

to get it because of the constant defect of the printer.

Hon. Mr. VIDAL, pursuant to previous notice asked :—

1st. Whether it is the intention of the Government to assume the Bay of the River St. Clair at Sarnia as a Dominion Harbor?

2nd. Whether the Government has taken or intends to take any steps to test or to extinguish the claims of those persons who are proprietors under Patents from the Crown of the land covered by the waters of the Bay at Sarnia?

3rd. Whether the Government in the event of the Bay not being assumed as a Dominion Harbor, will submit to Parliament a Bill to vest the Bay in the municipality of the town of Sarnia,—or in Trustees—and conferring powers to determine a uniform limit to which wharves may be extended, and to make such other regulations as may be necessary to preserve the Bay for the use of the Public?

Hon. SCOTT said with regard to the first question he would call the attention of the Department to it, and in reference to the second question no steps had been taken. The third question would be answered by the production of the papers.

Hon. Mr. VIDAL then moved, That an humble address be presented to his Excellency the Governor General, praying that His Excellency, the Governor General, will be pleased to cause to be laid before this House, a Copy of the reports relating to the Bay of the River St. Clair at Sarnia, recently made to the Government by C. E. Michaud, C. E., and Wm. Kingsford, Engineer of Western Harbors, who were sent respectively to survey the Bay and to report upon an alleged encroachment on the rights of the public to the free navigation of its waters.

The motion was adopted.

Several bills from the Commons were read a first time and their second reading fixed for to-morrow.

The House adjourned at 6:15 p.m. until 3 o'clock on Wednesday.

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WEDNESDAY, May 20.

The House met at three o'clock, after routine,

Hon. Mr. PENNY moved the third reading of the bill to amend the Act incorporating the Royal Canadian Insurance Co.—Carried.

#### INSOLVENCY.

Hon. Mr. MILLER moved the second

reading of the Bill to continue the Insolvent Act of 1869. He explained that his object in moving, with regard to this bill, which, strictly speaking, should be left to the Government, was to elicit the opinion of the House, as to the propriety at this late period of the session, of not undertaking to deal with a new Insolvency Act. If the members consented, and the Government did not oppose the Bill, he would regard it as an expression of the opinion of the House that they considered it too late in the session to discuss and pass a new Insolvency Act. Such an important subject should certainly not be discussed and dealt with hastily. He believed it would, under present circumstances, be desirable to continue the present act with its amendments.

Hon. Mr. SCOTT desired that the sense of both Houses should be expressed on this important question. He believed the feeling in this Chamber was, that it would be much better if the Bill the Government had prepared, should be allowed to stand over till next session, so as to allow its discussion by Boards of Trade and the mercantile community. No inconvenience could arise from continuing the existing act in the meantime.

The Bill was read a second time; after some discussion, during which, in answer to Mr. Haviland's representations as to the need of an insolvency law in Prince Edward Island, in place of the one that had expired, Mr. Letellier said in case the new Insolvency Bill was not pressed for in this House at present, there would be a provision in the new bill, already introduced into the Commons, reviving the old law of the Island.

#### SECOND READINGS.

The following Bills, after explanations and in some cases a little discussion, were read a second time, and referred to appropriate Committees.

To Define with greater Certainty the Liability of Carriers by water. Hon. Mr. Scott, said it was similar to the English Bill, and, he was told, embodied the provisions of the Code of Lower Canada on the subject.

To Establish a military college in Canada (similar to West Point in the States.)—Hon. Mr. Letellier.

Nova Scotia Subsidy Explanation Bill.—Hon. Mr. Scott. He said it was to allow Nova Scotia interest on her readjusted debt of \$9,000,000 agreed to instead of the original amount of eight millions, the rearrangement as to this interest being the result of the Bill of last year, charging the