

the question be there discussed and explained. I have not had the advantage of seeing the measure which the Government intends submitting to the House, but I feel sure that the same difficulty which would arise from the passing of the measure now before the House to wind up the affairs of the Stadacona Insurance Company, will make itself felt, and that the House will see itself compelled to adopt a final mode of solution,—whatever local law there may be on the subject—towards winding up promptly and finally within a determined and reasonable delay the affairs of these various companies. Under the circumstances, Mr. Speaker, I think that this bill should, like others, come before the usual committee, and there be discussed on its constitutional and intrinsic worth.

Mr. SPEAKER. If I understand the point of order raised, it is that the Bill is unconstitutional. That is a point of law which is never decided by the Chair, but is for the Committee to which the Bill is referred to consider and report upon.

STEAMERS ON BAY CHALEURS.

Mr. BEAUCHESNE enquired, Whether it is the intention of the Government to subsidize a line of steamers to perform the service on the Bay Chaleurs, between Gaspé and Campbelltown, in connection with the Intercolonial Railway?

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. Parliament will be asked to provide an appropriation for that service.

PACIFIC RAILWAY COMMISSION.

Mr. BLAKE enquired, When will the report and evidence taken by the Commission in connection with the Canadian Pacific Railway be laid before the House? Is the evidence now complete in print in the possession of the Government ready for distribution?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. The report has not yet been received, but I understand it will be presented to the Government in a few days. The evidence is in the hands of the printer, and, together with the report, will be laid before the House in a few days.

FORM OF THE ROYAL ASSENT.

Mr. LANDRY enquired, Whether the Government has taken cognizance of a Speech delivered by His Excellency the Governor General of Canada, at Quebec, on the 24th day of June, 1880, in which the noble speaker thus expresses himself:

"The very usages in the Parliament of Britain survive from the days when they were planted there by our Norman ancestors. I do not know that it has been observed before in Canada, but it has often occurred to me that in the British Parliament we still use the old words used by our fathers for the sanction of the Sovereign given to Bills of *La reine la veult*, or *la reine remercie ses bons sujets, accepte leur b nivolence, et ainsi le veult*, forms which I should like to see used in Ottawa, as marking our common origin, instead of the practice that prevails of translating into modern French and English."

Whether it is, in consequence, the intention of the Government to yield to the wishes of the Governor General of Canada, and to adopt for this Parliament, whenever the occasion arises for sanctioning Bills, expressions which the Mother Country has retained, and which an ancient custom puts into the mouth of our Gracious Lady the Sovereign of the British Empire?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. The form of giving the Royal Assent to Bills, as now adopted, has been used in Canada ever since it has possessed representative institutions. The language cannot be used exactly as it is used in England, for two reasons. In the first place, the Constitutional Act provides the mode in which the Royal Assent shall be given, and it also provides that it shall be given in

Mr. CASGRAIN.

both English and French. I think, if the old form as used in England were adopted here, it would shock the ear of my hon. friend, because the Clerk of Parliament says: "*La reine le veult.*"

WOODSTOCK, N.B., POST OFFICE.

Mr. IRVINE enquired, Whether the Government have procured a site for Woodstock, N. B., Post Office? If so, when, from whom, and at what cost, and whether it is the intention of the Government to proceed with its construction, and when?

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. Yes. The site has been procured for the Woodstock Post Office from Mr. David Monroe, at a cost of \$2,000. We are now negotiating for an additional piece of land, and when that has been obtained, it is the intention of the Government to proceed with the construction of the building.

THE MAIL SERVICE.

Mr. FARROW enquired, Is it the intention of the Government this Session to make provision to utilize the mail service in the interests of the public, so as to include the carrying of small parcels which are now sent by express at great expense?

Mr. O'CONNOR. The subject is under the consideration of the Government at the present time.

THE SUPREME COURT.

Mr. LANDRY enquired, when is it the intention of the Government to bring down the measure relation to the Supreme Court as promised in the speech from the Throne?

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. The Government has the intention of introducing a bill relating to the Supreme Court shortly, at a date early enough to allow the House and the hon. member to consider it, and I hope the hon. member will be able to give our measure the support of his vote.

JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS IN THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

Mr. IVES, in moving for copies of all representations made during the last twelve months by either of the sections of the Bar of the Province of Quebec, or members thereof, with reference to judicial appointments in that Province, said: The members of the Quebec Bar who reside in Montreal, or rather, perhaps, I should say, some of the members of that Bar, have taken a good deal of pains during the last few months to convince the people of the Dominion that pretty much all the legal business in the Province of Quebec is transacted in that city, and that by far the greater part of the legal ability and legal acumen of the Province is concentrated, and that the Judges of the Superior Court resident in Montreal are by far the most overworked men in Canada. Now, Mr. Speaker, I, as a member of the Bar in a rural district, do not desire, and will not attempt, to derogate an iota from the magnificence of those pretensions; but I think it is only right, as I was not present during the discussion last Session in this House, and only just to the learned Judge who presides in the district of St. Francis, where I practice, to say that the whole of the legal business in the Province of Quebec is not done in Montreal, and that the Judges in Montreal, about whom we have heard so much, are not the most hard-worked Judges in the Province of Quebec. If we were to take the very statistics which were published by Mr. Pagnuelo, and which were quoted in the House during the debate last Session, and were to refer to the year 1879, we would find that those statistics, instead of