

at that time, only from Moncton to Halifax, and from Moncton to St. John. Since then the road had been opened north, and there were more hands required.

Hon. Mr. McLELAN, said there were shops north of that now.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 4.20 p. m.

THE SENATE.

Thursday, Feb. 21st.

The SPEAKER took the chair at three o'clock.

After Routine proceedings.

AN ADJOURNMENT.

Hon. Mr. BELLEROSE moved—"that when this House adjourns on Wednesday, the twenty-seventh instant, it do stand adjourned until Thursday, the seventh of March, proximo, at Eight o'clock in the evening." He said—I hope no objection will be made to the motion that I now submit to the House. I know that last Session objections were raised to a motion similar to this, yet I noticed that when we resumed our sittings after the recess, for a long time we met every afternoon and sat only for fifteen or twenty minutes at a time, waiting for legislation to come up from the other House. It is known to us all that of late the other House has been adjourning every afternoon at six, and there cannot possibly be any bills from that body before two or three weeks yet. Moreover, there is very little on our own order paper—nothing that we could not do in a few hours after we re-assemble after the recess. Under these circumstances, there can be no reasonable objection to the adjournment I propose. I know there is an objection. It comes from gentlemen who cannot reach their homes during the time the proposed recess would last, and I believe that is the most serious difficulty. I would remind them that whether we have a recess or not, they would have to stay here. We all know that the adjournment I propose would not delay the work of the Session. During the recess proposed, there are three days on which we would not meet under any

Hon. Mr. Power.

circumstances, and the adjournment would affect only five regular sitting days. I hope the motion will not be opposed.

Hon. Mr. WILMOT—I am sorry indeed that I cannot support this motion, I assure my hon. friend it is not because I would be unable to reach my home during the recess. I am sure such a motive would not actuate any hon. gentleman from the Maritime Provinces. We oppose it because it is a bad system. There is nothing to prevent hon. gentlemen from going home if they choose, but I think they need not go for want of occupation. Many important questions can be discussed in this House while we are waiting for bills to come up from the other Chamber. There is a very important question, of which the hon. Senator from Montreal (Mr. Bureau) has given notice—the remonitization of silver in the United States and the effect it may have upon this country. We all remember the silver nuisance, and the trouble it caused in this country some years ago. Such subjects deserve careful consideration, and there are many of them which might occupy our time in this House. If the Senate wants to maintain its position in this country, these long adjournments should not take place. I am not disposed to act as a dog-in-the-manger, but I am opposed to a long adjournment.

Hon. Mr. HAYTHORNE—I coincide entirely with the views expressed by the hon. gentleman who has just taken his seat. This House has been brought together at a considerable expense to the public, not to be adjourned, but to work. I left my home for that purpose, and I am ready to devote myself to any business that may be brought before us. It seems to me a grave reflection on this House to say that we have nothing to do. Are there no committees organized, and have they no duties to perform? Though we hear so many reflections cast upon the conduct of public affairs, are they to pass without notice in this House? Yet we hear of hon. gentlemen talking of going home for eight days on a stretch in the middle of the Session. If the object were to bring this House into discredit, no better means could be adopted. The hon. gentleman who spoke last used great plainness of language, and I endorse what he said about the inexpediency of adjourning the Senate for eight days. I was op-