

Prince Edward Island should not have the same salaries as the judges of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Manitoba and British Columbia. I have no doubt gentlemen occupying positions on the bench in that Province stand as high in regard to their professional duties and qualifications as the judges in any one of these other provinces, and it would be only fair to abolish an invidious distinction by putting them on the same level.

Hon. Sir ALEX. CAMPBELL — At all events it is a step in the right direction.

Hon. Mr. DEVER.—Hon. gentlemen, I wish to say I regret exceedingly that the Government could not see their way to include in this Bill an increase to the salary of the County Court Judge of St. John. This gentleman, I am informed, does as much work as any three county judges in the Lower Provinces, except the County Court Judge of Halifax. His health, too, is failing, and he and his friends think that his old colleague, Sir Leonard Tilley, should not overlook him so persistently. Others have been raised to the bench over his head without any regard to his prior right, and his friends are beginning to think that things are going too far for the peace and good of that Province. It is hard when men feel they have cause to believe they are deprived of and proscribed from the legitimate political prizes of their country. And I have no hesitation in saying that we think so in New Brunswick at present. I appeal, then, to Sir Alex. Campbell and to Sir John Macdonald, as statesmen, to see if this thing is to go on any longer.

The Bill was read the second time.

#### CANADA AND ASIA MARINE TELEGRAPH COMPANY'S BILL.

##### SECOND READING.

Hon. Sir ALEX. CAMPBELL moved the second reading of Bill (97) "An Act to provide for the incorporation of a company to establish a Marine Telegraph between the Pacific coast of Canada and Asia." He explained that the object of the Bill was to give the Governor General power by letters patent to incorporate a Company to build a telegraph line between Canada and Japan, or any part of the Continent of Asia.

The Bill was read the second time.

*Hon. Mr. Miller.*

#### ANDREW MERCER REFORMATORY BILL.

The House went into Committee on Bill (81) "An Act with reference to the Andrew Mercer Ontario Reformatory for females and the Central Prison for the Province of Ontario."

Hon. Mr. BENSON, from the Committee, reported the Bill without amendment.

The Bill was then read the third time, and passed.

#### BAPTISMS, MARRIAGES AND BURIALS.

The SPEAKER submitted a return from the County of Chicoutimi of baptisms, marriages and burials.

Hon. Mr. DEBOUCHERVILLE asked why these returns were sent in to this Parliament.

Hon. Sir ALEX. CAMPBELL said he supposed the local authorities were in the habit of doing it. He knew of no other reason.

Hon. Mr. AIKINS said similar returns were sent to the office of the Secretary of State, and the parties had been informed that there was no necessity for furnishing them.

Hon. Mr. DICKEY said this was one of the changes which are continually going on. He was not quite sure that it was a mere matter of form, but was inclined to think that it was one of those steps taken with a view to showing that this House and Parliament were arrogating to themselves a great deal that properly belongs to the local legislatures. The question of health had been admittedly a matter within the control of the local governments, and yet during the present session it had been treated as one peculiarly belonging to the Dominion. Thus step by step this Parliament was extending its jurisdiction, and he thought his hon. friend from Montarville was perfectly right in protecting the interests of the local legislatures. This was only one indication of the change which was going on.

At six o'clock the Speaker left the chair.