before the debate has been robbed of its glory.

Mr. PERRY moved the adjournment of the debate.

Mr. FOSTER. I think we must go on a little longer. The idea is to close this debate to-morrow night. That would be impossible unless we agree to stay a little longer to-night. I think the hon. gentleman from Prince Edward Island (Mr. Perry) had better make his speech.

Mr. FLINT. I would like to make a remark in regard to my hon. friend from St. John (Mr. Chesley). I undertook to lay before the House some facts and figures, but I could not give my hon. friend from St. John the capacity to understand them.

Mr. LAURIER. We can close the debate to-morrow.

Mr. FOSTER. All right ; you are the men to close it.

Mr. LAURIER. I should say so.

Motion agreed to, and debate adjourned.

Sir JOHN THOMPSON moved the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to ; and House adjourned at 12.15 o'clock a.m. (Tuesday).

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Tuesday, 28th February, 1893.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at 3 o'clock.

PRAYERS.

REPORT.

Annual Report of the Department of Public Printing and Stationery for the Dominion of Canada, for year ending 30th June, 1892, with a partial report for services during six months ending 31st December, 1892.—(Mr. Costigan.)

FIRST READINGS.

Bill (No. 66) to incorporate the Grand Council of the Catholic Mutual Benefit Association of Canada.—(Mr. Devlin.)

Bill (No. 67) to revive and amend the Act to incorporate the North Canadian Atlantic Railway and Steamship Company.—(Mr. Frémont.)

Bill (No. 68) respecting the Columbia and Kootenay Railway and Navigation Company.—(Mr. Mara.)

Mr. CHESLEY.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS—PRECEDENCE.

Sir JOHN THOMPSON moved :

That Government business have precedence on Thursdays, after questions put by members, for the remainder of the session.

Mr. LAURIER. I submit to the hon. gentleman that it seems to me this motion is altogether premature. If he will look at the Order Paper he will see that there are a very large number of Notices of Motion and of Bills, and if hereafter private members will only have two days in the week at their disposal, it is manifest that a great many of these Orders will have to stand over until another session. If I may be permitted to refer to a rumour which is floating about, I understand that we are to be deprived at an early date of the presence of the hon. gentleman, who is to extend his services to another sphere. Under such circumstances, I would have no objection, and I am sure the House will readily agree, that the Government should have Thursday of this week, so as to allow the hon. gentleman further opportunity to dispose of those matters with which he may be more intimately connected.

Sir JOHN THOMPSON. I would be very glad to make such an arrangement as the hon. gentleman proposes, if it looked to taking Thursday as a Government day within any definite period. We are accustomed to hear a remonstrance against the first attempt to take a day, always, and we generally yield where there is a strong expression of a desire to have it continued for another week. I should be willing, if the House preferred, that we should take Thursday of this week, and leave Thursday of next week open to private members as usual, provided we agreed that after that it should be taken as a Government day.

Mr. LAURIER. If the hon. gentleman will take Thursday of this week, there will be no objection. But even after that, it will be premature for the Government to take Thursdays for the remainder of the time. After we have seen what progress we have made next week, we will see whether the Government ought to take the day.

Sir JOHN THOMPSON. I have no objection to accept that suggestion.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I would suggest to the First Minister that it might be convenient to arrange that all those motions which are absolutely unopposed, and on which there will be no discussion, should be allowed to pass without questioning.

Sir JOHN THOMPSON. We can agree at any time to let the unopposed motions pass.

Mr. SPEAKER. I understand the motion is amended so that Government business have