

which is becoming so great an evil that it was found necessary to legislate on it last Session.

Hon. Mr. MACPHERSON—We must all feel that this is an exceedingly grave measure to put on the Statute Books, and one which is entirely new to the Dominion. It is, of course, of importance that life should be made secure, but the passing of such an Act should only be under circumstances of exceptional gravity. We ought to consider what the effect of it may be. A great deal will depend upon the discretion of the magistrates. If a feeling should get abroad among those who are likely to be affected by this measure—those given to lawlessness, or who may be suspected of lawlessness—that they will not receive justice at the hands of those who have the dispensing of justice summarily, the consequences might be very serious indeed, and it would require a very much larger force than any at the disposal of the authorities to maintain peace in a city like Montreal. The responsibility of putting this measure into operation must be placed upon the Government. I wish it were possible to give them some discretion in the matter, so that they could be governed by circumstances as they might arise. We can imagine a condition of things which might not render it necessary to suspend the trial by jury, and we can imagine another condition of things which might render it exceedingly desirable. I should like to see the Bill so amended as to enable the Government to put it into operation partially, leaving trial by jury open to those who may be arrested under certain circumstances, and if the circumstances should become still graver and render it expedient in the eyes of the Government to suspend the right of trial by jury, let them put the Act fully into operation.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL—The Bill lasts only until next Session.

Hon. Mr. MACPHERSON—I know that; but it is for the next two or three months we are legislating. While we should give the Government power to prevent lawlessness, we should take care not to increase lawlessness by taking such a course as may appear to a large class to expose them to injustice.

Hon. Mr. Miller.

Hon. Mr. MILLER—We have given equal power to stipendiary magistrates already.

Hon. Mr. RYAN—I would suggest to my friend it would defeat summary justice to a great extent if you were to allow discretion to the Government.

The amendment was agreed to.

The Bill was reported as amended, read the third time and passed.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

THIRD READING.

Hon. Mr. PELLETIER moved the second reading of

“An Act to amend the Act Thirty-seventh Victoria, Chapter Eight, intitled: ‘An Act to impose License Duties on Compounders of Spirits; to amend the Act respecting the Inland Revenue, and to prevent the adulteration of Food, Drink and Drugs.’”

The motion was agreed to.

The House then went into Committee on the Bill, Hon. Mr. Haviland in the Chair.

The Bill was reported without amendment, read the third time and passed.

The House adjourned at 11.15 p.m.

THE SENATE.

Thursday, May 9th.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at 11:30 a.m.

After Routine proceedings.

INDEPENDENCE OF PARLIAMENT ACT.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

A Message was brought from the House of Commons by their Clerk in the following words:—

“HOUSE OF COMMONS,

“Wednesday, 8th May, 1878.

“Resolved,—That a Message be sent to the Senate to acquaint their Honors that this House