

tors, as was the case with the gentlemen in Yarmouth and Pictou.

Hon. PROV. SECRETARY pointed out that the officers at Yarmouth and Pictou had assistants, whilst others, like the one at Amherst, had none at all, but were obliged to perform all the duties. For instance in Pictou, Mr. Hattie might be said to perform all the duties, and the collector could be out whenever he pleased. The Government was of opinion that the salary given to the collectors of Yarmouth and Pictou was quite sufficient to obtain the services of thoroughly competent men.

Hon. FIN. SECRETARY said that the labor at the smaller ports was often quite as large as in the larger ones.

Mr. LOCKE considered it unfair to touch the salaries of country officers, whilst those of men residing in the city were untouched.

Mr. ARCHIBALD pointed out the responsibility that rested upon officers like those of Yarmouth and Pictou, who had annually to handle such large sums of money. Under such circumstances they should be paid sufficiently.

Mr. MCKAY believed the salary given to the collector at Pictou was quite sufficient.

Mr. BLANCHARD asked if the hon. gentleman was thoroughly conversant with the duties of that office.

Hon. PROV. SEC. was surprised at any hon. member putting such a question to any other gentleman.

Mr. MCKAY said that he had just as much right to vindicate the claims of the people of Pictou as the hon. member those of the people of Inverness.

The FIN. SECRETARY pressed the amendment which was lost on a division. The clause therefore remained as before.

Several other amendments were made in the law. One is that no man who is also a clerk in a mercantile establishment can be engaged in the collection of duties.

The committee then rose and reported, and the house adjourned.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

The house resumed at three o'clock, and several chapters in the Revised Statutes that had been passed in committee were read a third time.

Hon. PROV. SEC. laid on the table a return of all the post office ridings in the Province. He mentioned that in Canada the Postal service was remunerative, whilst in this Province it was a heavy burthen. It was his desire that the post-office committee should take this return into their serious consideration, and see whether any of the rides were not unnecessary. They should pay particular attention to those cases where the expenditure was altogether disproportionate to the advantages conferred upon the people.

Mr. BOURINOT said that he had been a member of the post-office committee for years, and did not believe any new riding had been established unless it was absolutely necessary. He believed that it should be the object to increase rather than decrease the postal facilities of the people. He hoped that the island of Cape Breton would soon have a daily mail, as is the case with Pictou and Antigonish.

The return, on the suggestion of Mr. McLellan, was ordered to be printed.

The following petitions were presented.

By Mr. Longley, from inhabitants of Annapolis, asking for an amendment in the act concerning Dalhousie College.

By Mr. Slocumb on the same subject.

By Mr. Kaulback from an aged teacher, for a free grant of land.

By Mr. Blanchard, from John Munro of Margaree, on the same subject.

By Mr. Robicheau, relative to Dalhousie College from Westport.

By Mr. Robicheau, from an Indian, relative to certain land.

By Solicitor General, from M'Lauchlan (an aged school-master,) asking for a free grant of land.

By Solicitor General, from the inhabitants of 'Geyboro', asking for increased mail accommodation.

By McLellan, from Wellington Grimes, against return of the hon. member for North Queens.

By Solicitor General, from an aged school-master, for a free grant of land.

By Mr. Lawrence, from inhabitants of Five Mile River, in reference to some difficulty connected with a road.

A petition presented by hon. Solicitor General from a contractor in reference to a claim connected with the building of a bridge, was referred to a special committee composed of Messrs. Donkin, Annand, and James Fraser.

On the presentation of the petitions for free grants of land from aged teachers, it was suggested by Mr. Archibald that a return be presented, showing the numbers of persons who had received such grants of late years.

Mr. BOURINOT hoped that if this was done, the counties to which such grants were given, would be named.

Mr. MILLER considered the teachers of this country poorly remunerated, and hoped the House would not overlook their claims to consideration. He thought these grants of land were but a small acknowledgment to these men.

Mr. LOCKE called the attention of the Government to the fact that Nova Scotia vessels had been boarded on the Labrador coast, and forced to pay duties, by an officer of a Newfoundland cutter. He understood that a petition was in course of signature on the subject, and would come up in due form.

Hon. PROV. SEC. was not aware if any despatches on the subject had been received by the late Government. It would be preferable to have the petition when it came up, referred to a committee which could enquire into the whole subject.

Messrs. PRYOR, MILLER, and JOST, mentioned that their attention had been called to the subject.

The House then went into committee, and took up the bill for the revision of the statutes.

The revenue law was again taken up, and several amendments passed.

#### SUPPLIES FOR THE ARMY AND NAVY.

Considerable discussion ensued as to furnishing the army and navy with certain articles, including spirituous liquors, free of duty.