

greatly reducing the stock in Canada.

HON. MR. FLINT moved the three months' hoist.

Contents, 25; non-contents, 27. The third reading carried on the same division.

#### HOUSE IN COMMITTEE.

The following bills were considered in Committee and reported, some with amendments, and read a third time:—

Criminal Law relating to Violence and Threats Amendment Bill.—Hon. Mr. Scott.

Staple articles of Produce Inspection Law Amendment Bill.—Hon. Mr. Scott.

Harbor Masters' Appointment Laws Amendment Bill.—Hon. Mr. Letellier.

Cape Race Light-House Bill—Law Repeal Bill.—Hon. Mr. Scott.

In obedience to the wish of several members, HON. MR. SCOTT consented to strike out the first clause of the Inspection bill requiring the inspection of pickled fish and fish oils. He said the second clause merely corrected clerical errors in the former bill.

#### THE SUPREME COURT BILL.

On motion of HON. MR. SCOTT, the House went into Committee, for the consideration of the Supreme Court bill. After considerable discussion, and the suggestion of various amendments, the different clauses were all agreed to, and the bill reported with several amendments, it being agreed discussion on the others proposed, should take place on the third reading. The Government amendments were concurred in.

#### QUEBEC AND HURON RAILWAY.

HON. MR. CAMPBELL moved the adoption of the amendments by the Banking and Railway Committee to the Quebec and Lake Huron Direct Railway bill. Carried.

#### LARCENY BILL.

On motion of the HON. MR. SCOTT, the bill respecting Larceny and other offences, reported from Committee of the Whole, was read a third time.

It being then six o'clock the House rose.

The House met at eight o'clock.

HON. MR. BOTSFORD moved, seconded by the HON. MR. READ,

"That a humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General praying that His Excellency will be pleased to take into his favourable consideration the case of Mr. Wm. Palen." Carried.

#### THE SUPREME COURT BILL.

HON. MR. SCOTT moved the third reading.

HON. MR. DICKEY rose to state his objections to the bill. We were dealing with it as it came from the Committee without any amendment, and he proposed to take the sense of the House upon the bill as it stood. The power of the House to pass the bill depended upon the 101st section of the British North America Act. That section was very comprehensive in its terms, and it was contended that it applied entirely to the establishment of a Court of Appeal for Canada. The House would recollect that by section 92 the question of civil rights and property was entirely local. It was therefore contended on the one hand that this power was confined to a Court of Appeal for the laws of the Dominion; on the other hand it was contended that this clause, following those relating to the question of civil rights and property and the constitution of the courts in the different Provinces, must be taken to include the Court of Appeal. There was a great deal of difficulty in considering this question, and his own opinion was by no means made up. But if this bill passed it would have to come under the review of the law officers of the Crown, and it would be determined by those high authorities in England whether that bill was within the competence of this Parliament. Amongst the provisions of the bill was an appeal from a decision upon civil rights which were within the powers of the Local Legislatures. Now, with regard to those rights it was a singular thing that in the 55th clause of the bill it seemed to be taken for granted that when you came to deal with anything that was of a provincial nature you must have the permission of the Provincial Legislatures. That section expressly declared that there was no authority to consider the question of the jurisdiction of a Local Legislature to pass a law unless there was first a law passed by the Legislatures of those