

FISHERIES COMMITTEE

Mr. Fortin moved to add **Mr. Beatty** and **Mr. Cowan** to the Committee on Fisheries and Navigation. Carried.

CARILLON AND GRENVILLE CANAL

Hon. Mr. Holton, in the absence of **Hon. Mr. Dorion**, moved an address for the plans, specifications, etc., relating to the Carillon and Grenville Canal. Carried.

N. S. GOLD DISTRICTS

Mr. Blanchet moved an address for reports of the official geological survey with reference to the gold districts of Nova Scotia. Carried.

JOLIETTE ELECTION

The names of the committee appointed to try the Joliette election—Messrs. Tremblay, J. J. Ross, Stirton, J. S. Ross and Scatcherd, were called with a view to their being sworn, at 4, and subsequently at 5 o'clock, but the swearing of the committee was prevented by the absence of **Mr. J. J. Ross**.

Mr. Walsh moved that **Mr. Ross** be taken into custody of the Sergeant-at-Arms. Carried.

INTERCOLONIAL RAILROAD

Hon. Mr. Holton inquired if any information had been received from the surveying party sent out to procure further information respecting the proposed Intercolonial Railroad. He had been informed that the Minister of Customs had received some information from one of these parties that were detached to explore the frontier line, and as the time has elapsed during which the Government proposed to get further information to enable them to decide in this matter, he thought it not improper to ask whether the information had been obtained, and, if so, when it would be submitted to the House.

Hon. Mr. McDougall said that to his knowledge no information such as that alluded to had been received by the Government. Private parties accompanying the expedition might have communicated with their friends as to where they were, but that was all, except the information that **Mr. Fleming's** party had been divided into eight, and stating where they were.

Hon. Mr. Holton explained that he made the inquiry not for himself, but on behalf of other members who had heard that some

such information as he had spoken of had been received by the Minister of Customs.

Hon. Mr. Tilley said he had received a private dispatch from a party in the survey, stating the result of his examination of fifteen miles they had passed over. That had been communicated to him, not as a member of the Government, but in his private capacity.

Mr. Mackenzie—What was it? (Laughter.)

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

The House went into Committee of Supply again—**Mr. Jackson** in the Chair.

The items for the Department of Privy Council and the Department of Justice were passed.

On the item for the Department of Militia, \$19,750.

Mr. Mackenzie objected to the appointment of a Deputy Minister of Militia as unnecessary, in addition to the large military staff appointed to aid the Minister.

Hon. Mr. Cartier said that the Militia Department would be of more importance under the new system, on account of its greater scope, than formerly; hence additional assistance was of great moment. There was necessarily a larger expenditure of money in that department than any other, and a division between the civil and military portions of it was absolutely needed. The responsibility of the expenditure connected with this department under the new system was borne by the Minister at its head, and he would keep down the expenditure in every way suitable with the efficiency of this branch of the administration of public affairs. Under the old system, the Governor-General was Commander-in-Chief; under Confederation, it was felt that to have the Governor of each Province a Commander-in-Chief would work well, and the command had been vested in Her Majesty and the Governor-General, as her representative in the Dominion. This new state of things, he thought, would be a great improvement. As to **Col. Powell** assuming his (**Mr. Cartier's**) duties, that officer could not do so as he had already a great deal to do, and would be still more busy in the future. In the department of militia proper, he (**Mr. Cartier**) would inform the member for Lambton that there was but a deputy, a couple of clerks, a messenger and himself (**Mr. Cartier**); so that the staff was anything but large, and was indeed the same staff precisely which he had when Attorney-General for Lower Canada.