

reference to the Committee on Banking and Commerce.

Hon. Mr. BOTSFORD moved the second reading of the Bill from the Commons, entitled the Maritime Improvement Company Incorporation Bill. He explained its object was to empower certain gentlemen in St. John to be incorporated for the purpose of organizing a company to undertake the building of works of various kinds throughout the Dominion, either of a public or private nature. Motion carried.

Hon. Mr. SIMPSON moved the adoption of the second and third reports of the Joint Committee on Printing. He said they contained nothing of much importance, and explained their principal points briefly. Carried.

Hon. Mr. McMASTER moved the second reading of the Bill from the Commons—the Isolated Risk Insurance Company's Amendment Bill. He explained the object, which was to change the name of the Isolated Risk Insurance Company of Canada to the "Isolated Risk and Farmers' Insurance Company of Canada." Preliminary arrangements had been made for an amalgamation which the Bill asked authority to complete, and also, that the directors might, in the ordinary way, be empowered to declare dividends. Motion carried.

Hon. Mr. FERRIER moved the second reading of the Bill, from the Commons, to incorporate the Dominion Board of Trade. The Bill simply sought to put the association in a proper position. It had already held several meetings. Carried.

Hon. Mr. FERRIER moved the second reading of the Bill, from the Commons, entitled the Canada Guarantee Company's Amendment Bill. Carried.

On motion of Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL, the House adjourned till Tuesday.

TUESDAY, April 22.

The SPEAKER took the chair at three o'clock.

After routine business,

Hon. Mr. FERRIER moved the third reading of the Montreal Investment Company's Bill. Carried.

Hon. Mr. VIDAL gave notice of motion for a select committee to whom all petitions for a prohibitory liquor law shall be referred.

#### THE MARTIN RELIEF BILL.

Hon. Mr. DICKEY moved the consideration of the report of the select committee on Martin's Relief Bill, together with

the evidence in support thereof. Carried on a division.

Hon. Mr. DICKEY next moved the third reading of the bill for the relief of John Robert Martin, seconded by Hon. Mr. Botsford. Carried on a division. Contents, 34; non contents 18. The bill was passed on the same division.

#### CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENTS TO BILLS FROM THE COMMONS.

Hon. Mr. AIKINS moved the consideration of the amendments made by the Commons to the Department of the Interior Establishment Bill. He said they were merely verbal, and explained the chief. He then moved concurrence in said amendments.

Hon. Mr. CHRISTIE—What are they?

Hon. Mr. AIKINS gave further explanations, saying one was to the effect that the Queen's Printer should be held to be an officer of this department. He was put in connection with the Secretary of State by the bill.

Hon. Mr. BUREAU said we ought to be very careful in adopting these verbal amendments, which did, not taken by themselves, always give us the full sense and effect of the changes made. There are many instances, unfortunately, of changes of this kind made here of a serious character, which at the time hon. gentlemen did not understand. I will give a case in point. Last session only a word was added to the Pacific Railway Bill, which came from the other House, by an independent member, which constituted a grave and serious change indeed. The one word added was so important as to affect the message of His Excellency, and the provisions or principle adopted in the other House, respecting the grant of money and land. The word introduced was "proceeded" with instead of "completed," which made a great deal of difference. Now, the builders of the road can have such grants when they "proceed" with the work, instead of when it is "completed," the word first employed. This was a dangerous alteration. In fact, no proposition for a grant of money or land can be introduced into this House without a message from His Excellency, and we made this change without perceiving it or its consequences. The bill then returned to the other House lay there three or four days, and the amendment was concurred in, one night, after twelve o'clock, evidently unnoticed by any body. I think it right we should, in view of these facts, be careful, as we have time to examine and discuss these matters, and the country expects watch