

porture. Almost the last act of the House of Representatives in the United States was to pass unanimously a resolution which may not perhaps indicate the precise mode or the precise way in which commercial relations between the two countries can best be settled, but which I take and which the Government should take, as holding out the olive branch to us, which is more than we deserve or than the Government deserves on the part of the United States. It is a declaration that they are prepared to treat with us for freer trade relations, and it is an answer to the absurd statement which has been made that the United States had not any desire for free and fair trade on free and fair terms with the people of Canada. More than that, it is a triumphant vindication of the position which we have always taken on this subject. Let us do our duty. Let us show to the United States that we are truly desirous of freedom of trade and friendly relations with them, and I am perfectly certain that, when the time comes and the United States are fairly approached, they will be willing to meet us in the same spirit. In order that there may be no mistake, and that the Government may understand that we are determined to fight this question out on the same lines that we have always fought it, I beg to move in amendment that you do not now leave the Chair, but that all the words after "that" be struck out, and that it be resolved :

In the present condition of affairs, and in view of the recent action of the House of Representatives of the United States, it is expedient that steps should be taken to ascertain on what terms and conditions arrangements can be effected with the United States for the purpose of securing full and unrestricted reciprocity of trade therewith.

Mr. TUPPER moved the adjournment of the debate.

Motion agreed to, and debate adjourned.

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN moved the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to; and House adjourned at 11:45 p.m.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THURSDAY, 7th March, 1889.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

PRAYERS.

FIRST READING.

Bill (No. 99) to incorporate the Three Rivers and Western Railway Company.—(Mr. Riopel.)

CAUGHNAWAGA INDIAN RESERVE—SURVEY.

Mr. DOYON asked, Whether Mr. McLea Walbank has completed the survey of the Indian Reserve of Caughnawaga in the county of Laprairie? Whether he has furnished to the Government a report of his operations? What sums have been paid, up to this date, to Mr. Walbank, or to others, for making the said survey, and how much remains due to him?

Mr. DEWDNEY. The work of the survey of the above reserve commenced in the fall of 1882, and was only completed last season. It proved to be a very complicated matter, owing to the very irregular manner in which the Indians had taken up locations on the reserve—the outlines of which had to be surveyed with a view to ascertain what were the improvements made by each claimant and the value of the same. The reserve contains 12,327½ acres, and the cost of the survey of the same, when completed, will be about \$—,000—Mr. Walbank has reported to the department.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT.

## NATURAL GAS IN WESTERN ONTARIO—MR. COSTE'S REPORT.

Mr. FERGUSON (Welland) asked, Has Mr. Coste reported upon the result of his investigations during the past season on the subject of natural gas in western Ontario?

Mr. DEWDNEY. On reference to the last annual report of the Interior Department, at page 30 will be found Mr. Coste's report on his investigation during the past season on the subject of natural gas in western Ontario.

Mr. FERGUSON (Welland) asked, Is Mr. Coste still on the staff of the Geological Survey; if not, when did he resign?

Mr. DEWDNEY. Mr. Coste is still in the service of the Geological Survey.

## QUEBEC MONEY ORDER OFFICES.

Mr. LAVERGNE asked, Is it the intention of the Government to make the post offices of all the county towns in the Province of Quebec offices at which money orders are issued and paid?

Mr. HAGGART. It is not the intention of the Government to make the post offices of all the county towns in the Province of Quebec offices at which money orders are issued and paid.

## THE POSTMASTER OF CHESTER, P.Q.

Mr. LAVERGNE asked, Has the Government received any complaint against the postmaster of Chester, county of Arthabaska, and if so, has any action been taken against such complaint?

Mr. HAGGART. A complaint was made by Mr. Oct. Gaudet, but subsequently withdrawn. A complaint was also made by the mail carrier, Mr. D. Coté, respecting the alleged refusal of the postmaster to give him the mail. This was referred to the Post Office Inspector to arrange.

## DAILY MAIL BETWEEN MURRAY HARBOR SOUTH AND MONTAGUE.

Mr. ROBERTSON asked, Whether it is the intention of the Government to establish a daily mail between Murray Harbor South and Montague?

Mr. HAGGART. An application for a daily mail between Murray Harbor South and Montague, has been received and sent to the Post Office Inspector for report.

Mr. WELSH (for Mr. DAVIES, P.E.I.) asked, Was any survey held on the breakwater at New London, P.E.I., during the summer of 1888? If so, by whom? Was a report of the condition of the breakwater made to the department, and is it the intention of the Minister to cause the breakwater to be repaired and extended during the coming season?

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. I am informed by the chief engineer of my department that there was no survey, and, therefore, I am not able to answer the second part of the question. My attention being called to it, I will see what can be done.

## THE SHIPPING OF SEAMEN.

Mr. WELDON (St. John) asked, What instructions (if any) have been given to the shipping master in St. John, N.B., as to the shipping of seamen in United States vessels? Has the Government received any official notice or been otherwise informed of the letter of the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States to the Secretary of State