

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL remarked that his impression was quite the contrary.

The resolutions were then concurred in.

Hon. Mr. SMITH introduced a Bill to amend the Act 31 Vict., Cap. 64, respecting the treatment and relief of sick and distressed mariners.

THE IMMIGRATION ACT.

The House went into Committee to consider certain proposed Resolution to authorize the collection of duty in certain cases, from the masters of ships carrying passengers or emigrants from any port in Europe to any port in Canada:—Mr. WHITE in the chair.

The Committee rose and reported the resolutions which were read a first and second time and concurred in.

The House went into Committee on the Bill to amend the Immigration Act of 1872:—Mr. WHITE in the chair.

The Committee reported the Bill without amendment and it was read a third time and passed.

PENITENTIARIES.

The House went into Committee to consider certain proposed Resolutions respecting the salaries proposed to be paid to the officers mentioned in Bill respecting Penitentiaries, and the inspection thereof:—Mr. De St. GEORGES in the chair.

The Committee reported the Resolutions, which were read a first and second time and concurred in.

The Bill respecting Penitentiaries, and the inspection thereof, was read a second time, and the House went into Committee on it:—Mr. De St. GEORGES in the chair.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD said he noticed that one inspector was to be appointed under this Bill instead of three as at present. He wished to know if this inspector would be required to perform the same duties as the three now did.

Hon. Mr. FOURNIER said the Bill did not include British Columbia or Manitoba. The duties which the inspector would have to perform were not so extensive as at present, as the building and repairs of penitentiaries would now be under the Department of Public Works. There were now only four penitentiaries, and there would soon be only three, as it was proposed to have only one penitentiary for New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island.

Hon. Mr. Mitchell.

The inspector would only be obliged to make the inspections yearly, unless directed by the Minister of Justice to make other visits of inspection.

Sir JOHN MACDONALD said the only opinion he had expressed on the matter was when the Penitentiary Bill was under discussion in the House, when he stated it was to a certain degree experimental. While he quite understood that no individual interest should stand in the way of the public policy of the Government, he hoped they would show some consideration to the gentlemen who would be deprived of their offices by this measure.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the Government found very great disorder was occurring through duties being assigned to the inspectors and which they were not competent to perform. On one occasion he found to his dismay they had assumed the right to purchase some \$3,000 worth of lumber and articles of that kind, the great bulk of which was useless and was now piled up at the institution in Montreal. Other matters of that kind had occurred not intentionally, but because the inspectors were not competent for such duties, and it became quite evident to the Government that firmer hands must deal with these matters. It would be in the memory of Ontario members at least that while there were four inspectors in old Canada they inspected all the jails, penitentiaries and other public institutions. After the Confederation Act was passed the Province of Ontario, under the economical but wise arrangement of the leader of the Government, SANDFIELD MACDONALD, decided to have only one inspector and any one who had seen that gentleman's reports could see to what state of efficiency they had been brought under his control. The economy in provisioning all jails, and in the management of lunatic asylums, and supervision over all institutions receiving aid from the Government showed that he was able to exercise very efficient supervision over the 50 or 60 institutions in the Province, and they were really in very much better order than Dominion institutions with their three inspectors. He (Mr. MACKENZIE) never had any doubt that one thoroughly efficient officer would do the duties much better than three. As to the matter mentioned by the hon. member of