

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

WEDNESDAY, 27th April, 1887.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

PRAYERS.

## RAILWAY ACT AMENDMENT.

Mr. MULOCK moved for leave to introduce Bill (No. 31) to amend the Railway Act. He said: This is the same Bill I had the honor to introduce last Session, which was referred to the Railway Commission to deal with. I do not know that it is necessary, as the Bill has been before the House, that I should take up time by further reference to it, but, if any hon. gentleman desire it, I will refer to the points. It has to do with the question of freight rates principally, and some other matters as well.

Motion agreed to, and Bill read the first time.

## DOMINION CONTROVERTED ELECTIONS ACT.

Mr. AMYOT moved for leave to introduce Bill (No. 32) to amend the Dominion Controverted Elections Act of 1874.

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. Will the hon. member please to explain the object of this Bill?

Mr. AMYOT. The object of this Bill, Mr. Speaker, is to fix a uniform date for the contestation of Dominion elections, instead of having it reckoned from the day when the election is published in the *Official Gazette*. The delay shall be counted from the nomination day when the election is by acclamation and from the voting day when there is a poll. This delay must be uniform for everybody, and not be left to an arbitrary power.

Motion agreed to, and Bill read the first time.

## PAYMENT OF MORTGAGES.

Mr. McMULLEN moved for leave to introduce Bill (No. 33) to regulate proceedings in the collection of first and subsequent mortgages, and also to regulate the payment of the same. He said: The object of this Bill is to regulate the proceedings to be taken where there are more than one mortgage on property. Where there is a first and a second mortgage the intention of the Bill is to make certain provisions that the first mortgagee shall give the second mortgagee notice with regard to his intention to foreclose, and he has got to give thirty days' notice before he can incur any costs under the first mortgage; within thirty days the second mortgagee will be entitled to an assignment of the first mortgage on the payment of the principal and interest. It is to prevent properties from being squandered by the first mortgagee without giving the second mortgagee an opportunity of securing his rights. There are some other provisions in the Bill.

Motion agreed to, and Bill read the first time.

## PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND SUBWAY.

Mr. WELSH asked, Is it the intention of the Government to construct a subway from Prince Edward Island to the mainland?

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. The examination which was undertaken by the Government has not extended to a sufficient degree to enable them to arrive at any conclusion on that subject.

## WHARVES AT LONGUEUIL.

Mr. BERNIER, in the absence of Mr. Prefontaine, asked, Whether it is the intention of the Government to place in Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD.

the Estimates a sum sufficient to cover the expenditure required in order to increase the length of the wharves at Longueuil, county of Chambly, the first part whereof is now under contract and about to be commenced?

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. The work in question, as the hon gentleman knows, is now under contract. The work so given has been considered complete and sufficient by itself, and when it is completed we will have to see whether it will meet the requirements of trade or whether it must be lengthened. Therefore I am unable to give the hon. member another answer to-day.

## REVISED STATUTES OF CANADA.

Mr. BERNIER, in the absence of Mr. Prefontaine, asked, Why the French edition of the Revised Statutes of Canada, which have been in force since the 1st March, have not, as yet, been distributed? Is it the intention of the Government to distribute the said Statutes for the use of Justices of the Peace and Magistrates in the several counties of the Dominion?

Mr. CHAPLEAU. It has been very difficult, not to say impossible, for us to have both versions printed at the same time. The French edition is in the hands of the book-binder and will be ready within a few days. The distribution will take place in three or four days. The distribution of the English version is commenced. It is not the intention of the Government to distribute the Revised Statutes to the Justices of the Peace. A collection of all the criminal laws, making a very interesting and very useful volume, will be distributed to the Justices of the Peace of the Dominion.

## WIDENING OF THE CHAMBLY CANAL

Mr. BERNIER, in the absence of Mr. Prefontaine, asked, Whether the Government intend to take the necessary steps to provide, at an early day, for the widening of the Chamby Canal?

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. In the absence of my colleague, the Minister of Railways and Canals, I must say to the hon. member that it is not the intention of the Government.

## BRITISH AMERICAN BANK NOTE COMPANY.

Mr. HOLTON asked, Has the Government, since last Session of Parliament, renewed its then existing contract, or entered into a new contract, with the British American Bank Note Company? If so, for what length of time and upon what terms has such contract or renewal been entered into? Were tenders called for? Was the opportunity afforded others or sought by them of tendering for the work, and did any other company or firm tender for it? Were such other tenders, if received, at a lower price than that allowed the British American Bank Note Company?

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. The Government, since last Session, has renewed its contract with the British American Bank Note Company for a period of five years from the 22nd of October, 1886. The principal terms of the contract are that the work shall be executed in the city of Ottawa, twelve months being given to the company to move their place of business from Montreal to Ottawa. The rates mentioned in the schedule to be subject to revision once each year at the option of the Minister of Finance, according to the current rate then charged for similar work in the city of New York; the work to be done for the Inland Revenue and Post Office Departments, to be subject to revision once each year by the Minister of Inland Revenue and Postmaster General, respectively; and the rates are 15 per cent. below the prices of the previous contract for the