

of the members of the Senate, and before the public, at an earlier date than they have hitherto done.

Motion agreed to.

RETURNS ORDERED.

Correspondence and other papers relating to the copyright question which have not already been brought down.—(Mr. Edgar.)

Return, in the form used in the statement usually published in the "Gazette," of the exports and imports from the first day of July, 1893, to the first day of March, 1894; distinguishing the products of Canada and those of other countries; and comparative statements from the first day of July, 1892, to the first day of March, 1893.—(Sir Richard Cartwright.)

REPORTS.

Report of the Secretary of State for the year ending the 31st December, 1893.—(Mr. Costigan.)

List of the Civil Service of Canada, for the year ending 30th June, 1893.—(Mr. Costigan.)

Sir JOHN THOMPSON moved the adjournment of the House.

Motion agreed to; and House adjourned at 4.45 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

WEDNESDAY, 21st March, 1894.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

PRAYERS.

OFFICIAL REPORT OF DEBATES.

Mr. LaRIVIERE presented the first report of the committee appointed to supervise the Official Report of the Debates, as follows:—

1st. That Mr. Alexander Colin Campbell be appointed to fill the vacancy on the staff of the Official Reporters caused by the death of Mr. Thomas J. Richardson.

2nd. That a gratuity of \$1,000 be granted to the widow of the late Thomas J. Richardson, one of the Official Reporters of the House of Commons.

3rd. That in view of the fact of an extra allowance of fifteen days' salary having been granted last session to each of the sessional clerks, messengers and pages of the House, the same favour be extended to each of the amanuenses to the Official Reporters who were employed during the said session.

4th. That the quorum of the Committee be reduced from eight to five members.

THE MODUS VIVENDI.

Sir CHARLES HIBBERT TUPPER. Mr. Speaker, I desire to lay on the Table of the House copies of an Order in Council dated 17th of January, 1894, under the provisions of the Act respecting fishing vessels of the United States. The Order in Council brings in force the modus vivendi this year.

REPORT.

Report of the Department of Interior for the year 1893.—(Mr. Daly.)

BEHRING SEA REGULATIONS.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker. I desire to move the adjournment of the House. This is a course I do not often take. But, as there may be some discussion in consequence of the remarks I am about to make, and as it is more convenient that such a discussion should be in order, and as you, Mr. Speaker, have frequently expressed your desire that we should observe the rules in this respect, I shall conclude my remarks with the usual motion to adjourn. The point to which I wish to call the attention of the First Minister is this: As I understand it, no steps whatever have been taken, up to the present date, either by the British Government or by our own Government, to give anything like legal effect or validity to the regulations which were made at Paris affecting the Behring Sea fishery—I believe I am correct in that statement. Now, Sir, I have seen very recently certain rather remarkable statements in the American press to this effect—that it is the intention of the American Government to order a number of their cruisers to attend the annual migration of the seals on their way northward from any point above 35 degrees of north latitude to Behring Sea; and that it is further their intention, and that instructions to that effect are understood to have been issued to the commanders of these cruisers to deal with any parties trespassing against these regulations as if the regulations were absolutely valid and of legal effect. Now, I am not going at all to impugn the desirability of enforcing these regulations as they have been agreed to, but I want to call attention—as the First Minister said the other day that a large number of sealers were being fitted out from Vancouver in British Columbia—to the extreme desirability, if these regulations are to be made effective, of the British authorities, or our own, so declaring, either by proclamation or by act of Parliament—I do not know which is the proper mode—and causing all parties concerned to be notified that such regulations are to be enforced. For, it appears to me, it would be very undesirable either that the British Government should have, as they did, I believe last year, to pay a large sum of money to its own subjects by way of compensation for not exer-