

posing, because some of the Commissioners were not acceptable to them, to change the elective system, and replace these gentlemen by *ex officio* members the residents of the Corporations. The practical effect upon the Board of Trade and Corn Exchange would be to make them a little political arena, bodies which should devote themselves exclusively to the interests of trade, apart from politics. If the Government particularly wished for a favourite on the Harbour Commission, they would, of course, set about canvassing to secure his election as President of either Corporation. He did not think the Government would gain much in the opinion of the intelligent and independent people of Montreal, by this measure, for he had received many remonstrances from merchants, on the subject. He did not care what Government was in power, local works were best managed by the people on the spot, if upright and sensible. While determined to vote against the first three clauses of the bill, and the seventh, which was connected with them, he was quite willing to let the fourth stand, which enabled the Commissioners to pay their Chairman, although the first merchants in Montreal had worked on that Board as long as it had been a Board, which was nearly 40 years, without any pay whatever. This was a new feature undoubtedly. He did not mean to say it was not proper, but it opened another way of dispensing a little patronage. (Hear, hear, and oh, oh!) The other clauses of the bill were very good. But instead of restricting the elective principle, there were other classes, entitled to votes for the Commissioners, to whom it should be extended. He was sorry to say no provision had been made for them in the bill—he meant the rate payers, who belonged neither to the Corn Exchange nor Board of Trade, and their numbers were very considerable.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—They are represented by the Mayor.

Hon. Mr. RYAN concluded by suggesting, with the other amendments the addition of a clause, giving Montreal importers and exporters, and all who contributed directly to any considerable extent to the revenue of the Commission, the right of electing representatives at the Board.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT, after a few words of reply, moved the adoption of the first clause.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL repeated that he was opposed to it, and would ask for the question.

A division then took place: contents 15; non-contents, 14.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL said Mr. Lacoste

had not voted, when Mr. SCOTT argued the matter should be considered decided.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL insisted upon the hon. gentleman's vote being taken.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT protested against a second division.

At length, the Clerk obtained from Mr. Lacoste the reply that he would vote against the first clause. There was then a tie, but the Chairman, Mr. Kaulbach, also cast his vote with the non-contents, defeating it.

The Committee then rose and reported progress, Ministers stating they would consult their colleagues with regard to the amendments.

ALBION MINES SAVINGS BANK.

Hon. Mr. HAMILTON reported from the Banking Committee a bill respecting the Albion Mines Savings Bank, and moved that it be not proceeded with.

Hon. Mr. WILMOT moved that the bill be read a third time. He explained the character of the bill, which was to enable the miners, who were mostly Scotch, to deposit their small savings in this bank.

After some remarks from Mr. Campbell, who opposed the bill,

Hon. Mr. PENNY explained the difference between the savings banks here and in the old country, the latter being managed by the Government, and therefore being perfectly secure, while the former were limited liability companies; and the Scotch miners would invest their savings in this bank under the mistaken notion of its security.

The House adjourned for an hour at 2 o'clock.

AFTER RECESS.

The SPEAKER resumed the chair at 3 p.m.

The following, among other bills, from the Commons were also reported from the Banking Committee, read a third time and passed:

To enable the Montreal and Ottawa Colonization Company to build a bridge over the Ottawa River.

The Colonial Building Investment Association bill.

The Lumber Exchange of St. John, New Brunswick bill.

The International Express Company's bill with amendments.

BILLS NOT DISTRIBUTED.

Hon. Mr. WILMOT objected to all these bills that they had passed through Committee without copies of them being distributed to the members. He had nothing