

should be fixed on village lots, which may be sold at private sale.

Hon. Mr. AIKINS said the principle generally laid down by the Government was to sell by public Auction, but it was deemed advisable, in certain cases, to allow a choice of selling by private sale.

In reply to a suggestion by SENATOR FLINT Hon. Mr. AIKINS replied that there was no intention of having cemeteries in villages that might be laid out.

The pre-emption clauses were amended so as to merge them into the homestead system, in accordance with the principle to be adopted in the United States.

Hon. Mr. SUTHERLAND urged in strong terms the claims of a class of persons who were not considered in the arrangements with respect to the lands of Manitoba. These persons were living on very narrow strips of land, and many of them would be obliged to leave. During the recent troubles no men had acted more patriotically than this class of persons whose claims had been ignored. It was a great injustice that the people in the section where he himself lived should have been forgotten in the allotment of grants of land. He did not blame the Government but was under the impression that the rights of these people who were the pioneers of the settlement had not been sufficiently pressed on their attention.

Hon. Mr. MacFARLANE urged the claims of these people to consideration.

Hon. Mr. AIKINS said it was open to these or other settlers to get 160 acres of land on payment of a small fee.

Hon. Mr. SANBORN said then they were not placed in any better position than new settlers.

Hon. Mr. LETELLIER DE ST. JUST said that these people were not treated as well as those who belonged to his own nationality, and expressed the hope that their claims would receive attention. Such a concession as that suggested would tend to the harmony and happiness of the whole community.

Hon. Mr. GIRARD said that if the Government adopted the suggestion they would do what would be satisfactory to all classes of the population of Manitoba.

After some remarks from Hon. Mr. BENSON to a similar effect,

Hon. Mr. AIKINS replied that he would take the matter immediately into consideration.

Considerable desultory discussion arose on that part of the 34th clause which did not allow a settler voluntarily relinquishing or abandoning his claim, to make a second entry. After remarks from Hon. Messrs. Christie, Flint, Skead, and others,

Hon. Mr. AIKINS agreed to amend the clause so as to allow the second entry.

In reply to an amendment proposed by Hon. Mr. GIRARD with reference to hay lands, 36th clause.

Hon. Mr. AIKINS stated that the question of hay land would be dealt with during the present season, and the right of common would be ascertained. Those who have the right of hay or common would get their consideration in land.

In clause 45 respecting coal lands,

An amendment was adopted on the suggestion of Hon. Mr. LETELLIER DE ST. JUST, allowing mine to be forfeited in case parties cease to work them for six consecutive months.

Hon. Mr. GIRARD urged that the Province of Manitoba should be exempt from the provisions of the 48th clause:—"Any tract of forest land covered by forest timber may be set apart as timber lands and reserved from sale or settlement."

Hon. Mr. AIKINS explained that such an amendment was unnecessary in a Province situated like Manitoba.

Clause 65 respecting Slides having been read

Hon. Mr. LETELLIER DE ST. JUST asked if provision should not be made to prevent saw dust being thrown into rivers.

Hon. Mr. AIKINS said the Local Government would have regulation of such matters.

The Committee went through 74 clauses, rose, reported progress, and received leave to sit again.

The House adjourned at a quarter past 10.

FRIDAY, 17th May.

The SPEAKER took the chair at three o'clock.

After the presentation of petitions and other routine proceedings,

Hon. Mr. AIKINS brought up a return respecting the Intercolonial Railway.

RAILWAY.

Hon. Mr. HAMILTON, from Committee on Railways, Commerce and Banking, reported favorably on the Bill respecting the St. Francis and Megantic Railway Company.

DIVORCE.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL moved the second reading of the Bill to provide for the divorce of John Robert Martin, and in doing so said he did not vouch for the accuracy of the facts alleged therein.

In accordance with the rules of the House, Richard Martin was called to the