

Hon. Mr. CHRISTIE—Oh, there is no particular hurry. (Laughter.)

Hon. Mr. CARRALL—He is going to trust the Government a little longer. (Renewed merriment.)

### THIRD READINGS.

The following Bills were read a third time and passed.

Bill from Commons, Montreal and Quebec Port Wardens' Laws Amendment Bill.—Hon. Mr. Aikins.

Bill from Commons, Witnesses Examination on Oath by Committees of Parliament Bill.—Hon. Mr. Campbell.

Bill from Commons, Three Rivers Bank Incorporation Bill, as amended.—Hon. Mr. Hamilton, Kingston.

Bill I, Aliens in British Columbia and Manitoba Bill.—Hon. Mr. Campbell.

### PENITENTIARY LAW BILL.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL moved the second reading of the bill to amend the law relating to Penitentiaries in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. He explained that in those provinces criminals were confined in the Penitentiary under shorter sentences than in Quebec and Ontario, and it was found convenient that the briefer periods should be spent in those prisons. In those Lower Provinces they had been as yet unable to make arrangements to comply with the law affecting Quebec and Ontario, and consequently it was proposed to extend the period for compliance, till 1st May 1875 and 1876.

In reply to Senators WILMOT and WARK,

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL said, no doubt the Ministers from New Brunswick would see to the interests of St. John in the matter of its rights in the Penitentiary, and Judges would be able to send criminals to those prisons for shorter terms than one year.—Motion carried.

### HOUSE IN COMMITTEE.

On motion of Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL the bill for the increase of the powers of the Quebec Trinity house was considered in Committee.—Reported without amendment.

### HARBOUR MASTERS, NOVA SCOTIA AND NEW BRUNSWICK.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL moved the House into Committee on the bill for appointment of harbour masters in certain ports of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

Hon. Mr. LOCKE asked if the wishes of the people of the ports interested would be consulted in these appointments.

Hon. Mr. MACFARLANE called atten-

tion to the importance of defining what constituted a harbour for the purposes of the act, and the proper supervision of the smaller harbours. If the Dominion Government appointed masters for all of them, it would prove very expensive, while, if they neglected them, the Local Government not interfering, these harbours might become filled up with rubbish, or injured in various ways.

Hon. Mr. WARK said this bill appeared part of a policy of centralization, of bringing everything under Ottawa. It was a most objectionable measure. He believed the old N. B. system of leaving these appointments to the Quarter Sessions, the best. The Judges knew the applicants and felt interest in the locality. The Government appointments would be political—a most objectionable system.

Hon. Mr. DICKEY said, he did not see the danger perceived by the last hon. gentleman. The subject of trade and navigation belonged to the Dominion. How could its Government logically or consistently leave these matters in the hands of the local authorities? Navigation interested the whole world. He could not understand how we could go back to sessions appointments. For New Brunswick and Nova Scotia they had no law authorising the appointment of harbour masters. There was a necessity for such an officer in certain ports. The Minister of Marine doubtless felt the same difficulties as to all other appointments as those anticipated in this case. He would act to the best of his lights, while all these nominations would come under the scrutiny of Parliament. The provision as to the collection of fees only applied to foreign, not our own vessels. He gave reasons for treating Sydney the same as Pictou, as to the remuneration of the officer to be appointed.

Hon. Mr. BOURINOT corroborated the statements of the last hon. gentleman (Mr. Dickey.) The bill as it stood was satisfactory, and he trusted the suggestion made would be accepted by the House.

In reply to Hon. Mr. LOCKE,

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL said the Government would make the appointments of course, subject to the judgment of Parliament. He could not conceive the Minister of Marine or the Government making appointments where they were unnecessary—where there was no, or an insufficient business. As to the merits of the quarter sessions system of appointments, he understood there was very considerable pressure put upon the Government by New Brunswick and Nova Scotia members to submit this measure. They thought the