

existing Insolvency Act, and also made provision for the winding up of the estates of insolvent debtors and the distribution of the effects.

*Bill read the first time.*

#### GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S INSTRUCTIONS AND COMMISSION.

##### MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY.

SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD delivered a Message from His Excellency the Governor-General.

MR. SPEAKER read the Message, and it is as follows :—

“ LOBBE.

“ The Governor-General transmits to the House of Commons, copies of Letters-Patent passed under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom, constituting the office of Governor-General of the Dominion of Canada, and of the Royal Instructions accompanying the same,—also of Her Majesty's Commission appointing him to be Governor-General of the said Dominion.

“ Government House,

“ Ottawa, 19th February, 1879.”

#### THE CARILLON DAM.

##### QUESTION.

MR. CHRISTIE enquired, Whether the Government has accepted the tender of any contractor for completing the Carillon Dam and Works; and, if not, whether it is intended to prosecute the work immediately to completion as originally designed.

MR. TUPPER: I would say, in reply to my hon. friend, that Mr. McNamee, who was the lowest tenderer for that work, was notified that his tender would be accepted. The Government subsequently decided to suspend the immediate prosecution of the work, and Mr. McNamee received information to that effect, and the deposit was returned. The matter is still under the anxious consideration of the Government. As to the time they will be enabled to resume the work, no definite determination has been reached upon that point.

MR. COLBY.

#### PARDON OF LOUIS RIEL.

##### QUESTION.

MR. Fiset enquired, Whether the Government have solicited and recommended the pardon of Mr. Louis Riel. If not, whether they intend doing so, and when.

SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD: The Government cannot well solicit the pardon of Mr. Louis Riel, because I take it the Government has the power of granting it. However, the Government have not solicited, or recommended the pardon of Mr. Louis Riel. In regard to the second part of the question, I may say that they do not propose to make that proposition. If the proposition were made in the House, I have no doubt the hon. gentleman would have an opportunity of voting against it again.

#### THE CHARLEVOIX ELECTION.

##### QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE.

MR. MOUSSEAU said that, before the Orders of the Day were called, he would beg to raise a question of privilege. On the 13th instant, in the county of Charlevoix, an election was held. On the following day, the authorised agent reported Mr. Perreault elected by a majority of 179. Within the five days following there was no demand for a recount by the Opposition candidate. The returning officer declared Mr. Perreault duly elected as member for the electoral district of Charlevoix. On account of the distance, the report could not reach Ottawa before Saturday or Sunday, and he (Mr. Mousseau) would suggest that Mr. Perreault be admitted to take his seat upon the floor of the House, upon the telegraphed report just received by Mr. Pope, the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery, and which, with the kind permission of that gentleman, he held in his hand. The telegram was as follows :—

“ I certify that the member elected for the electoral district of Charlevoix, in conformity with the writ issued, having received a majority of the votes legally given, is Joseph Stanislaus Perreault, Esquire, advocate.”

He desired the permission of the House to waive the rules of the House so that the hon. gentleman could be conducted