

Commons, asking that gentleman to oppose the bill.

Hon. Mr. PELLETIER — The Montreal members spoke in favor of the bill.

Hon. Mr. RYAN said the Board of Trade, finding that their city representatives in the other House had not opposed the measure, wrote to him, as there was not time to memorialize the Government on the subject.

He thought if the bill was understood as well everywhere else as in Montreal, it would be opposed by every commercial body in the interests of the Dominion.

Hon. Mr. MONTGOMERY opposed the bill on the ground that it was exceptional legislation.

Hon. Mr. MILLER asked if the Minister of Agriculture was willing to extend the provisions of this bill to every port that wished it, what would become of the exemption?

The Committee divided on Mr. Ryan's motion, which was declared lost. Yeas, 10; nays, 30.

Hon. Mr. MILLER then moved that the clause be amended—line 27, after "dues," insert "provided, however, that all steamships owned, or for the most part owned in the Dominion of Canada, shall be exempt from pilotage dues in the ports of Halifax and Pictou, and in the Sydney pilotage district."

Hon. Mr. ARCHIBALD said the effect of this would be to leave the Act as it is now, as all foreign steamships pay pilotage.

Hon. Mr. MILLER said one of the arguments used in favour of this bill was, that it was a hardship that foreign steamers were allowed to come in without taking pilots.

Hon. Mr. GRANL' said the sense in which he had used the word "foreign," applied to vessels owned in England, and American steamers, and by that resolution it would not have the effect intended.

The committee divided, and the amendment was declared lost. Yeas, 9; nays, 24.

The clause was then agreed to.

On clause 2,

Hon. Mr. MILLER objected to this clause. In the previous section the pilotage authorities had the power to discriminate against any vessel they chose, and in this clause they were given the power to detain the vessel until such dues were paid, no matter how unjust the claim might be. This was too arbitrary a power to give to any pilotage authorities.

Hon. Mr. ARCHIBALD said the clause was necessary in order to prevent dishonest captains from slipping out of port without paying their dues.

Hon. Mr. DICKEY said no doubt that was the object of the clause, but it went further,

and the literal effect of it was to place it entirely in the discretion of the pilotage authorities to say whether they would detain a vessel whether it was subject to pilotage or not. He would move to amend the clause by inserting after the word "ship" the words "liable to pilotage dues."

Hon. Mr. PELLETIER said the power was not more arbitrary than that given to collectors of customs.

Hon. Mr. MILLER contended the power was greater because the customs dues were clearly defined by law, while the pilotage authorities might make an unjust claim which it would be more to the advantage of the vessel to pay in order to get a clearance than lose time to dispute it.

The amendment was adopted.

The bill was reported with amendments which were concurred in, and the third reading was ordered for to-morrow.

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES ACT.

Hon. Mr. TRUDEL resumed the debate on the bill to provide for the incorporation of joint stock companies by letters patent, and moved his amendment which had been rejected in committee, requiring companies to file in the offices of the Clerks of the Superior Courts where they do business, declarations explaining all that would be necessary to make their firm perfectly known. A bill passed by the Quebec Legislature to the same effect as this measure contained the provision which he now proposed, and he hoped the honorable Secretary of State would accept it.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT said he could not accept the amendment because he saw no necessity for it, and it would entail a great deal of trouble upon companies incorporated under this act, because they would be obliged to file a declaration in every county of the province in which they did business. As their officers were frequently changing, the information would have to be filed often, and it would be exceedingly onerous to the companies. But even though it were desirable, this Parliament had no power to require clerks to receive such information.

The amendment was lost on a division.

The bill was then read a third time and passed.

The House adjourned at 9 o'clock.

— — — WEDNESDAY, 25th.

The SPEAKER took the chair at three o'clock.

After routine,

A PERSONAL EXPLANATION.

Hon. Dr. CARRALL called attention to