

May 1, 1874

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Friday, May 1, 1874

The **SPEAKER** took the chair at 3 p.m.

Prayers

PETITIONS

Mr. De VEBER presented a petition against the duty on shipbuilding materials.

Mr. ROSS (Durham East) presented one for protection to manufacturers.

A few petitions were presented in favour of a prohibitory liquor law.

Mr. CHARLTON presented a petition from John Marsland and 130 others, farmers and inhabitants of the County of Norfolk, setting forth the desirability of protection to home manufacturers, and the creation thereby of a home market for agricultural produce; also setting forth the illiberal policy of the United States towards the producing classes of Canada, and praying that the same rates of duty be imposed by the Canadian Government upon American products and manufacturers as are imposed by the American Government upon corresponding products and manufacturers of Canada.

* * *

REPORTS BY COMMITTEES

Hon. Mr. FOURNIER presented the second report of the Committee on Railways, Canals, and Telegraph Lines, reporting the Marine Electric Telegraph Company's bill and that of the Lochiel, Hawkesbury and L'Original Junction Railway Company.

Mr. RYMAL presented the seventh report of the Committee on Standing Orders.

* * *

BILLS INTRODUCED

The following bills were introduced and read a first time:—

Mr. PICKARD—To incorporate the Saint John Bridge and Railway Company.

Mr. MacLENNAN—To incorporate the Commercial Travellers' Association of Canada.

Mr. MacLENNAN—To incorporate the Commercial Travellers' Mutual Life Insurance Company of Canada.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland)—To amend an Act for the organization of the Department of Marine and Fisheries of Canada.

THE FISHERIES ACT

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) moved that the House go into Committee of the Whole to consider a resolution declaring it expedient to extend the Fisheries Act, 31 Vic., Cap. 60, to British Columbia and Prince Edward Island. It was desirable to extend the Act to every part of the Dominion. It was not intended that the Act should go into operation until so declared by proclamation of the Governor in Council.

The House went into Committee.

Mr. De COSMOS objected to the Act being extended to British Columbia at this time. The bill, as at present, would be rather prejudicial than otherwise to British Columbia, as its fisheries were but in their infancy, and the operation of the law would be the reverse of favourable. He hoped the Hon. Minister would not now press it.

Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland) said the Act would not go into operation at once. It merely gave power to the Governor in Council to extend the Fisheries Act when he saw fit. The Government would listen to any representations which might be made.

The resolution was adopted and reported, and concurred in, and a Bill founded thereon was introduced and read a first time.

* * *

MONTREAL PORT WARDEN

On the motion of **Hon. Mr. SMITH (Westmorland)**, the House went into Committee on the resolutions regarding the office of Port Warden of Montreal, which having been passed, a bill based on them was introduced. The bill was explained to give the Port Warden power in certain cases to dispense with the lining of vessels.

* * *

DOMINION LANDS ACT AMENDMENT

Hon. Mr. LAIRD moved that the House go into Committee on Tuesday on the following resolution: That it is expedient to amend the Dominion Lands Act, 35 Vic., Cap. 23, and to provide that the Governor in Council may issue scrip redeemable only by its receipt in payment for Dominion lands, and may direct that claims to grants of Dominion lands may be satisfied either in lands or in scrip, and to confirm certain Orders in Council heretofore made authorizing the issue of such scrip in commutation of certain rights of common and of cutting hay, and to amend certain other provisions and supply certain omissions of detail in the said Act, and to authorize the Governor in Council to make a tariff of fees for copies of maps and other documents from the Surveyor General's office.