

under the notice of the government, and the Minister of Public Works, in order that they may consider the propriety of having a thorough scientific investigation so as, if possible, to arrive at some conclusion as to whether the object which the hon. gentleman has pointed out can be successfully accomplished. These floods occur, not periodically, but occasionally in all parts of the country. I have seen half of the city in which I live, Belleville, flooded almost up to the second story of the houses in certain portions of the town. This occurred after a very severe winter when the rapid melting of a large quantity of snow in the spring, as has been the case this year, caused a sudden break up. The ice was carried to the mouth of the Moira and blocked it up where it enters the Bay of Quinté, making a complete dam and flooding the water back. The only system we found valuable there was to take time by the forelock, and go up the rivers with dynamite and break up the ice before it began to melt. Of course, in the bay it is still water. There is no current, and consequently when the ice comes down rapidly from the back country, it jams up, as I have indicated, and there it lies. The only way we have been able to relieve the lower portion of the town from flood has been in the manner I have indicated. It has been proposed repeatedly that the back lakes should be dammed and the water held back in that way. How far that would overflow and damage property on the banks of these lakes is a question that would have to be considered, and I suppose in the case of the St. Lawrence it would be much more difficult to manage. I will not fail to bring the matter under the notice of my colleagues.

The House was adjourned during pleasure.

At 5.30 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

NEW SENATORS.

The following senators were introduced, and having taken the oath, and signed the roll, took their seats.

HON. THOMAS TEMPLE.

HON. SIR JOHN CARLING.

The Senate then adjourned during pleasure.

At 7.30 P.M., the House was resumed.

THE SUPPLY BILL.

FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD READINGS.

A message was received from the House of Commons with Bill (112) "An Act for granting to Her Majesty certain sums of money required for defraying certain expenses of the public service for the financial years ending respectively the 30th June, 1896, and 30th June, 1897, and for other purposes relating to the public service."

The bill passed through all its stages under a suspension of the Rule.

THE PROROGATION.

At Eight o'clock, P.M., His Excellency the Governor General proceeded in state to the Senate Chamber, in the Parliament Buildings, and took his seat upon the Throne. The members of the Senate being assembled, His Excellency was pleased to command the attendance of the House of Commons, and that House being present, the following Bills were assented to, in Her Majesty's name, by His Excellency the Governor General, viz. :—

An Act to consolidate and amend certain Acts relating to the Nipissing and James Bay Railway Company.

An Act respecting the Guelph Junction Railway Company.

An Act respecting the South Ontario Pacific Railway Company.

An Act respecting the Lake Erie and Detroit River Railway Company.

An Act respecting the St. Lawrence and Adirondack Railway Company.

An Act to confirm a certain lease and agreement between the Grand Trunk Railway Company of Canada and the St. Lawrence and Adirondack Railway Company.

An Act respecting the Nelson and Fort Sheppard Railway Company.

An Act respecting the Brandon and South-Western Railway Company.

An Act respecting the Lindsay, Bobcaygeon and Pontypool Railway Company.

An Act to amend the Act incorporating the Supreme Court of the Independent Order of Foresters.

An Act respecting the St. Lawrence and Ottawa Railway Company.

An Act relating to the Board of Trade of the City of Toronto.

An Act respecting the Huron and Erie Loan and Savings Company.

An Act to incorporate the Queenston Heights Bridge Company.

An Act respecting the Montreal and Ottawa Railway Company.

An Act respecting the Canada and Michigan Bridge and Tunnel Company.