

April 20, 1874

in the Dominion and a supplementary sum was placed in the estimates to defray the necessary expenses.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that on that occasion he asked the chairman of the Committee first to meet the Finance Minister and ask him if he would take a vote for the expenses, and the Committee did so.

The SPEAKER ruled that the recommendation under discussion was not a proper one.

The report was then withdrawn.

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SECOND READINGS

The following Bills were read a second time:—

An Act to incorporate the Collins Bay Rafting and Forwarding Company—**Mr. COCKBURN**.

An Act to amend the Act to incorporate La Banque d'Hochelaga—**Mr. JETTÉ**.

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BILLS INTRODUCED

The following Bills were introduced, and read a first time:—

A Bill to amend the Act respecting larceny and other similar offenses—**Mr. McDOUGALL (Trois-Rivières)**.

A Bill to incorporate the Bank of Ottawa—**Mr. BLACKBURN**.

A Bill to amend and extend the Act relating to Vagrants—**Mr. McDOUGALL (Trois-Rivières)**.

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THE LAW OF LIBEL

Mr. BROOKS introduced a bill to amend and to assimilate the criminal laws regarding libel.

At the suggestion of **the SPEAKER**,

Mr. BROOKS withdrew his motion, and gave it as a notice of motion.

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GASPÉ ELECTION RETURN

Mr. TASCHEREAU moved that the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery be ordered to attend at the opening of the House on Wednesday next with a return of the last election of the electoral district of Gaspé together with the poll-books and all other books, papers and documents which may have been transmitted to him with the said returns.—Carried.

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QUEBEC LUNATIC ASYLUM

Mr. BOURASSA asked whether any correspondence had taken place between the Government of Canada and the Quebec Government in relation to the transfer of certain properties at Chambly, Saint-Jean, Quebec, or elsewhere for the establishment of a Lunatic Asylum for the Province of Quebec.

Hon. Mr. DORION said that no arrangement had yet been completed. Objections had been raised by certain inhabitants of the County of Iberville to the transference of the Lunatic Asylum to Chambly. It was quite possible that the Barracks at Saint-Jean, now unoccupied, might be obtained.

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BREAKWATER AT MAIN À DIEU, NOVA SCOTIA

Mr. McDONALD (Cape Breton) asked whether it was the intention of the Government to make provision in the estimates for the building of a breakwater at the Port of Main à Dieu, Nova Scotia, according to the engineer's report.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said the Government were considering the matter, but he could not say at present that it was their intention to make such provision. The Government would consider what the hon. gentleman had stated, and would let him know at a future day what they would propose to do.

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OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE DEBATES

Mr. PATERSON asked if it was the intention of the Government to provide for an official report of the debates and proceedings of this House.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that it was not the intention of the Government to do so, but they were disposed to consider any proposition favourably that the House might be disposed to entertain. He had observed that a notice had been given of a motion to appoint a Committee upon the subject. When the Committee reported the Government would state what they thought ought to be done with regard to the matter.

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DUTIES ON COMMERCIAL PAPER

Mr. TROW asked whether it was the intention of the Government this session to abolish the imposition of duties on promissory notes, drafts and bills of exchange.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: It is not the intention of the government to do so.

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PILOT COMMISSIONERS

Mr. PALMER enquired whether the Governor General had appointed the Saint John Pilot Commissioners, as provided by the