

sible that his previous endorser is genuine. It is so in favour of everybody. It is the general law, and has been the law from time immemorial. Unfortunately, just by a mode of expression that is new in this Act the payee of the cheque is deprived of his recourse against those persons who are undoubtedly liable. The endorser after the forged endorser is liable, and always has been liable. This amendment does not propose to make him any more liable than he was before. It only proposed to give the right of action to the man who is entitled to it—the man who has paid the bill. Surely there is no analogy between that and giving a person or bank that pays the money the right of recovering back the money from the persons who, under the law, are responsible for it? Surely there is no analogy between those two cases. In one it would be an absolute robbery almost—not in the legal acceptance of the term—of the depositor whose money is taken out of his account and paid to fill an order which he never gave; in the other case it is giving to the person who pays a sum of money the right to recover from those who are liable for it—that is the distinction between the two cases. It seems to me a very clear one, and every legal and equitable argument is in favour of passing the Bill as it stands.

HON. MR. VIDAL—Do I understand the hon. gentleman to press his amendment?

HON. MR. POWER—No; only I wish to have the matter understood.

The clause was adopted.

On the seventh clause,—

HON. MR. POWER—In cases where a party goes into insolvency in this country, though we have no bankruptcy law, is there not something to be said in favour of leaving him out?

HON. MR. ABBOTT—There is no official in this country who can be served.

HON. MR. POWER—The assignee in insolvency would not do?

HON. MR. ABBOTT—No.

The clause was adopted.

HON. MR. VIDAL, from the committee, reported the Bill without amendment.

The Senate adjourned at 4.25 p.m.

THE SENATE.

Ottawa, Friday, June 5th, 1891.

THE SPEAKER took the Chair at 3 o'clock.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

Bill (N) "An Act to incorporate the Wiarton Southern Railway Company." (Mr. MacInnes, Burlington).

Bill (M) "An Act to incorporate the Rocky Mountain Railway and Coal Company." (Mr. Lougheed).

CUSTOMS RECEIPTS OF KEEWATIN AND THE MACKENZIE RIVER BASIN.

MOTION.

HON. MR. GIRARD moved:

That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, praying that His Excellency will cause to be laid before this House a statement of all receipts in the unorganized territories of Keewatin and the Mackenzie River Basin on account of revenue under the Customs Act or otherwise, for the last three years, and of the expenditure for public purposes during the same period.

He said: When the question of the development of that distant part of the Dominion, known as the Mackenzie River Basin, was before this House two sessions ago, I understood that the Government had decided to do as little as possible at present for that country. Since then, I am glad to say, in looking at the Estimates that have just been put before us, I find that there is an appropriation of \$3,500 for the preliminary expenses in connection with the Mackenzie River and Peace River Indians. I am certainly very glad of it. It is much more easy to obtain a large sum of money at times from the Government for such purposes than it is to ask for a small sum of money. Nevertheless, we have to provide for the poor people who reside in that territory. They are practically the remnant of the Indians of the North-West. If we continue to force the Indians backward by the advance of civilization it will not be easy to force them much further, because they will necessarily find their limit near the Arctic Sea. It is the duty of the Government to provide for those people. They must be prepared to receive the light of civiliza-