

estate by virtue of any devise contained in any last will or testament of any person whatsoever, but the clear annual value of such real estate shall not exceed the sum of ten thousand dollars: Provided always that such devise of real estate shall be subject to the laws respecting devises of real estate to religious corporations which are in force at the time of such devise in the Province in which such real estate is situate."

A clause of that kind would just meet the difficulty, and he had no doubt that the hon. gentleman who had charge of the Bill would be willing to accept an amendment of that kind.

The Bill was read the second time on division, and referred to committee.

The House adjourned at 4.40 p.m.

THE SENATE.

Friday, Feb. 22nd.

The SPEAKER took the chair at three o'clock.

After Routine proceedings.

SENATORIAL APPOINTMENTS.

ENQUIRY.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL—An Address was passed by this House last Session, to which, apparently, no answer has been received from the Imperial Government. I allude to certain resolutions passed in this House relative to the intentions the Government once had to add to the numbers of the Senate. Those resolutions, asserting the opinion of this House, were, no doubt, transmitted to the Imperial Government by His Excellency the Governor-General, and acknowledged by the Colonial Office. Whatever the reply may have been, it should be submitted to the House.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT—The answer, in the shape of a despatch from Lord Carnarvon, was received some time ago by the Government, and will be brought down to-morrow.

THE SENATE RESTAURANT.

MOTION TO APPOINT A COMMITTEE.

Hon. Mr. DICKSON moved that a committee consisting of Messrs.

Hon. Mr. Aikins.

Dickey, Miller, Leonard, Paquet, and the mover, be appointed for the management of the Senate Restaurant.—Carried.

THE FORTNIGHTLY MAIL SERVICE TO HALIFAX.

ENQUIRY.

Hon. Mr. DICKEY enquired whether the Government intend to provide, by a grant in the Supplementary Estimates, for the dropped grant in the Estimates submitted to Parliament, for a fortnightly Steam Service between Halifax and Queenstown for the ensuing year? About this day a year ago, I felt it my duty to ask a question in terms almost identical with this, and upon that occasion I ventured to enter fully into the question connected with this fortnightly service. I was supported in that by the unanimous expression of opinion of the members from Nova Scotia, with the single exception of the hon. member then lately appointed from Halifax. The result was, I am happy to say, that the Government re-considered the matter and restored the subsidy in the supplementary estimates for the current year, which grant they have now again dropped from the estimates submitted to Parliament. The object of my question is to ascertain whether the Government intend, as I trust they do, to bring down an equivalent sum in the supplementary estimates to be submitted this Session. Two years ago—in the Session of 1876—I felt it my duty to urge upon the House and the Government the claims of Halifax as the great winter port of the Dominion. On that occasion, supported as I was by the general concurrence of the Maritime Members, I ventured to predict that the selection of that harbor as the winter port of the Dominion, after the opening of the Intercolonial Railway would accelerate the delivery of mails and passengers by some twelve to twenty-four hours, and necessarily attract a large quantity of freight and traffic over the Intercolonial. So strong were the representations on that point, that they elicited from the Government a promise that on the completion of the Intercolonial Railway, a few months afterwards, they would be prepared with a policy for the occasion. That promise