

THURSDAY, 25th April, 1872.

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3 o'clock.

PETITIONS

Hon. Mr. SANBORN favorably reported from Committee on Standing Orders and Private Bills on following petitions:—

Of W. H. Gault and others of the City of Montreal, praying to be incorporated as "The Exchange Bank."

Of the British American Assurance Company; praying for the passing of an Act to alter and amend their Act of incorporation in certain particulars.

Of the Great Western Railway Company; praying that the restrictions of the one hundred and thirty-first clause of the Railway Act may be modified, and that the power of loaning and guaranteeing may be defined.

Of H. S. Howland and others, of the City of Toronto, praying to be incorporated as the "Pacific Junction Bridge Company," for the purpose of constructing a Railway or other Bridge over the river Ste. Marie, near the Sault Ste. Marie.

Of the Caughnawaga Ship Canal Company, praying for the amendment of the Act of Incorporation.

BAY VERTE CANAL.

Hon. Mr. DICKEY asked the Government whether the Report of the Survey of a Canal to unite the waters of the Gulf of Saint Lawrence with the Bay of Fundy will be submitted to Parliament, and when?

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL replied that it would be presented during the present session. The Engineer, who had been directed to report on the Canal unfortunately fell ill, and the report was consequently delayed. It was now under consideration of Mr. Page, and would be laid before Parliament as soon as possible.

WELLAND CANAL.

Hon. Mr. BENSON said that since he had given notice of his enquiry with respect to the supply of water for the Welland Canal, he found there was an item already in the Estimates. It was, however, very desirable to know what action the government intended to take in connection with this matter, for the parties interested were very anxious on the subject. Two propositions for remedying existing difficulties were before the government, and he hoped they would soon be in a position to state their decision.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL replied that his hon. friend had seen there was an item in

the estimates, and consequently his enquiry was answered. It was the wish of the government to expend the money so that the object desired might be accomplished this season. The two plans proposed for increasing the supply of water had been reported upon by the Engineers, and elaborate reports in connection therewith were now before the Board of Works, but he did not know what conclusion would be arrived at by the Department.

FISHERIES.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL laid on the table the Annual Report of the Department of Marine and Fisheries.

The House then adjourned.

FRIDAY, 26th April, 1872.

The SPEAKER took the chair at 3 o'clock, p.m.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL laid on the table the report of the Hon. Mr. Langevin's visit to British Columbia.

CAPE BRETON.

Hon. Mr. BOURINOT—I now beg leave to make the following enquiry of the Government—Whether the Government have received a Report of the Survey which they ordered to be made for opening a Canal between the waters of the Bras d'Or at East Bay and Sydney Harbour, and in continuation of St. Peter's Canal, thereby facilitating the growing trade of the most extensive Coal mines of the Dominion situate in Cape Breton;—and if such Report has been received, to request the Government to lay it on the Table of the House? Also, whether it is the intention of the Government to prosecute the proposed work at an early date? My chief reason for making this enquiry is this,—that some time ago a public meeting was held at Sydney to take this matter into consideration, and at that meeting my hon. colleague (Mr. Archibald) and myself were asked to act in concert with the hon. gentleman who represents the county in the Commons. On the occasion of that meeting, I took a somewhat prominent part, and therefore I may be allowed to make a few remarks in relation to the subject. It has been replied elsewhere to a somewhat similar enquiry—that the engineer who was to be sent to examine the St. Peter's Canal, would also examine the ground through which it is proposed to construct the work in question. I may state, however, that a Government Engineer, Mr. MacNab, has already taken