

should be appropriated to some public purpose, and he knew of no better mode of meeting the difficulty than that proposed.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON asked to what purpose the Minister of Finance thought the money could properly be applied. The effect of the resolution was certainly to divert the surplus from its original object.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE suggested the expediency of inserting some words to indicate the cause of the divergence.

Hon. Sir FRANCIS HINCKS said that he had no objection to do so. He assured the member for Châteauguay (Hon. Mr. Holton) that he had no idea in what way it was proposed to deal with the surplus, and did not think the trustees had decided on the point. He should be disposed to leave the matter to them.

Hon. Mr. ANGLIN said that no law existed declaring how the profits of the St. John Savings Bank were to be appropriated.

Some years ago the trustees concluded to put up the present Savings Bank building from those funds, and their doing so was the cause of considerable discussion at the time. He thought it would be well to determine how the money should be appropriated. It belonged, unquestionably, to the depositors, three fourths or nine tenths of whom were working men and servant maids, and it should be applied for the benefit of the working classes.

They had a Catholic and a Protestant Hospital at St. John, they were not incorporated, and therefore could not under the present law receive the money, but it would be easy to have the Act passed incorporating them.

He had heard it said that the money should be devoted to the establishment of an Art Gallery or Library, but he did not think either would benefit the working classes. He would like to see the money divided between the two Hospitals in preference to the Trustees being allowed to distribute it as they may choose.

Hon. Sir FRANCIS HINCKS concurred to a certain extent with the hon. member for Gloucester (Hon. Mr. Anglin). He believed one or two persons had suggested that the money should be applied to the establishment of an art gallery or library, but he felt sure that the trustees would not entertain such a proposition. He doubted the expediency of this House undertaking to say that the money should be applied for mere local objects. He believed that it would be applied to such objects as the hon. gentleman had suggested, but he thought it only appropriate to leave it to those under whose good management it had been accured.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON thought the objects of the original law were so clearly set forth that some general provisions should be made binding the trustees to certain purposes to which the money should be appropriated.

Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Peel) thought it better that the money should be distributed under judicial authority, rather than being left in the hands of the trustees, and suggested that it would be better to allow the resolution to stand until another day.

Hon. Sir FRANCIS HINCKS could not see any objection to the resolution passing as any amendment could be made in the Bill.

The first clause of the resolution was then passed: —

2. That it is expedient to amend the Act relating to banks and banking by correcting a clerical error in section 72, by protecting innocent parties to notes and bills in certain cases under section 52, and by enabling banks to receive deposits of savings for minors and others, under certain limitations.

Hon. Sir FRANCIS HINCKS explained the object of the second clause which was passed without discussion.

AFTER RECESS

3. That it is expedient to amend the Act regulating the issue of Dominion Notes 31 Vic., Cap. 46 by providing that the amount of any excess over nine million dollars may be held by the Receiver General partly in specie and partly in deposits in Chartered Banks.

Hon. Sir FRANCIS HINCKS explained that the object of the third clause was to remedy an inconvenience which had been found to exist in regard to the circulation of Dominion notes. By the Dominion Note Act the Government was required up to a certain point—to the extent of \$9,000,000—to keep twenty per cent in specie, and beyond that amount they were bound to hold in gold dollar for dollar.

The circulation had increased considerably beyond \$9,000,000, and they asked to be allowed to issue beyond that amount upon the deposits of chartered Banks, but never holding less than twenty per cent in gold. It would be a matter of considerable advantage to the Banks without being of any disadvantage to the Government. Inasmuch as the circulation is considerably beyond \$9,000,000 and is likely to still increase, there is no inducement to the Banks to issue small notes, and he had reason to believe that at present there were complaints in various parts of the country of the insufficiency of small notes, and he could see no objection to the amendment proposed.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON said his earnest desire was to support the Government, and he always tried to do so. (*Laughter.*) He asked whether it was proposed to deal with the ordinary balances of the Government in the banks as equivalent to a portion of specie