

April 29, 1874

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Wednesday, April 29, 1874

The **SPEAKER** took the chair at 3.10 p.m.

Prayers

CARIBOO ELECTION

The **SPEAKER** announced to the House that the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery had received the certificate of the election of Mr. Joshua Spencer Thompson for the electoral district of Cariboo.

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PETITIONS PRESENTED

A number of petitions were presented asking for protection to native manufacturers and agricultural interests, also for the passage of a prohibitory liquor law.

Mr. MOSS presented the petition of the Dominion Board of Trade, praying for the abolition of excise duties upon petroleum.

Mr. CURRIER presented a petition against Mr. Mills' bill regarding the obstructions in navigable rivers; and against the sugar duty, tea duty and impost on ship-building materials.

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YALE ELECTION

The **SPEAKER** intimated that the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery was in attendance with the returns and other papers relating to the last election for the electoral district of Yale.

Hon. Mr. BLAKE made the usual formal motion for the reading of papers, in the order of their being printed on the orders of the day.

The motion was carried.

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REPORT PRESENTED

Hon. Mr. HOLTON presented the first report of the Committee on Banking and Commerce reporting a number of bills.

Hon. Mr. HOLTON moved the reception of the petition of Constant Bougler of Montreal and its reference to the Committee on Immigration and Colonization.

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BILLS INTRODUCED

The following Bills were introduced:-

By **Hon. Mr. HOLTON**—To amend the Act respecting Insurance Companies.

By **Hon. Mr. CAMERON (Cardwell)**—To amend the several Acts relating to the charter of the Ontario Bank.

By **Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE**—Declaring the Canada Southern Railway to be a work for the general advantage of Canada, within the meaning of the 92nd section of the British North America Act.

By **Mr. JETTÉ**—To incorporate the Montreal Steam Ferry Company.

By **Mr. MOSS**—An Act suppressing gaming houses and punishing the keepers thereof.

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RETURNS

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE laid on the table a supplementary return respecting the proclamation of 1869 and the Northwest difficulties; also plans and specifications for St. Peter's Canal, Cape Breton Island.

Hon. Mr. ROSS (Victoria) presented a return of correspondence in reference to the precedence of the Governor General's Foot Guards.

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OYSTER FISHERIES

Hon. Mr. ROBITAILLE enquired whether it was the intention of the government to carry out the plan proposed in the report of the Minister of Marine and Fisheries of 1872, for restricting our exhausted oyster fisheries, by setting apart the oyster beds in New Brunswick and Quebec for three years.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) said Government recognized the importance of the subject, but at present no decision had been arrived at in regard to it. It was under the consideration of the Government at present.

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MAIL STEAMERS ON LAKE HURON

Mr. GILLIES asked whether it was the intention of the Government to make it a condition in the mail contract of the line of steamers that will carry the mail between Sarnia and Lake Superior to call at and make mail ports of Kincardine, Port Elgin, and Southampton, on the east coast of Lake Huron.

Hon. Mr. MACDONALD (Glengarry) replied but not a word of the hon. gentleman's remarks was audible in the reporters' gallery.