

aware, to throw it over for three or four days. I do not propose to move in the matter now, but I would suggest, if convenient to the First Minister and to the House, that we might name Wednesday of next week for the discussion, and then proceed with it *de die in diem*.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. I have no objection. I quite agree that this is a very important subject, and should be discussed *de die in diem* until the whole matter is disposed of. I have no objection to name Wednesday, which will be a very good day, because Wednesday and Thursday belong to the House and not to the Government; with this reservation, that if the protocols are not ready to be sent down, it will be postponed until the House is in possession of all the papers on the fishery question.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. Do I understand the hon. gentleman to say that he would like to have the discussion postponed if the protocols are not ready?

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. Yes, and on these terms Wednesday would be a very good day.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. Perhaps, then, the First Minister will be able to ascertain to-morrow whether they will be ready or not.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. They will be forwarded to Sir Charles Tupper.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. Otherwise it would be inconvenient to name a day, and then have to adjourn the debate indefinitely.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. It will be known in time.

MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD presented a Message from His Excellency the Governor General.

Mr. SPEAKER read the Message, as follows:—

LANSDOWNE.

The Governor General transmits to the House of Commons, an approved Minute of Council, appointing the Right Honorable Sir John Macdonald, G.C.B., President of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada, the Honorable Sir Hector Langevin, K.O.M.G., Minister of Public Works, the Honorable Sir Charles Tupper, G.C.M.G., Minister of Finance, and the Honorable Mr. Costigan, Minister of Inland Revenue, to act with the Speaker of the House of Commons, as Commissioners for the purposes and under the provisions of the Act, Chapter 13 of the Revised Statutes of Canada, intitled: "An Act respecting the House of Commons."

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

OTTAWA, 28th February, 1888.

FIRST READING.

Bill (No. 3) to protect the owners of certain bottles and other vessels therein mentioned.—(Mr. Denison.)

PRESCOTT AND RUSSELL DISTRICT JUDICIARY.

Mr. LABROSSE asked, Whether it is the intention of the Government to appoint, at an early day, a Judge for the Judicial District of the Counties of Prescott and Russell, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Judge Daniels, which occurred last spring?

Mr. THOMPSON. It is the intention of the Government to make that appointment at an early date.

ELECTORAL LISTS.

Mr. CHOQUETTE asked, What is the total amount paid, up to date, for the preparation, revision, &c., of the voters' lists, since the coming into force of the Electoral Franchise Act; and what is the amount claimed for salaries, disbursements, &c., by revising officers, and not yet paid?

Mr. CHAPLEAU. This question should rather have been made in the form of an address. I may say to the hon. member that in the report which will shortly be published on the expenses and the impressions of these electoral lists, a portion of the information asked for will be found. But the item is a considerable one, and I think the hon. member would do better to give notice for an address. At all events, he will have his answer in a report which will be laid before the House within two or three days.

Mr. CHOQUETTE. I should like to learn from the hon. Minister if the amount of sums claimed and not yet paid will appear in this report?

Mr. CHAPLEAU. Yes.

ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF DORCHESTER.

Mr. AMYOT asked, On what date was the warrant of the Speaker of the House of Commons issued and transmitted to the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery for the election of a member for the electoral district of Dorchester, in the place of the late H. Duchesnay?

Mr. CHAPLEAU. The order of the Speaker was emanated on the 23rd August, and received in the office of the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery the following day.

MONTREAL HARBOR.

Mr. DESJARDINS (for Mr. CURRAN) asked, Is it the intention of the Government during the present Session to take measures to relieve the harbor of Montreal of the charge of interest on the cost of deepening the channel of Lake St. Peter?

Sir HECTOR LANGEVIN. In reply to the hon. member, I may state that this question is under the present consideration of the Government.

INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE.

Mr. CHOQUETTE asked, What is the total amount of the receipts and of the expenditure of the Intercolonial Railway during the last four fiscal years?

Mr. POPE. In 1883-4 the earnings of the road were \$2,353,647.26, and the working expenses, \$2,344,579.09; in 1884-5 the earnings were \$2,368,153.65 and the working expenses, \$2,411,477.91; in 1885-6 the earnings were \$2,383,200.77 and the working expenses, \$2,489,243.61; in 1886-7 the earnings were \$2,596,009.83, and the working expenses, \$2,828,115.58.

COMMISSIONERS ON INDIAN LANDS NEAR CAYUGA.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT asked, 1. At what date Walter Jones and ———Glenroy were appointed Commissioners to value improvements and report on titles to certain Indian lands occupied by squatters in the vicinity of Cayuga? 2. Whether said appointment was made by Order in Council or by the Department of Indian Affairs? 3. Whether a circular was issued by the said Department during the month of October, 1887, to the occupants of said lands, advising them of said appointment and of the duties of the said Commissioners?

Mr. WHITE (Cardwell). In obedience to repeated requests for the settlement of this question Messrs. Walter Jones and Robert Glenny were appointed on the 15th October, 1887, to inspect and value certain Indian lands occupied by squatters in the town lot of Cayuga which had been surveyed by Mr. Decew, P.L.S., in the year 1883. The appointment of these gentlemen was made by the Department of Indian Affairs. A circular was issued by the said department on the 28th October, 1887, to the occu-