

Mr. TOBIN said that if a man took one hundred pounds worth of shares he would have much interest in the company. He had no doubt there would not be more than fifty stockholders in the company in question. Such was his belief judging from his experience of the Marine Railway at Canso.

Mr. ARCHIBALD said that whilst he did not differ from the Provincial Secretary as to our gold mines when properly conducted, yet no one could deny that a large number of persons had invested large amounts of money in enterprises for which they have never received one shilling.

Mr. PRYOR said that the object of the bill, in putting the shares at a small amount, was to enable a large combination to be formed, which might accomplish the work, and to prevent the loss, in case of failure, being felt by any one to any detrimental extent. He expressed his conviction that his Worship the Mayor would not be a party to any scheme that might operate prejudicially to the stockholders.

Mr. McLELAN alluded to instances of parties having gone about the country and sold shares in gold mines for twenty-five cents, and who were never heard of afterwards.

The bill was allowed to lie on the table, and the committee rose and reported.

PETITIONS.

Mr. McKay presented a petition from the Postmaster of West River, Pictou, for an increase of salary.

ACADIA COLLEGE.

On motion of hon. PRO. SEC. the bill to enlarge the powers of the trustees of Acadia College was read a second time. He stated that the object of the bill was to transfer the government of Horton academy to the trustees and governors of Acadia College. It was formerly vested in the Baptist Education Society, with whose consent the bill came up.

FOG BELLS.

Hon. PRO. SEC. laid on the table certain correspondence, embracing a proposition from an inventor to place a fog trumpet at Sambro. The documents were referred to the committee on navigation securities.

BILL.

Hon. Mr. SHANNON introduced a bill to amend the act to incorporate the Union Protection Company.

ROAD MONIES IN VICTORIA.

Mr. ROSS stated that certain returns asked by him from the Financial Secretary were handed to him and now in his possession; but as some of the charges made appeared to him illegal, he would ask for a committee to examine and report on those returns. The sum of \$120 was paid to one McLeod without any return or certificate from Sessions; and if appointed by Government, a copy of his commission should be produced. The Provincial Secretary would therefore please lay on the table copy of correspondence from the Clerk of the Peace, with minutes of Special Sessions at Baddeck touching the appointment of Murdoch McLeod as inspector of statute labor; also copy of commission, if any, held by him.

Hon. PROV. SEC. stated that it would be for the hon. member to state what he wished a Committee to enquire into.

Mr. ROSS replied that the complaints and charges which he intended to make could be

better explained before a committee; but he might mention one. A certain commissioner, expending \$60, had charged in the return sixteen and a half days for himself, and when the time was added, it would only make five and a half days, giving ten men for each day, as the law requires. Some of the returns were paid since the 30th Sept., and could not therefore be examined by the committee on public accounts, who wished enquiry to be made into the matter of the \$120 paid to Mr. Murdoch McLeod.

It was suggested to Mr. ROSS that he had better defer asking for his committee until he had obtained the information required from the Provincial Secretary, which he agreed to do.

PETITIONS.

Hon. Mr. SHANNON presented a petition from Herring Cove for aid in reference to dredging and clearing out the entrance to the harbor.

THE DIFFICULTY AT THE SYDNEY MINES.

Hon. PRO. SEC. laid on the table copies of correspondence relative to the transport of troops to Sydney last spring at the time of the difficulty with the miners at that locality. It states that the expense, £538, has been paid conjointly by the local government and the mining associations.

In answer to Mr. Locke hon. PRO. SEC. alluded to the circumstances of the matter that required the prompt transport of the troops to Sydney. In consequence of the difficulty at the mines the Province had lost considerably, the amount of coal exported having been necessarily very much less than it otherwise would have been. If the difficulty, however, had not been promptly remedied the consequences might have been much worse. The government, however, had not been aware that they would have been asked to make payment in such a case, until their attention was called to it by the Imperial authorities.

Mr. TOBIN alluded to the inconvenience that had resulted to the people of Halifax from the temporary embarrassment at the mines.

Mr. STEWART CAMPBELL did not doubt that it was the duty of the Government, in reference to the general interests of the Province, to take the steps they did to quell the riot; but it appeared to him that enormous expense might have been saved if the service of the transfer of the troops had been put up to tender and contract.

Hon. PROV. SEC. had already explained that the arrangements were made without any reference to the Local Government, and without any idea upon their part that they would have to contribute to the expense.

Mr. LOCKE was of opinion that the service had cost too much.

Mr. PRYOR said that the emergency was such, as to render the idea suggested by the hon. member for Guysborough—of putting it up to tender, impossible. The troops had to be sent with great despatch, and there was only one establishment in Halifax capable of undertaking the service. He presumed the authorities made the best possible terms, with them that could be made.

Mr. ARCHIBALD also was understood to express his surprise at the expense that had been incurred.

MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS.

Hon. PROV. SEC., by command, laid on the table the report of the Emigrant Agent for the past year, which was read by the Clerk.