

for the purpose of creating a fund out of which under certain circumstances he would be entitled to a large allowance. That money was unquestionably his own; the full quarter's salary was unquestionably due to him. It could not be withheld by authority of Statute except for the specific purpose prescribed. I never could understand why this particular claim was refused, for in equity and justice it was clearly established. It is now alleged, with respect to this and other similar cases, that the officers did little work, and therefore the Minister was authorized to withhold this money, which, as I allege, belonged to the officer, and was not public money. I have made application on his behalf to more than one Minister of Inland Revenue. They invariably at first admitted the equity of the claim, and were apparently willing to have the matter settled; but owing to some influence in the background—I do not doubt it was owing to the peculiar view held by the Deputy—the Ministers changed their opinions and declined to pay the amount. This was the case with regard to the late and the present Minister. I have waited on the latter also, and the Minister acknowledged the fairness of the claim; but a few days afterwards, determined that it could not be admitted. I bring the matter before the House that it may be discussed, and that hon. members may be satisfied that the claim was one that ought not to be refused. I think the Government will give this matter their serious consideration, as it is one which deeply concerns the gentlemen affected. The case is so clear and evident that I think the Government, if they will reflect upon it, can not possibly refuse to pay the sum asked for.

Mr. MOUSSEAU. I shall not dispute the importance of this question by saying that it is a question of \$50. Mr. Blanchard was appointed as Inspector of Weights and Measures in a district when there was no occasion for his services. He never inspected any weights and measures, so that in being relieved from his appointment he has not been relieved from his occupation. He was dismissed because there was nothing for him to do. He claims compensation for services not rendered, for duties not performed. The Government have no objection to the passage of this motion.

Mr. ANGLIN. The hon. Minister was mistaken in saying that this was a district in which no Inspector was needed, but he was not mistaken in saying that the officer did very little. But the reason why he did so little was that he was not supplied with the standards. For some reason there was a difficulty in procuring a sufficient number of standards of weights and measures. He was kept waiting for them, and in the meantime held himself ready to obey the instructions of the Department. If I am not mistaken he never was furnished with the standards up to the last, but that was not his fault. He held himself aloof from all other occupations and resigned his seat in the Provincial Assembly for the purpose of accepting the appointment. This was a very considerable loss in a peculiar point of view. My contention is that if he were displaced because he had nothing to do, or that the appointment was not necessary, then from the date he was so displaced he could have no equitable nor legal claim; but he continued to be the officer and continued to receive his salary, quarter by quarter, minus only this sum withheld, which was just as much his money as the money he received.

Motion agreed to; and (at 11:55 o'clock, p.m.) the House adjourned.

Mr. ANGLIN.

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

TUESDAY, 8th February, 1881.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at three o'clock.

PRAYERS.

BANK ACT AND AMENDMENT BILL.

Mr. LANGEVEN, in the absence of Sir LEONARD TILLEY, introduced a Bill (No. 50) to correct a clerical error in schedule B, to the Act 43rd Victoria, chapter 22, being the list of banks whose charters are continued by that Act. The Bank St. Jean, he said, was omitted from the list, and the Bill was for the purpose of correcting that error.

Bill read the first time.

SUPREME COURT OF CANADA.

Mr. GIROUARD (Jacques Cartier) introduced a Bill (No. 51) to limit the appellate jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of Canada.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Explain.

Mr. GIROUARD. The best explanation I can offer is to read the Bill, which is brief, and is as follows:—

"1. The appellate jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of Canada is abolished in all cases where the matter in dispute relates to property and civil rights in any of the Provinces, and to matters of a merely local or private nature, and coming within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Legislature of any of the said Provinces, according to the meaning of the British North America Act of 1867 and Acts amending the same.

"2. This Act should not apply to cases decided by the Exchequer Court of Canada, nor to cases where the matter in dispute affects the constitutionality or validity of any Act or Statute of any of said Provincial Legislatures, which cases shall continue to be subject to appeal to the said Supreme Court as now or hereafter shall be provided for.

"3. This Act shall not apply to appeals already instituted or pending before the said Supreme Court."

Bill read the first time.

CANADA TEMPERANCE ACT.

Mr. BOULTBEE introduced a Bill (No. 52) to amend the Canada Temperance Act of 1878. He said: The provisions of the Bill if they become law will make it necessary, before the Canada Temperance Act goes into effect, that the voters should be a majority of the whole voters of the district.

Bill read the first time.

APPOINTMENT OF QUEBEC JUDGES.

Mr. McDONALD (Pictou) moved, that the House do now go into Committee of the Whole, to consider the following resolutions:—

1. *Resolved*, That whereas by an Act of the Legislature of the Province of Quebec passed in the year 1880, entitled 'An Act to amend the Law respecting the Court of Queen's Bench,' provision is made for the appointment of an additional Judge to the Court of Queen's Bench in the said Province of Quebec, and whereas by an Act of the same Legislature passed in the said Session of 1880, entitled 'An Act to amend the Law respecting the constitution of the Superior Court,' provision is made for the appointment of an additional Judge to the said Superior Court of the Province of Quebec in addition to the number now authorized to be appointed to that Court, it is expedient to make provision for the salaries of such additional Judges.

2. *Resolved*, That the salary of the said additional Judge of the Court of Queen's Bench shall be five thousand dollars, and the salary of the additional Judge of the said Superior Court shall be five thousand dollars a year, payable out of any moneys forming part of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of Canada.

He said: The resolutions themselves contain the grounds upon which I rise on behalf of the Government to propose to the House, a proposition for the salaries of two additional Judges for Quebec. The Legislature of that Province having in view