

to the extent of \$500 at 6 per cent., to enable them to make settlements on the lands, and if they remain on the lands three years and get their patents, this \$500 is the first lien on the property. It has been represented to me by those who have assisted immigrants, that a somewhat greater security is necessary, and I believe the clause I propose to substitute meets with the approbation of a large number of members on both sides who did me the honor of calling on me. It enables persons to advance to settlers, to enable them to go into the North-West, to the extent of \$600, at a rate not exceeding 8 per cent., and against that amount can be charged the money expended in paying the passage money of the settler, for building the settler's house, breaking a portion of his land, &c. In addition may be charged the interest for such period as may be determined upon—for one or two years—against the capital, so that the settler will not have to pay interest the first year or two, that going as part of the capital he will have to pay. The important difference between this clause and the present law is, however, that in the event of a settler leaving the land before he has completed his settlement duties, those who advanced the money shall be entitled to the patents, and their advance will be the first lien upon it; and if, within two years after getting the patent, they have not put on the land a new settler, they be forced to sell the land to any settler for the amount of money advanced, together with the expenses. At present, they simply have the power to put another settler on if they think proper, in cases where the original settler abandoned the land before the issue of the patent. That is the principle of the amendment proposed. It has been represented to me by several people—I may mention one, Sir George Stephen, who has practically, now the railway is completed, ceased to be so actively and constantly engaged in that enterprise, and who is most anxious to devote himself to the settlement of the North-West; I may mention, also, the solicitor of Lady Baroness Burdette-Coutts or of Lady Cathcart, I forget which, Mr. Edwards, of Edinburgh, also spoke to me on the subject. They are all very anxious to continue the work; but one or two settlers, among those brought out, abandoned their lands, and that somewhat alarmed those who have been aiding this excellent work, because the security did not turn out quite as good as they hoped it would, since it is only on the improvements, and, unfortunately, improvements on a deserted homestead are not very valuable. As to the settlers who have taken up lands under these auspices, about 8 per cent. of them have left, and the balance, 92 per cent., are to-day on their homesteads, apparently doing well and quite contented. The belief is that a policy of this kind will enlist a large number of persons in the Old Country, particularly in the work of putting on new settlers in the North-West. That is the chief object of the resolution of which I gave notice, and which I wish to see embodied in the Bill.

Mr. MILLS. There are two features in the Bill: first, the lien which the hon. gentleman proposes to create on the property; and second, the method by which the lien is to be secured. I suppose the Minister of Justice has looked at the clause and compared it with the Land Registration Bill before the House. The hon. gentleman proposes a method of registration by the entry of a memorandum upon the certificate title; but here is no patent issued, no certificate of title, no provisions to make the proposed law conformable to the provisions of the other Bill.

It being Six o'clock, the Speaker left the Chair.

After Recess.

IN COMMITTEE—THIRD READINGS.

Bill (No. 75) to incorporate the School Savings Bank.—(Mr. Massue.)

187

Bill (No. 91) to incorporate the Yarmouth Steamship Company, Limited.—(Mr. Kinney.)

Bill (No. 90) to amend and consolidate the Acts relating to the Montreal Board of Trade.—(Mr. Curran.)

Bill (No. 112) to consolidate the borrowing powers of the Western Canada Loan and Savings Company and to authorise the said company to issue debenture stock.—(Mr. Beaty.)

Bill (No. 113) to consolidate the borrowing powers of the Freehold Loan and Savings Company and to authorise the said company to issue debenture stock.—(Mr. Beaty.)

Bill (No. 98) to consolidate the borrowing powers of the Canada Permanent Loan and Savings Company, and to authorise the said company to issue debenture stock.—(Mr. Small.)

Bill (No. 69) respecting the Bank of Yarmouth.—(Mr. Kinney.)

Bill (No. 114) to amend the Acts respecting the British Canadian Bank.—(Mr. Dawson.)

WINNIPEG AND HUDSON BAY RAILWAY AND STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

Mr. ROYAL moved the second reading of Bill (No. 119) to amend the Act to incorporate the Winnipeg and Hudson Bay Railway and Steamship Company. He said: The object of this Bill is to modify certain clauses of the Act in order to facilitate the work of Mr. Sutherland, the president of the company, who is now in England, to float his scheme. This accounts for the lateness of the season at which this Bill has been placed before the House, and I may say great interest is taken in this enterprise by the people of Manitoba.

Motion agreed to, and Bill read the second time.

SECOND READING.

Bill (No. 123) to incorporate the Northumberland Straits Tunnel Railway Company.—(Mr. Hackett.)

DOMINION LANDS.

House again resolved itself into Committee on Bill (No. 94) to amend the Dominion Land Act, 1883.

Mr. WHITE (Cardwell). As to this clause the question arises whether under the Act as it stands the certificate of entry was subject to cancellation at all or not. A difference of opinion existed on that point, and it was to meet that difficulty that this clause was put in. On reading the clause, however, it will be seen that the certificate of entry, unless the entry or sale has been revoked by the Minister, entitles the person to maintain suits of law, &c., and that therefore it may be regarded as an instrument respecting lands, and is covered by section 74, which provides a means of cancellation for such instrument. I propose to drop clause 10 of the new Bill. Then I propose to add the following words to clause 13:—"Or such other places as shall from time to time be fixed by the Minister of the Interior." This refers to the meetings of the Board of Examiners of land surveyors. At present the place of meeting is fixed at Ottawa.

Mr. MILLS. The fixing of other places would entail additional cost for travelling expenses. Does the hon. gentleman make any provision for that?

Mr. WHITE (Cardwell). I do not know that it would necessarily imply any more expense, as the members of the board are scattered all over the Dominion. There are a large number in the North-West and a good many in British Columbia, so that, so far as the expenses are concerned, it might involve no more expense to hold a