

protection of the said island, and the preservation of Toronto harbour.—Mr. Osler.

Copies of all thermograph records of temperature taken on board Atlantic steamships since January 1st, 1903, stating:

1. Name of steamship.
2. Date when thermograph was put in chamber.
3. Date steamer left the port.
4. Whether chamber was (a) cold storage; (b) cool air; (c) mechanically ventilated; (d) ordinary, or whether the record was taken on deck, or other place where the natural temperature of the air would be registered unexposed to the sun's rays.
5. Where practicable, in what part of the chamber the thermograph was placed.—Mr. E. D. Smith.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER moved the adjournment of the House.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. Has my right hon. friend placed upon the table of the House the correspondence between the government and the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company, or the persons named in the contract?

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. Without pledging myself absolutely, I think I shall be able to bring down that correspondence on Monday.

Motion agreed to, and House adjourned at 4.40 p.m.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

FRIDAY, March 18, 1904.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

### GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY.

Rt. Hon. Sir WILFRID LAURIER (Prime Minister) moved that the House go into committee at the next sitting to consider the following resolution:

That it is expedient to ratify the agreement between His Majesty the King and the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company, dated the eighth day of March, 1904, transmitted by His Excellency the Governor General to this House by his message of March the eleventh; and which varies in some respects the provisions of the agreement between His Majesty and Sir Charles Rivers Wilson and others, which forms the schedule to the Act, 3 Edward VII., chapter 71; and to authorize the government to do whatever is necessary to give full effect to the first mentioned agreement.

Motion agreed to.

### QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE—THE MEMBER FOR DIGBY.

Mr. A. J. S. COPP (Digby). Mr. Speaker, before the Orders of the Day are proceeded

with, I rise to a question of privilege. Certain statements reflecting upon my conduct as a member of parliament were made in one of the journals of the Dominion some time ago. The circumstances in connection with the matter referred to were so thoroughly understood in my own constituency that I did not deem it at all necessary to make any reference to them in this House. Nor would I have ever considered it to be necessary had the matter not been brought up, in the course of debate, by two hon. gentlemen. During the present session the hon. member for East Simcoe, from his place in the House, on the 15th day of March, in the course of the debate in reply to the address, made the following statement:

Take the case of the hon. member for Digby (Mr. Copp) as heralded in the public press. Has he been reprobated by this government? I have read of the case in the public press and I have read the minutes of the town council. This government was to build a dock in the town of Digby, and the hon. member for Digby goes to the town council, and makes an open bargain that he will use his position as a member of parliament to get a large grant for the construction of a dock in that town; and, if my memory serves me rightly, he was paid \$500 on account, and was to be paid \$2,000 more on the completion of the dock. Surely it is the duty of the government to take notice of these matters. Surely this case has been brought to the attention of the Minister of Finance, who comes from that province. . . . Surely he is aware of it; and when I make the statement that public morality in this country has sunk to a lower depth than ever known, I make a statement well within the mark.

On the 16th of March, during the same debate, the hon. member for Lincoln supported the charge made against me by the hon. member for East Simcoe, and proceeded to read from the 'Weekly Courier' of January 8th, 1904, published in the town of Digby, N.S., what he alleged was an account of a meeting of the town council of Digby. He also read a copy of a contract between the town of Digby and myself, dated the 29th day of November, 1902.

I purpose giving a statement of the facts in connection with the transaction referred to, and I think I will be able to convince the House that neither of these hon. gentlemen had the slightest warrant for placing upon the facts and documents which they have presented to the House, the construction which they have endeavoured to make them bear.

For some years previously to the date of the said contract the residents of the town of Digby were most anxious to secure increased wharf and dock facilities in that town, in order to accommodate the industries near the town and to promote its material interests. Owing to the large amounts of money the expenditure of which, in the town of Digby, I had urged upon the government during the several years preceding the exe-