

THE ADDRESS TO HER MAJESTY.

HON. MR. TRUDEL—Before the orders of the day are called I respectfully ask permission of the leader of the House to call his attention to a fact which seems to me to be of some importance. The other day we voted unanimously an Address to Her Majesty on the occasion of her jubilee. Yesterday, or the day before, the matter came before the House of Commons, and there some members contended, with good reason, I believe, that one word in this Address should have been changed, and if I am well informed the reason given why the Address could not be changed was that it had been voted unanimously in the Senate, and there would be some little difficulty in making the amendment. It is for this reason I would respectfully call the attention of the leader of the Government in this House to the fact and ask him if it would not be possible in Council to see whether an amendment could not be agreed upon and proposed in the Senate. The address, referring to the old inhabitants of Canada states that they were "conquered." It was objected to in the House of Commons, and it was contended there that the word "conquered" could not apply to the case; that the country at the time was ceded by treaty. Everybody knows the history of that day. There were two battles on the Plains of Abraham. In the first the English succeeded; in the second they were beaten, so that in the last affair the advantage remained to the "old inhabitants" of the country. This word may seem to be of little importance to hon. gentlemen; on the other hand they will perhaps agree that it is quite proper that on this historical question no inaccurate statement should be set forth in such a document addressed to Her Majesty.

HON. MR. ABBOTT—I did not observe that there had been any debate in the Lower House, finding fault with the language of this Address. It is not so reported in the newspapers of this morning. No doubt my hon. friend is correct in saying that there was, but I am not aware of it.

HON. MR. TRUDEL—I saw it re-

ported myself in the papers—perhaps it was in the papers of the day before yesterday.

HON. MR. ABBOTT—The Address was read here; it was published, and it was open to the inspection of everybody for several days before it was proposed in the Lower House and there it was passed without a word. Of course if there had been any proposal on the part of the House of Commons to alter this address there could have been a conference of the two Houses, and there would have been no difficulty about it. I dare say, since my hon. friend calls my attention to it, it would have been better to have left out the word he has referred to or changed the phrase in some other way. Whether it can be done now or not, I do not know, but I promise my hon. friend that I shall make inquiries and see how far we can make the phraseology of this address such as will be acceptable to every citizen of Canada without exception.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

Bill (62), "An Act to reduce the stock of the Ontario & Qu'Appelle Land Co. (limited), and for other purposes." (Mr. Vidal.)

Bill (66), "An Act to incorporate the South Norfolk Railway Co." (Mr. McCullum)

Bill (73), "An Act to incorporate the Bay of Quinte Bridge Co." (Mr. Flint.)

GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS ACT
AMENDMENT BILL.

THIRD READING.

The Order of the Day being called for the third reading of Bill (6) "An Act to amend the Government Railways Act (as amended),"

HON. MR. ABBOTT moved that the Bill be not now read the third time, but that it be amended by striking out of the preamble the words "Chap. 38 of the Revised Statutes."

The amendment was agreed to.