

have also occurred, and the matter has been brought before Congress by some of the representatives of the lake districts. As representing a lake district myself, I considered it my duty to bring this matter before Parliament. The losses on the other side have been even greater than on this side, and the representations I have referred to brought the matter forward with a view to obtaining legislation on the subject. It has been suggested that there should be line marks on the vessels, one for summer and one for fall, what is known as a Plimsoll line, that is, a line beyond which the vessel should not be loaded, one for the stormy weather in the fall and another for the summer season. I think if some such system were adopted, it would be the means of preventing the great loss of life that occurs; but, above all, let something be done to prevent these unseaworthy barges being towed by steamers, for they are sure to be cut adrift any moment a storm arises. That is the main thing to be provided against now, and if that were done I have no doubt the wants of navigation would be met.

Mr. FOSTER. The information for which the hon. gentleman has asked is now being printed or has been printed, in the report of the Department, which will be laid on the Table in a day or two. I suggest that the hon. gentleman allow his motion to stand until he sees that report, and if it does not include all the information desired, additional information will be brought down. I think, however, he will find everything required in the report.

Mr. DAWSON moved the adjournment of the debate.  
Motion agreed to, and debate adjourned.

#### SELECT STANDING COMMITTEES.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD moved:

That a Special Committee of seven members be appointed to prepare and report, with all convenient speed, lists of members to compose the Select Standing Committees, ordered by the House on Thursday, the 23rd inst., and that Sir John A. Macdonald, Sir Hector Langevin, Sir Richard Cartwright and Messrs. McLellan, Howell, Laurier and Mills, do compose said Committee.

Motion agreed to.

#### ADJOURNMENT—THE FISHERIES TREATY.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD moved the adjournment of the House.

Mr. LAURIER. May I ask the right hon. gentleman to explain why the Fisheries Treaty and papers have not yet been brought down; also when we may expect them?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. The papers are not yet complete.

Mr. LAURIER. Can we have them to-morrow?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. In a few days.

Mr. LAURIER. Nothing more precise than that?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. No.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. I may be misinformed, but I saw it stated in an American newspaper that they had been presented to the Senate, protocols and all. Is that statement correct?

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. I may say that that statement is not correct. I had a telegram from Mr. Bergae yesterday, saying that he expected to be able to send the final protocols to me in a day or two, that they would leave Washington to-morrow.

Mr. MACKENZIE. It is to be hoped they will improve by keeping.

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. We shall see.  
Mr. DAWSON.

#### RETURN ORDERED.

Return showing the several sums of money paid in costs, counsel fees or otherwise, directly or indirectly, connected with the suit, "The St. Catharines Milling and Lumbering Company vs. The Queen;" the party or parties to whom paid, the date of payment, and the several accounts paid, showing the full amounts paid and the dates of payments.—(Mr. McMullen.)

Motion agreed to; and House adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

#### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

TUESDAY, 28th February, 1888.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

PRAYERS.

#### STANDING COMMITTEES.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD presented the Report of the Special Committee appointed to prepare and report lists of the Select Standing Committees for the present Session. He moved that the portion of the Report relating to the Committee on Standing Orders be adopted.

Motion agreed to.

#### REPORTS.

Report of the Postmaster-General for the year 1887.—(Mr. McLellan.)

Report of the Secretary of State of Canada, for the year ended 31st December, 1887.—(Mr. Chapleau.)

#### DEBATES TRANSLATORS—QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE.

Mr. LAURIER. Before the Orders of the Day are called, I beg to rise to a question of privilege. I am informed that you, Mr. Speaker, in the exercise of the power which you have assumed as Speaker of this House, have dismissed three of the translators of the Debates from the positions which they had received at the hands of the House. I may say at once, Mr. Speaker, with all due respect to your decision, and in my humble judgment, that I have not the least doubt that you have exceeded your authority and invaded the privilege of this House.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. The hon. gentleman puts it, as I understand it, upon the ground that the Speaker has exceeded his authority?

Mr. LAURIER. Yes.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. That will be a question of privilege. I have no doubt the Speaker will be quite ready to decide.

Mr. SPEAKER. The papers will be brought down to-morrow.

#### KENT (ONT.) CONTROVERTED ELECTION.

House resumed the adjourned debate on the proposed motion of Sir John A. Macdonald: That the certificate of the Honorable Mr. Justice Osler, dated the 17th day of November instant, in the matter of the controverted election for the Electoral District of the County of Kent in the Province of Ontario, which was laid before the House on the 23rd instant, be referred to the Select Standing Committee on Privileges and Elections.

Mr. LAURIER. I would call the attention of the right hon. gentleman to this matter again, and I believe that if he will take it into consideration once more, he will come to the conclusion that the writ ought to issue at once.