the bonds changed?

Hon. Mr. ROSE—No; but they were stated to be a part of the debt for which the Dominion was liable. The form of the security matters nothing, so long as it was issued as a Dominion security. (Hear, hear.) I will now only say one word more with reference to the balance of the floating debt which still exists. I think the House need feel no apprehension but that the floating debt will, before the lapse of any long period of