

a Bill to incorporate the Lake Superior and Manitoba Railway Co, to which the Committee had made certain amendments. The object of the amendments was to put the terminus of the road at Nepigon Bay, and to provide that a majority of the Directors shall be British subjects.

The amendments were concurred in, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

#### ONTARIO AND PACIFIC JUNCTION RAILWAY.

Hon. Mr. DICKSON submitted another report from the Committee on Private Bills, with a Bill to incorporate the Ontario and Pacific Junction Railway. The object of the amendments was to provide that the majority of the Directors shall be British subjects.

The amendments were concurred in, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

#### THE BAIE VERTE CANAL.

Hon. Mr. ALEXANDER, on rising to speak with regard to his motion on the above subject said he embraced this opportunity of expressing the uniform feeling of this chamber with respect to the Government's manner of conducting the public business of this Dominion. He would ask the hon. members of the Government in this Chamber whether they were of the opinion that a second Chamber of Legislation was indispensable and necessary, first, for the review of legislation; secondly, to stand as a safeguard to criticise all undue expenditure, and to prevent the large items of appropriations which might justly be termed maladministration; and thirdly, to protect the smaller Provinces against any injustice? He asked the members of the Government this question with all respect, and, with no desire whatever to embarrass the Government, he would ask them whether they were of opinion that a second Chamber was necessary and indispensable.

Hon. Mr. HAMILTON—Rise to a point of order. I don't think there is any question before the House.

Hon. Mr. ALEXANDER—It is on the order of the day.

Hon. Mr. LETELLIER DE ST. JUST, there is none on the orders of the day.

Hon. Mr. ALEXANDER—I am speaking now to the motion of the the Baie Verte Canal.

Hon. Mr. LETELLIER DE ST. JUST—I was not aware that this was the Baie Verte Canal.

It being ruled by the Speaker that the hon. gentleman was in order,

Hon. Mr. ALEXANDER said he wanted to ask the Government whether this Chamber, composed as it was, of the Presidents of the leading banks, of the leading commercial men and agriculturists of the country, who had served half a life-time in the Local Legislatures of their respective Provinces, should be here without viewing with care the whole public business and expenditures, and whether it was in the interests of the country to have the leading measures brought before this House so late in the day? He knew his hon. friends would say that there was no necessity for Parliament to be prorogued; that they could go on as long as they chose to discuss these measures, but when they saw that large numbers of the other branch of the Legislature had gone home, and some of this Chamber were about to leave that very evening, he would simply ask whether it was in the interest of the country, and whether it was right, to allow the leading measures of the country to be delayed almost within twelve hours of the prorogation of Parliament? He alluded more particularly to a measure of greater magnitude than any ever before that had been under public discussion—the Pacific Railway Bill—a measure affecting the whole territory in the North West, which ought to have days of discussion instead of hours, and yet they were called upon to decide upon the matter in one afternoon. As men of wealth, independence and experience, men above party spirit and partizanship, there were none more capable of reviewing the measures which came before them than the members of that Senate who were men of experience, of wealth and prudence, and above party spirit of partizanship, and there were none who considered both public and private bills in Committee with more care than the members of that House. He felt indignant, and justly indignant at the views which had been expressed by the other chamber and the press as to the propriety of remodelling a chamber of such experience. He concluded by saying that he had made these remarks not only in the interest of this House but in the interest of the country.

Hon. Mr. LETELLIER said he was quite at a loss to find that the honorable gentleman had been speaking with reference to the motion on the Baie Verte Canal; and, when the subject came up again, if he had no other arguments against the grant for that canal, he could scarcely expect to succeed. If legislation had been delayed in any way it was not the fault of the Government. If necessary in order to get through the business, the House could be