

Mr. MILLER pointed out the location of the road. In winter persons were obliged to go up the hill of Porcupine, and get up in that way.

Mr. Bourinot, Mr. Caldwell, Hon. Attorney General, Mr. S. McDonnell, Mr. LeVesconte, all briefly pointed out the difficulties that attended travellers in the locality in question, under existing circumstances, and the necessity for some improvement.

Mr. BLANCHARD introduced a bill to incorporate a Presbyterian Church at Middle River in connection with the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces.

Mr. JAS. FRASER introduced an act to incorporate the New Glasgow Marine Insurance Company.

TAX UPON DOGS.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL presented a petition signed by inhabitants of Antigonishe, praying for the passage of a law imposing a tax upon dogs. If such a law had been found useful in Halifax, he took it for granted that it would be also equally beneficial in the country.

Mr. S. CAMPBELL thought that chap. 109 new revised statutes which says that the sessions, upon the recommendation of the Grand Jury, shall make regulations for the taxation of dogs, was quite sufficient.

Hon. ATTY. GEN., had not given the matter much consideration as he had only just received the petition.

Hon. Mr. MCFARLANE alluded to the great amount of damage done by dogs in destroying sheep.

Mr. KAULBACK questioned the advisability of imposing a tax upon farmers for these animals, so useful in many respects. He thought there was already law enough on the subject in the statute book.

Mr. PARKER considered it was quite time that some action was taken in regard to these dogs.

Mr. S. CAMPBELL presented a petition from inhabitants of St. Mary's, praying for the removal of obstructions in the river. Also, the petition of G. W. Scott, praying for additional compensation as mail carrier.

Hon. Mr. MCFARLANE presented a petition of J. Black and others, Pugwash, praying for the modification of the school law.

Mr. MILLER presented a petition from Mr. M. Kavanaugh, of St. Peter's, in reference to a claim which he considers he has for certain services rendered in connection with the militia. Mr. Miller stated that he had reason to believe that the petitioner had performed the duties to which he referred, and that he was one of the most energetic men they had in that part of the county where he lived.

Hon. JAS. McDONALD stated that he would send the petition to the Adjutant General.

RAILWAY LIABILITIES IN WINDSOR.

Mr. BLANCHARD presented a petition from the township of Windsor, setting forth that a number of inhabitants had paid their railway rates, whilst a large proportion had not done so. Petitioners view this as an hardship, and ask that the House should return their rates to them. They are, however, content that the money should remain in the treasury if the rates are enforced in the case of all equally.

Hon. PROV. SEC. stated that he was glad to be able to state that the difficulty that had arisen from the refusal of parties to pay these rates was in a fair state of adjustment. He understood from the Attorney General that

day that he had received information from the Sheriff of the county, who had been instructed to go forward and enforce the law, that parties were commencing to find that their property would be bought. Every effort would be made by the Government to enforce the law.

MILITIA AFFAIRS.

Mr. MORE presented a petition from Irad Benjamin, an officer of militia, complaining that he had been unfairly treated.

Dr. BROWN said, he was acquainted with the circumstances under which the petitioner made his complaint, and was of opinion that Mr. Benjamin had not been fairly treated. He was a very respectable and intelligent officer in the same regiment of which he (Dr. Brown) was surgeon; and he had the reputation of being a good and efficient officer. He complained of having been degraded without cause. He (Dr. B.) did not know where the fault lay, but it did seem to him that impartial justice had not been done. He, therefore, hoped the House would allow this petition to be investigated by the committee on militia affairs.

Hon. PROV. SEC. said that the Commander-in-Chief appointed officers in connection with rules of seniority and qualification; *ceteris paribus*, seniority alone prevailed. He thought that the petitioner should have first gone to the responsible officers connected with the militia, before coming to the house. If the reply he obtained was not satisfactory, then he could state his case to the Legislature.

Dr. BROWN said that he had understood Mr. Benjamin to say that he had applied to the Adjutant General, but had received no satisfaction. Mr. Benjamin was a most intelligent man, and perfectly conversant with the course he ought to pursue.

After a few desultory remarks as to the reception of the petition, it was referred to the militia committee.

PETITIONS AND BILLS.

Mr. C. J. CAMPBELL presented a petition from Cape Breton and Victoria complaining that the Mining Association, in the line struck at the time of the settlement of the Mines and Mineral question, obtained a larger area in Boulardrie than they were entitled to.

Mr. CALDWELL said that this matter had in 1863 been before the Mines and Minerals committee, and Mr. Hendrey had been questioned in reference to it. The Mining Association had no objection to have the lines run over, but he did not think that they had obtained a larger area than they were entitled to. He believed that Mr. Brown's son performed the service; and he (Mr. C.) was inclined to believe that it would be found, if the lines were run over, that there was no ground whatever for the complaint made by the petitioners.

Mr. ROBICHEAU presented a petition from a number of the inhabitants of Long Island, praying for an act to change the name of certain places in the county of Digby. Also a bill in accordance with the prayer thereof.

Mr. FRYOR presented the following bills:—

To amend act, chap. 27 Vic., concerning the city of Halifax.

To enable the city to borrow money to pay off the debt on the market house.

To vest the title of certain lands in the Commissioners of the Poor.

To vest certain lands in the city of Halifax.

Mr. PARKER presented a petition from Upper Stewiacke concerning a school district.