

place; attribute it to what we may, we must rejoice that such a beneficial change has been effected, and that the people of the country are now enjoying a measure of prosperity such as we have not had for years.

The Bill was read the third time and passed.

ST. JOHN HARBOR BILL.

FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD READINGS.

The following Bill from the House of Commons was introduced and read the first time:—

Bill (163) "An Act relating to the Harbor of St. John in the Province of New Brunswick."

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—This is a Bill to adopt in St. John, New Brunswick, the same plan that has been followed in Quebec and Montreal for some years, and in Three Rivers, and I believe in Halifax, for the government and control of the harbor of that port. Commissioners are appointed who are to purchase the various private wharves as they see fit, convenient and advantageous, and to establish tolls and control the harbor and improve it. I understand that the harbor is not so good now as it has been in former years, and it requires considerable attention to keep the necessary draft of water there. I move the second reading of the Bill.

HON. MR. DEVER—I have only one objection to the Bill. I would prefer to see it have a clause similar to that in the Bill passed for Three Rivers, that is that the Commissioners shall serve without remuneration.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—I do not think there is any salary connected with the position of commissioner in this Bill. I think the Chairman or Secretary are the only ones who have salaries.

HON. MR. DEVER—I see it distinctly stated in the Three Rivers Bill that the commissioners shall serve without salary and I do not think it is in this Bill. It leaves it optional with the Government to give salaries and if the commissioners

are paid, the salaries will necessarily come out of the shipping of the port of St. John. In every other respect I think this is a most desirable Bill and a large majority of the people of St. John will be much pleased with it.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—The only provision in the Bill upon the subject of remuneration is that the officers shall be paid, so that it will be impossible to pay salaries to any members of the Board, there being no provision to that effect. I do not find any negative clause, that they shall not be paid, but there is no provision that they shall be paid. In the face of the Three Rivers Bill there was an absolutely negative provision that no commissioner shall be paid, and I do not know why it has not been inserted in this Bill—I fancy it is because it was drawn up by a different person.

HON. MR. DEVER—I would like to see it amended in this respect.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—It does not require a negative clause to render it impossible that the commissioners shall be paid; to make it possible that a commissioner shall receive salary it requires a positive provision to that effect.

The motion was agreed to and the Bill was read the second time.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL moved the third reading of the Bill presently.

The motion was agreed to and the Bill was read the third time and passed.

DRY DOCKS CONSTRUCTION BILL

FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD READINGS.

The following Bill from the House of Commons was introduced and read the first time:

Bill () "An Act to encourage the construction of dry docks, by granting assistance on certain conditions to companies constructing them."

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL—This Bill is to encourage the construction of dry docks, by lending a certain sum of money at a certain rate of interest or by subsidy. These docks are very expensive, and it is desirable, in the interest of con-