

self, but by Mr. Beverly Jones and Mr. Herbert Jones, of Toronto. Mr. Beverly Jones is a gentleman occupying a distinguished position in the conveying profession. It was one of these gentlemen who first gave attention to this subject of late, and from them Mr. McCarthy's Bill was obtained, and they are entitled I believe to the credit of having drafted that Bill. The original plan of introducing the Torrens system was, I believe, suggested by Mr. Mills some years ago at a time when he was in the Government with my hon. friend opposite. I desire to give these gentlemen credit for the large share which they have taken in the preparation of many parts of the measure which is upon the table. Of course the main features of it are all taken from the work of Sir Robert Torrens, and his is the original merit of introducing the system, though the merit of that even is doubted, because the substance of the scheme was presented in a report to the English House of Commons in 1857. It was in May 1857 that Sir Robert Torrens first proposed his system to the Government of New South Wales. He publishes a work in which he disclaims all knowledge of the report of the Committee of the British House of Commons, at the time he introduced his system, and it would seem therefore that the idea occurred at the same time to the committee of the House of Commons and Sir Robert Torrens himself, because the recommendation of the committee, and the main features of the Torrens system are much the same. I think I have explained to you, as far as is reasonable, the general features and scope of the Bill, and I trust that it will engage the attention of the gentlemen of the legal profession in the House, and that we shall hear a good deal about it before we pass it to its next stage. I will in the meantime move the second reading of the Bill.

HON. MR. SCOTT moved the adjournment of the debate until Friday next.

The motion was agreed to.

The Senate adjourned at six o'clock.

THE SENATE.

Ottawa, Tuesday, February 24th, 1885.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at three o'clock p.m.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

PRIVATE BILLS.

TIME FOR RECEIVING EXTENDED.

HON. MR. LACOSTE presented the eighth report of the Committee on Standing Orders and Private Bills. He said: by this report the Committee recommends that the time for the reception of Private Bills be extended to the 5th March instant, and I move that this report be now adopted.

HON. MR. POWER—Before that report is adopted I think there should be some understanding as to when this process of continually coming up and asking an extension of time for receiving Petitions and introducing Private Bills should cease.

HON. MR. VIDAL—This does not extend the time for receiving Petitions, but for Bills only.

HON. MR. POWER—I suppose at the next meeting of the Committee we shall have a recommendation for a further extension of the time for receiving Bills. I think that it would be a great deal more to the purpose either to dispense for the session with the rules with respect to Petitions and Private Bills or to adhere to the rules, or to fix some date beyond which it is understood that the rules shall not be relaxed without special cause. It is simply making an absurdity of our rules and our procedure to have this process going on week after week.

HON. MR. LACOSTE—I may say to the hon. member that the extension has been granted in the other House.

HON. MR. POWER—That makes no difference.

HON. MR. LACOSTE—The Committee of the other House thought proper to extend the time for receiving Private Bills to the 5th March, and we are only extending it to the same date.

The motion was agreed to.