

inhabitants of P. E. Island, asking for an alteration in the election law, so that electors in voting might be confined to the district in which they reside. He said that it appeared from said petition that the resident electors of Georgetown and Summerside were liable to be out-voted in the election of their representatives, because of the number of votes given by parties holding small, and in many cases, worthless plots of swamp and waste lands in the vicinity of those towns. He thought the petition merited, at least, some consideration.

Mr. Speaker said that it would not be just in all cases to disfranchise property, but the law relating to road certificates, which, at present, causes much inconvenience, should be abolished.

Mr. Owen asked whether it would be right to deprive His Honor the Speaker, of a right to vote on his property in Georgetown, simply because his residence was outside that town. Such an idea, he said, was preposterous.

Hon. Leader of the Opposition said that the question relating to the changing of the franchise, if decided according to the views of some members of the Government, would revolutionize the whole system of our present election laws, and therefore should not be entertained so late in the session, when many hon members had left for their homes in the country. In all countries where universal suffrage existed, property as well as manhood qualification was represented; and to annihilate property qualification is contrary to the true principles of reform. The existing law relating to the production of road certificates, if objectionable, can be easily remedied.

Hon. Leader of the Government said he had no objection to grant an additional polling division to the people of Summerside, but it was too late to take up such an important question as the amendment of our election laws.

Hon. Mr. Laird said that though he presented the petition, as well as the petition asking for an additional polling division at Summerside, he had no wish to press the franchise question, which was of vast importance, upon the attention of the House, at so late a period in the session.

Hon. Colonial Secretary thought that such an important subject as the one in question, should be taken up at the opening of the session.

Mr. P. Sinclair said that the change alluded to involved principles dear to every man, and that it was now too late in the session to take action upon the matter.

The Speaker then took the chair, and the Chairman reported the resolution agreed to.

A Committee was then appointed to bring in a bill in accordance with said resolution.

The Hon. Leader of the Government, according to previous notice, submitted a Bill to shorten the

language of Sheriffs' deeds, which was read a first time and passed.

On motion of the hon. Leader of the Government, the rule of the House was suspended to allow the second reading of the Bill to-day.

The House then resolved itself into a Committee of the whole, on the second reading of the Act to shorten the language of Sheriffs' Deeds.

After a short time spent in committee, the speaker took the chair and the Chairman reported the Bill agreed to, without amendment.

Hon. Leader of the Government submitted the returns of fishing licenses for the years 1867 and 1868. Received and laid on the table.

Hon. Leader of the Government submitted the Appropriation Bill, for the current year, which was read a first time, and the rule of the House being suspended for that purpose, the House resolved itself into a Committee of the whole on the second reading of the said Bill.

Mr. Cameron in the Chair.

After some time spent in Committee, the Speaker took the Chair and the Chairman reported the Bill agreed to, with one amendment.

On motion of the Chairman, the Bill was ordered to be engrossed.

The Act to shorten the language of Sheriffs' Deeds, was read a third time and passed.

Hon. Leader of the Government submitted the returns of the Prince of Wales College, and the Georgetown and Summerside Grammar Schools. Received, and laid on the table.

A Bill providing for the appointment of an additional Judge in the Supreme Court, was submitted by the hon. Leader of the Government, and read a first time and passed.

Afternoon Session.

House in committee on the further consideration of the bill relating to the appointment of a third Judge.

Several clauses read and agreed to. The clause was read providing that the Chief Justice shall not, on account of being Administrator of the Government, be disqualified from presiding over a Court of Appeal.

HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.—If the Administrator of the Government preside over the Court of Appeal, there will be no person to appeal to above that Court.

HON. LEADER OF THE GOVERNMENT.—If there was a Lieutenant Governor, a person could appeal to him; but if the Chief Justice happened to be administering the Government, the case would be different, but it is impossible to prevent a difficulty in every case.

The foregoing clause and the next were agreed to.