Agriculture will have no light work in starting the machinery which will be brought into operation by his bill; but he is an excellent practical Department chief, and we have no doubt he will be able to show a good return for the money expended.

BULK SCMS.

"THE tendency on the part of the "Ministers to deal in lump sums without "condescending to particulars, has be-"come chronic. It is an easy way of dis-"posing of a difficulty, and leaves so "much to the caprice and favouritism of "the dispensers of these sums that no "wonder it is in repute with the powers "that be at Ottawa, just as it used to be "in the days of the Patent Combination "at Toronto. The Legislature has no "means of knowing whether the proposed "increase is reasonable or the reverse." Thus saith the Opposition organ. How can the public believe that such an expression of virtuous indignation on the part of that journal is sincere? It talks of Parliamentary responsibility; and it defended the voting away of millions of money on the last day of a session without any slightest detailed knowledge on the part of members of what they were doing. It talks of Parliamentary responsibility; and it sustained Mr. R. W. SCOTT and the Government in selling over 300,000 square miles of timber lands without the consent of the Legislature, in fact, against its declared opinion. It talks of Parliamentary responsibility; and it saw nothing but what was right in the making of a contract involving hundreds of thousands of dollars without the first reference of the matter to Parliament. It talks of Parliamentary responsibility; and it was quite convinced that Mr. PACHE MCKELLAR ought to have the control of $400,000 for drainage purposes, without laying before members any information whatever as to where a single dollar of the money was to be expended.

For ourselves, we have never subscribed to the doctrine which, by way of making a little political capital, the Grits have made part of their shibboleth; and we are entirely debarred from putting faith in their sincerity when we find the Opposition so fully made out of expediency to be openly violated by those who have enunciated it. There is a Ministerial as well as a Parliamentary responsibility; and the former is as fully part of our system of Responsible Government as the latter. So far as the question of official salaries is concerned, public opinion is clearly in favour of such an adjustment as will be in keeping with the increased cost of living and the change in values which has taken place. If we had the power of voting the Dominion Government to do it, they have laid their scheme before Parliament. The full details of an arrangement, affecting the whole Civil Service of the Dominion, cannot be considered in a week or a month. Give it time to be tested before making the adjustments which the disturbance of the present rates of payment will necessarily cause, than be found, are amply paid; others but very inadequately. To attempt to deal with the question without due consideration would simply be to lead to many acts of injustice to individuals and to create a cry for "Reform." We wonder that the question is one with ramifications into every branch of a Service extending throughout the length and breadth of the whole Dominion, including the Inside and Outside Departments, and embracing an annual revenue of $20,000,000, it must be said that the Government are modest enough to expect that they will be able, without them to make the adjustments and increases contemplated by them. Why, it is only little more than the increase in salaries made by the Ontario Government in a single year in the two-thirds-half-penny services of the Province, with a revenue only one-tenth that of the Dominion.

We never want to see our Dominion Affairs so belittled as that the Ministry of the day, unmistakably possessing the confidence of Parliament, should be entrusted with the re-arrangement of official salaries involving an increase of thirty or thirty-five per cent. At the same time it must be remembered that the responsibility of Parliament is not lessened one iota by the existence of Responsible Government. The House of Commons will, next year, be asked to declare whether the Government have wisely or unwisely expended the money. Meanwhile the Government simply say "Before we submit themselves and our "conduct to the judgment of Parliament, "we desire fully to consider a matter in-"volving the payment of many thousands "of public servants. When we have "finally dealt with the intricate question "we will be prepared to abide by the "decision of the people's representa-"tives." Such a course of conduct is virtually more responsible than that of MR. BLAKE in reference to those famous railway Orders in Council, which he forced a unwilling House to pass in ignorant of their contents, to swallow at a dose. There is neither parliamentary nor legislative responsibility in such conduct as this. There is both in the careful method of procedure adopted by the Dominion Government. *Festina Lente* is very often a wholesome rule of action. In this case it will unquestionably prove to be a saving, rather than a loss, to the Treasury; and that is the kind of responsibility which satisfies the people best.

CURRENT TOPICS.

MARSHAL BAZAINE.—The long detention of Marshal Bazaine without bringing him to trial has occasioned no surprise among us, but it has occasioned apprehension that his defence might be inconvenient in some quarters. The Marshal is indeed spoken of as a great soldiers who fell victim to French Government, which does not exactly know what to do with him. He is meanwhile comfortable and confident, as appears from an interview sought with him by a correspondent of the *Times*. The correspondent found the Marshal in plain but comfortably furnished apartment. His bed-room is only a lofty, scarcely good room, with a table, piano, a mahogany bedstead, and a few chairs. Beyond his bed-room and the dressing-room is a small dining-room. The study in which the Marshal writes is rather better furnished, but the carpet is somewhat ragged. In the conversation that ensued between the two, many subjects familiar to the world in connection with Bazaine's career in Mexico and during the late war in Mexico were touched on, and Bazaine's account at the stories of treason alleged against him, as told by the correspondent, and declared over and over that those judgments attributed to him in connection with his campaign and his surrender of Metz. He stated that while in that city with 90,000 fighting men out of the 170,000 he had rationed with him, he was in hopes of a defeated Germany in which the 250,000 German besiegers would be sufficiently weakened to enable him to escape with his cavalry, and reach Mezieres, to throw his forces briskly into Alsace, and thence through the Vosges into Lorraine. He stated that the Prussians found at Metz, when that city was surrendered, one day's supply of Bazaine's rations at 200 grammes. He laughed at the charge that he had sold Marshal Frederick Charles before the surrender, and stated that on the occasion referred to he had merely taken a little broth which had overcooked. In regard to Mexico and the Emperor Maximilian, he said that he had never vainly tried to induce the latter to leave the country, and that he had returned to France with Maximilian's son. He expressed himself as signed to everything.

TRUTH VERSUS FICTION.—Sensation novelists are frequently accused of colouring the incidents of daily life, but after all things do happen which are as horrible as any thing in the dreams of fiction. Let the writer were to narrate how, upon the narrow platform of a locomotive, a dispute, a quarrel, a deadly struggle and a ghastly murder followed swift upon each other, the reader would pronounce that the narrative far-fetched and overstrained. Yet such a tragedy is described by the London papers as having taken place a few days ago on the Limerick and Cork Railway. A goods train, starting from Limerick at night, passed Charleville, and then stopped. The astonished guard jumped from his box and ran up to the engine, but, when he arrived, neither fireman nor driver was visible. The light of his lamp, however, revealed traces of blood and hair. He at once searched the line on the track track, and thus discovered first the driver's hat, and then him dead body lying on the sleepers. Taking the train on to Buttevant he reported the facts to the police, who set on foot a search after the missing fireman. They found him the next morning in a cabin not far from the railway, and got possession of his clothes, which were stained with evidence of guilt. It is reported that he recognized the death of his comrade to a sudden quarrel caused by the driver's violence towards him. Justice may find out the facts but, however the final strife arose, the incident is one that focuses upon the imagination, and must take its place among the most remarkable class of crimes. Here, on an engine speeding along the darkness, two men suddenly fall into deadly feud, and one, quickly murdered, is cast forth upon the rails, while the other, stopping the train, flies for his life. It is a fearful example of crime brought about by a uncontrolled temper, which gratifies its fury regardless of all consequences.

CANADIAN LIGHTHOUSES.—It is a coincidence that while the public is still interested in the *Atlantic* steamship disaster, an English parliamentary report is published, containing valuable testimony respecting Canadian lighthouses. The report is by a committee sent by the Trinity House to Canada and the United States to examine the lighthouse systems of the two countries. The committee say:—"The Canadian lights we saw at various times were well kept, and we are told there are few exceptions to this, though they sometimes 'get a little dim towards morning,' according to one of the pilots of the St. Lawrence river-boats. There are but few exceptions to the catoptric system, and there is consequently little liability to error in fixing or exhibiting the lights. The Canadian authorities are rapidly increasing the number of their lights, and in the course of a few years they will have supplied a great extent of sea, river and lake shores with them, if they progress with the commendable zeal which characterizes them at present." The report says that the committee were struck with the simplicity and economy of the Canadian system, and, adverting to the fact that the administrative and executive duties of the system rest entirely with the Minister of Marine and his officers, pay a high compliment to him and his deputy. They deem it but just to say that the Minister of Marine in Canada, and his energetic deputy, Mr. W. Smith, with but very little technical assistance, have done valuable service to the navigation of the Dominion and have produced results leaving little to be required.

NEW BOOKS.

KENELM CHILLINGLY. His Adventures and Misfortunes. By Edward Bulwer, Lord Lytton. Canadian Copyright Edition. Toronto: Hunter, Rose & Company.

Great expectations had been formed of this book, not only from the numerous rumours as to its peculiar design and great ability, but from the circumstance that its author had written his last work and laid down his pen for ever. In many respects *Kenelm Chillingly* is a worthy addition to the collection of masterpieces of literature upon which the fame of their creator will depend. On the other hand, we find what seems reflections of opinions formerly expressed, and phases of character with which he had made us familiar. Still it is impossible not to feel that the book possesses much charm, and that it will be accepted with delight wherever the English language is spoken.

Lord Lytton is described upon the title page of *Kenelm Chillingly* as the author of *The Caxtons*. Whether or not in this designating himself he wished the new book to be regarded as a continuation or companion of the class of novels to which the latter, *My Novel*, and *What will he do with it?* belong, it clearly takes its place in that category. As in those he undertook to give us the philosophy of modern social life, so in this present work it traces the character, opinions and actions of a young man by whose means he illustrates that philosophy. The hero, who is as Hamlet to Shakespeare's play, feels all the mental disquietude and perturbation of this restless and hollow age, and his whole life is an effort to solve the problem of life, and of the relation of his own being towards that by which he is surrounded. His interpretations of the spirit of the age are not over cheerful, but while he does not become a misanthrope, for his intellect is too acute for such a condition as that, he does arrive at many disparaging conclusions and condemns much of what the world is constrained to estimate as progress. The story opens pleasantly, and we are at once attracted. In the words of one of the most intelligent English reviewers:

"We shake hands with Sir Peter Chillingly, baronet, the owner of Exmuntham, and of a wife Madelaine, who seems to satisfy a husband's pride, but not so handsome as to keep perpetually on the qui vive of husband's jealousy. Sir Peter had also a house in town, and lived there three months in the year. 'Lady Chillingly and himself were both very glad to go to town, being bored at Exmuntham; and very glad to go back to Exmuntham, being bored in town. The Chillingly had been gentlemen on the same estate for ten centuries, and it was a great grief to Sir Peter and his wife that their marriage was childless. However, after five-and-twenty years their hearts were gladdened by the appearance of our hero, greatly to the disgust of an heir-at-law, who reckoned confidently on Sir Peter's acres, and had even gone so far as to dispute the baronetcy should it fell number. Sir Peter was a man with a good deal of book-learning in him (he wrote E. B. and other letters after his name), was fond of metaphysical speculations, and had not in his youth been without the desire of making a figure in the world. But he had been oppressed by the thought that no Chillingly ever had made a figure in the world, cannot be said it was in vain for him to strive against the destinies of his race. No, he was happy-pressed, and his marriage was happy. 'Lady Chillingly had her way in small things; Sir Peter has very little small things happen every day; great things once in three years.' The child born into this well-regulated household was christened 'Kenelm, after Sir Kenelm Digby. The name is Sir Peter observed as they were carried with it very crotchety associations and crotchety enough in all conscience th, for Kenelm Digby, though a man of very old lineage and gentle birth, was not entirely the model of a Chillingly. Lady Chillingly had her own pure and ardent spirit and of the teaching he received caused him to lapse into a tranquil indifferentism, and to regard mere's ambitions and opinions as so many shams. In particular, the passion of love seemed to be entirely eliminated from his nature. It seemed to him to be a saving, rather than a loss, to the reason and an ignominious surrender of the equanimity of thought. A book in praise of celibacy, entitled 'The Angels and the Angels,' and written by a celebrated Oxford scholar called Dunstan Roach, had greatly affected him, and his mind was full of all manner of impossible doctrines of faith and practice. At his command Roach appears he made a speech, in which he proved to an assembly of amazed and disgusted tenantfarmers of the old school that it was the duty of every landlord to let his land to the highest bidder, the man who had the largest capital and could give the largest rent. Having made this unequivoke *debut*, Kenelm set out upon his wanderings, disguised as a gipsy-dealer in crockeryware, a coarse coat and a Belcher handkerchief, and leaving behind him the new portmanteaus, the cornrier, and the other preparations which Sir Peter had made for his son's grand tour.

The adventures through which he passes in this way occupy the greater portion of the book. They are somewhat improbable must be confessed, but they are certainly striking and extremely interesting. In their course, we are introduced to society of varied types, and the numerous characters are drawn with a boldness and vigour which gives the impression of beauty, strength and accuracy. We shall not sketch the story in its close, since the reading of it will be sufficiently curious to obtain the volume. As a romance it is picturesque and vivid. The diction is pure, easy and forcible, and its arguments and ideas compel attention, however did we that those judgments are false. As a whole, *Kenelm Chillingly* is a work of high literary merit. It contains much of real literary genius. That it excites very diverse criticisms is in one sense a proof of its value. It is sure to be discussed. Its publishers, Rose & Co., have laid the Canadian public under an obligation by producing the handsome copyright reprint before us.

SMITH'S FAMILY PHYSICIAN. Montreal: John Lovell.

Mr. Smith is well known as the author of "Canada, Past, Present and Future," which will be a sufficiently good guarantee of the literary excellence of the work before us. It comprises a thorough investigation of the nature, causes, symptoms and treatment of diseases, with instructions for nursing the sick; a list of poisons, animal, vegetable and mineral, with symptoms of poisoning, and the best remedies and treatment; copious tables of prescriptions; explanations of scientific terms; and the author's treatment of his subject is, we are assured, verified by many years' experience. Though, as is confessed in the preface, a little knowledge is a dangerous thing, a handbook of domestic medicines is in its place on the shelves of the library or the mantelpiece of the bedroom. Besides its usefulness in small and unimportant ailments, it is in more serious cases a great satisfaction to the sufferer to have a more definite idea of the disease he is suffering from than medical men are apt to impart. We believe such a book is more likely to encourage "tending, for the doctor" than to induce a hasty and penny-wise home treatment of dangerous cases without recourse to medical advice. The book is written in a style within the comprehension of general readers, and paterfamilias will find it a good companion in a household of women and children.

THE STORY OF THE EARTH AND MAN. By J. W. Dawson, LL.D., F.R.S., Toronto: Copp, Clark & Co.

A learned and clever attempt to defeat materialistic infidelity. The author undertakes to prove that there is no occasion to rob nature of the spiritual element and its presiding deity; a tendency that now-a-days rude natural science of its educational value and practical results. The work of "Archaia" is at home in geological researches, which he holds to be consistent with a man from reason reading the pages of the papers constituting the work have before appeared in the *Leisure Hour*. The book is elegant bound, and printed with the clearness and accuracy that characterize all the publications of the firm.

MEMOIRS OF A BROTHER. By Thomas Hughes, author of Tom Brown's School Days. Boston: Osgood & Co.; Toronto, Adam, Stevenson & Co.

The biography of a gentle, strong, brave man, written in the author's best style. Glimpses at Rugby, a peep at Oxford life, some wanderings in the sunny South interspersed with letters and sketches of the same old healthful tone. The book will be a favourite alike with parents and children.

READY-MONEY MORTIBOY. A story, by the author of "My Little Girl," &c., &c. London: King & Co. Toronto: Adam, Stevens & Co.

No bad novels are published in this series, of which Ready-money Mortiboy is the hero. Robin Gray, Kitty, Hirell, and One of Two being the others as yet published. Well printed on paper, handsomely bound, with a Frontispiece.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

(Continued from Fourth Page.)

Hon. Mr. Mitchell moved the House into Committee of the Whole to consider a resolution providing for the appointment of Commissioners for the harbour of Pictou, in the Province of Nova Scotia—Mr. Campbell in the chair.

The resolution was adopted, reported, and read a first and second time.

Hon. Mr. Mitchell then introduced a bill founded on the resolution, which was read a first time.

Mr. Costigan attended in his place and submitted a sworn statement of his reason for absenting himself from the meeting of the Kent, N.B., Election Committee yesterday. He said he absented himself because his present counsel was committed him to what he believed to be an illegal procedure, namely, taking evidence affecting the seventh attached to the petition. He, as the nominee of the petitioner, had taken the only step possible to get an opinion of the House on the matter.

Mr. Mackay, as Chairman of the Committee, felt it to be his duty to make a few remarks. He contended that before absenting himself from the meeting of the Committee the hon. gentleman ought to have asked the permission of the House. He also contended that it was not in the province of the House to take into consideration the action of the Select Committee unless the Committee had made a definite report in connection with the matter. He further contended that the Committee had a right to decide on all these questions itself. He cited a number of cases in corroboration of his argument, and contended that the Committee had acted legally.

Mr. J. Hillyard Cameron said the House was all bound to assist the hon. gentleman for his non-attendance, but they could not enter into a discussion upon the merits of the case. He related the circumstances of a somewhat similar case in England in support of his argument.

Mr. Blake fully concurred in the remarks of the member for Cardwell (Mr. Cameron), but would go further and convey to the hon. gentleman an expression of the House that a similar course would not be accepted again.

Sir John Macdonald said the Committee was a tribunal specially appointed to try certain cases, and the House could not interfere, directly or indirectly, except in particular instances provided by the statute. The hon. gentleman had withdrawn from the Committee with the idea that the House would set him right, and his excuse ought to be accepted. He, however, hoped that his hon. friend would attend the Committee in future. He doubted whether the House could even make the expression of opinion suggested by the member for South Bruce (Mr. Blake).

Mr. Blake thought the House was competent to make a declaration that the House had not entertain the subject.

Mr. Dorion, as a member of the Committee, was perfectly satisfied that the hon. gentleman intended no disrespect and that he would attend the Committee in future. He hoped that the Committee would be allowed to settle the question without the interference of this House.

Mr. Blake objected to this mode of declaring that a general Court of Appeal should be established.

Mr. Cauchon thought this clause had better be omitted.

Mr. Marcoux opposed the duty of trying election cases being imposed on the general Court of Appeal.

Mr. Glass said the clause did not make the establishment of a Court of Appeal imperative.

Mr. Joly criticised the provisions of section seven, by which the Governor-General, in case the Lieutenant-Governor of each Province did not require the Provincial Judges to try these cases, might appoint a Court of from three to five barristers of five years standing, to try them.

Sir John Macdonald reminded his hon. friend that they were on the fifth clause and not the seventh.

Mr. Joly could not have made his argument complete without referring to sections five, six and seven. He objected to the trial of election cases by any Judges other than those of the superior or higher courts of the land.

Sir John Macdonald said the matter was one of very great importance, and his desire was to make the bill a good one. He would ask the House to allow the fifth clause to stand for the present.

Mr. Joly urged that for the same reasons the sixth and seventh clauses should be allowed to stand.

Mr. Wood quoted from the British North America Act as to the appointment of Judges of the Superior Courts of Canada, and argued that if the bill should be passed in its present shape it would establish a Supreme Court, and the Governor-General could, by commission, appoint Judges of the Superior Court Judges to try election cases. He would ask Sir John Macdonald said that with reference to the clause which gave the appointment of the Supreme Court, he desired that the Judges of the Superior Court in the several Provinces should try controverted election cases as they were in some of the Provinces then doing. He was so strong on the point that he would consider it fatal to the bill if the clause were so amended as to throw upon the Judges of any of the Superior Courts in any Province the trial of controverted election cases, unless with the consent of the Lieut.-Governors of the different Provinces, who were responsible for the administration of justice, and who should say whether their Judges could be spared for the trial of these cases. He thought that Lieut.-Governors would give their assent; but unless they could say that their Judges could be spared, without disturbing the administration of justice, they ought not to be called upon to try election cases.

Mr. Smith, of Westmoreland, hoped that the Minister of Justice would concur in the second reading of the bill, seven providing for the appointment of barristers to be Judges for the purposes of the Act.

Mr. J. H. Cameron said he would have preferred that the Minister of Justice should have brought down a bill establishing the Supreme Court, instead of one on the Election Bill, because as his hon. friend from Westmoreland had said the Judges to try the cases should be of the very highest Court.

Mr. Blake took strong objection to these Act. No hon. gentleman would deny that they had by various means imposed duties on the Supreme Court Judges, and ordered them to do so and so; and why should they not do the same with the Superior Court Judges? He would say the jurisdiction of the House to impose duties upon and control the Judges of the same by any person in the country. It would be unconstitutional in the extreme for parliament to impose duties on Supreme Court Judges to perform any duties at all.

Sir John Macdonald said it was well known that the Judges did complain of overwork, and not in Ontario only, but he had heard complaints from the vinces, and the complaints from Nova Scotia were frequent. He had in his possession official documents which showed that his case was so delayed, not from want on the part of the Judges, but from the amount of work on hand that practically there was a failure of justice.

Mr. Thomas Fergusson made the remarks of the previous speakers, that they would be acting unconstitutionally if they imposed the duties on the Governors for their assent to the Judges acting in controverted election cases. He was thoroughly with the Judges, he could not see why they should not be able to perform the additional duties, as the cases in which they would only arise at certain times.

Mr. Blake would be glad to see a general Court of Appeal appointed, so that Judges not mixed up in provincial politics might perform the duties.

Mr. Wilkes did not think there would be much increase of work imposed on the Judges by the Act.

The sixth section was then passed.

Sections seven, eight and nine were allowed to stand over.

In clause thirty-eight, Mr. Joly contended that Judges ought to be examined.

Mr. Blake said that was the law in the Province of Ontario, and there was besides a provision in that Province for a preliminary examination.

The clause was carried.

The remaining eighteen clauses were rapidly passed through, and most of them were adopted, though some were allowed to stand over.

Progress was then reported.

The House adjourned at 12.50.

SATURDAY, April 26.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Mr. Wood, who spoke in a most inaudible voice, almost inaudible in the gallery, was understood to say that he had permission, in justice to himself, to call the attention of the House to a gross misstatement which had appeared in the *Globe* and in the question appeared in an article in *The Mail* newspaper of the 25th inst. The first paragraph in the article was to the effect that he was not called upon to act on such representations without enquiry, but instituted full enquiry, and referred to the elaborate plans and charts in his department; and after an examination of the subject he was not enabled to decide whether in the interests of the trade and navigation of the country a lighthouse was necessary.

Mr. Jones did not think any blame could attach to the Government in this matter. The best information had been obtained from persons conversant with the trade and navigation, and he did not think any general survey was necessary.

Mr. Young, of Montreal, testified to what had already been done in lighting up the coasts, but as much more had still to be done he thought a thorough and complete investigation and survey would be a very great advantage.

Hon. Mr. Mitchell said Mr. Mackenzie had taken his usual course of finding fault with everything the Government proposed to do. Referring to the suggestion that a general survey was necessary, he spoke of the report and survey made in 1855. Again, in 1866, another examination was made. On the Government coming in, it was reported that a lighthouse on Bird Rocks would cost $10,000, and this estimate was the same on the latter occasion. Nothing had resulted from these enquiries but the adoption of the scheme of placing buoys instead of stone lighthouses; but he (Mr. Mitchell) had suggested that the latter would be more effective and far more economical system, so that the service had been doubled in the course of a few days. A light had been placed on Bird Rocks in four months at a cost of $11,000, instead of the large estimate. He was required to do a great deal, also, that a lighthouse at Cape Ray would cost $50,000, whereas it had been found it could do for $11,000, and a fog signal for about $9,000. He appealed to the record of the last four years, and contended that the members from the Lower Provinces and from the constituencies on the Lakes, could say whether one single representation as to the wants of the coast had been neglected. He had taken the course of not most effective. The Canadian plan had attracted so much attention in Europe that Engineers had been sent from the commissioner last year to enquire into the matter. He quoted from the report of Sir Frederick Arrow, the Commissioner, to the effect that the system adopted was admirably adapted for the wants of the country. The London *Times* had devoted a long article to the subject. He had received from Sir F. Arrow's report as to the lowlights of Canada, which he termed good and effective, comparing it favourably with the system in operation in the States. He argued that his Department was in possession of the fullest and most detailed charts and information, and that there was no necessity for any further survey. He was in hopes that the House would think that either his Department or the Government had been careful.

Mr. Tremblay spoke of the good effects produced by the lighthouse system on the north shore of the St. Lawrence, and stated that many accidents in the St. Lawrence would have been avoided if there had gone to sea by the northern channel.

Mr. Wilkes objected that the Minister ought to have presented a comprehensive scheme of the works that should be undertaken.

The item then passed:

The following items were passed:

Salaries and allowances and maintenance of Lighthouse Keepers, and attendants 134,617 50

Oil—93,000 gallons, Petroleum 20,770 00

Maintenance, ordinary and extraordinary repairs of Lighthouses, Lights, Buoys, Fog Whistles, Buoys and Beacons, Signal Stations, &c. 177,200 00

Steamer Egeria, maintenance and repairs 8,864 00

Schooner for the delivery of coal and other supplies to Lighthouses and Steam Fog Whistles 8,000 00

$349,451 50

The item of $7,995 for Trinity House, Quebec, passed without discussion.

The item of $5,000 for the Montreal Trinity House was passed.

The following items were also passed:—

Steamer Druid, for service at Sorel, Port-Joli, Pro-Sable and Seal Islands Humane Establishment 8,000 00

Crew, Sable Island 21,000 00

Mr. Cascgrain suggested that some provision should be made for the relief of the crew of the Druid. He had called attention to one of these cases in which insufficient relief was afforded.

Hon. Mr. Mitchell said he would be happy to consider the case in the supplementary estimates.

The following items under the heading of Contingencies, was then taken up:—Amount paid Commissioners, Lake of the Woods, Disbursements of Fishery Overseers and Wardens $7,400 00

Quebec 8,000 00

Nova Scotia 9,755 00

New Brunswick 7,080 00

Maintenance and repairs of *La Canadienne* 9,000 00

Fish-breeding, Fishways and Oyster Beds 10,000 00

The items passed, and the Committee rose and reported.

Hon. Mr. Pope moved the third reading of the Act to provide for the registration of Patents of Lands from the Crown for the collection and publication of statistics.

On a call for explanations, some discussion ensued, which was ultimately the case postponed.

Mr. Mackenzie asked what the Government would do as to the Insolvency Act; suggesting a continuance of the Act for one year.

Sir John Macdonald said he should call a meeting of the Committee on Expiring Laws and should propose a continuance, the expediency of reopening in favour of the continuance of the Insolvency Act. If they so reported, and the report was adopted by Parliament, the Government would accept it as evidence of the fact that Parliament approved of the principle of an Insolvent Law, and it would be their endeavour to frame as perfect a measure as possible, which they would submit next session for the consideration of Parliament.

The House then adjourned at 6 p.m.

MONDAY, April 28.

SENATE.

After routine,

Hon. Mr. Campbell moved the second reading of the bill to provide for the examination of witnesses on oath before Committees of Parliament.

Hon. Mr. Dickey contended that the bill was beyond the power of the House to pass.

Hon. Mr. Letellier De St. Just thought the bill was in the right direction, strictly constitutional the Hon. Postmaster-General would not have taken charge of it. He argued at considerable length in refutation of the theory of the Hon. Mr. Dickey, contending that the House had the authority to pass the bill. He pointed out that there was no effect to be gained by refusing to pass the bill; and that such a course would have no utility whatever. He spoke of the reasons which had induced the House of Commons to pass the bill, and thought this House ought to be guided by the same feelings.

Hon. Mr. Burns thought there could not be the slightest doubt of the power of the House to pass this bill. He read an able argument.

Hon. Mr. Carvall argued very lengthily to the same effect as the hon. gentleman who had convinced him that the passage of the bill would be a violation of the letter of the constitution. The latter was an organic act, and, and could not be made to undergo a change.

Hon. Mr. Wilmot said he was not by any means convinced by the arguments of the hon. gentlemen who had spoken against the bill. He recalled to the mind of the hon. gentleman who had led the opposition the circumstances to the fact, that when an Act still more in violation of the British North America Act to give immediate facilities to Nova Scotia was before the House, he did not raise any such objection. He was of opinion that the House would place itself in a very anomalous position if it opposed the unanimous opinion of the House of Commons on a trivial literal reading of the British North America Act, which was decidedly opposed to the principle of Responsible Government.

Hon. Mr. McFarlane and Hon. Mr. Dickey spoke forcibly in favour of the view taken by the hon. member from Amherst.

Hon. Mr. Campbell thought there being a doubt in this matter, eminent opinions having been given on both sides, it would be well to err on the side of allowing that power rather than to circumscribe one privilege to the letter of the law.

After some further remarks, the bill was read a second time, passed through Committee, and ordered for a third reading to-morrow.

The House then adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

After routine,

The bill to extend the power of the Montreal Telegraph Company and for other purposes was read a second time, and the House went into Committee upon it.

Mr. Tobin read a memorial which had been placed in his hands on behalf of the Western Union Telegraph Company, which felt that their rights and privileges would be interfered with by the powers proposed to be given to the Montreal Telegraph Company.

Sir Francis Hincks said the memorial had been communicated to the Committee on Railways and Telegraphs. The bill was opposed there in the interests of the Western Union Telegraph Company, and after a long discussion the Committee were unanimously of the opinion that the bill should stand, instead of the haphazard plan suggested by the last speaker.

Mr. Holton agreed with Mr. Mackenzie that some amendment should be adopted, instead of the haphazard plan suggested by the last speaker.

Mr. Tupper said there was no doubt that such expenditure should not be incurred while the Company was failing to comply with the conditions. Nothing had resulted from these enquiries but the adoption of the scheme of placing buoys instead of stone lighthouses; but he (Mr. Mitchell) had suggested that the latter would be more effective and far more economical system, so that the service had been doubled in the course of a few days. A light had been placed on Bird Rocks in four months at a cost of $11,000, instead of the large estimate. He was required to do a great deal, also, that a lighthouse at Cape Ray would cost $50,000, whereas it had been found it could do for $11,000, and a fog signal for about $9,000. He appealed to the record of the last four years, and contended that the members from the Lower Provinces and from the constituencies on the Lakes, could say whether one single representation as to the wants of the coast had been neglected. He had taken the course of not most effective. The Canadian plan had attracted so much attention in Europe that Engineers had been sent from the commissioner last year to enquire into the matter. He quoted from the report of Sir Frederick Arrow, the Commissioner, to the effect that the system adopted was admirably adapted for the wants of the country. The London *Times* had devoted a long article to the subject. He had received from Sir F. Arrow's report as to the lowlights of Canada, which he termed good and effective, comparing it favourably with the system in operation in the States. He argued that his Department was in possession of the fullest and most detailed charts and information, and that there was no necessity for any further survey. He was in hopes that the House would think that either his Department or the Government had been careful.

Mr. Tremblay spoke of the good effects produced by the lighthouse system on the north shore of the St. Lawrence, and stated that many accidents in the St. Lawrence would have been avoided if there had gone to sea by the northern channel.

Mr. Wilkes objected that the Minister ought to have presented a comprehensive scheme of the works that should be undertaken.

The item then passed:

The following items passed.

Salaries and allowances and maintenance of Lighthouse Keepers, and attendants 134,617 50

Oil—93,000 gallons, Petroleum 20,770 00

Maintenance, ordinary and extraordinary repairs of Lighthouses, Lights, Buoys, Fog Whistles, Buoys and Beacons, Signal Stations, &c. 177,200 00

Steamer Egeria, maintenance and repairs 8,864 00

Schooner for the delivery of coal and other supplies to Lighthouses and Steam Fog Whistles 8,000 00

$349,451 50

The item of $7,995 for Trinity House, Quebec, passed without discussion.

The item of $5,000 for the Montreal Trinity House was passed.

The following items were also passed:—

Steamer Druid, for service at Sorel, Port-Joli, Pro-Sable and Seal Islands Humane Establishment 8,000 00

Crew, Sable Island 21,000 00

Mr. Cascgrain suggested that some provision should be made for the relief of the crew of the Druid. He had called attention to one of these cases in which insufficient relief was afforded.

Hon. Mr. Mitchell said he would be happy to consider the case in the supplementary estimates.

The following items under the heading of Contingencies, was then taken up:—Amount paid Commissioners, Lake of the Woods, Disbursements of Fishery Overseers and Wardens $7,400 00

Quebec 8,000 00

Nova Scotia 9,755 00

New Brunswick 7,080 00

Maintenance and repairs of *La Canadienne* 9,000 00

Fish-breeding, Fishways and Oyster Beds 10,000 00

The items passed, and the Committee rose and reported.

Hon. Mr. Pope moved the third reading of the Act to provide for the registration of Patents of Lands from the Crown for the collection and publication of statistics.

On a call for explanations, some discussion ensued, which was ultimately the case postponed.

Mr. Mackenzie asked what the Government would do as to the Insolvency Act; suggesting a continuance of the Act for one year.

Sir John Macdonald said he should call a meeting of the Committee on Expiring Laws and should propose a continuance, the expediency of reopening in favour of the continuance of the Insolvency Act. If they so reported, and the report was adopted by Parliament, the Government would accept it as evidence of the fact that Parliament approved of the principle of an Insolvent Law, and it would be their endeavour to frame as perfect a measure as possible, which they would submit next session for the consideration of Parliament.

The House then adjourned at 6 p.m.

MONDAY, April 28.

SENATE.

After routine,

Hon. Mr. Simpson presented the 5th Report of the Printing Committee, which recommended that the rates of charges for the work done by the Parliamentary Printer be advanced to 30c. per thousand "ems," 25c. per bolum, and 50c. per hour for corrections; these rates to take effect for the years 1871, 1872, 1873 and 1874. The report was adopted.

Hon. Mr. Mitchell moved the House into Committee of the Whole on a resolution to amend the Act 31 Vic., cap. 39, respecting Pilots.

Mr. Killam moved the House into Committee of the Whole on a resolution respecting the transfer to a Company of the Province of New Brunswick (Mr. Wood) had declared this to be a foul murder, and he claimed that under the circumstances connected with it, there was great want of judgment on the part of the Government in allowing the murderers from the Lower Provinces and from the constituencies on the Lakes, to decide whether one single representation as to the wants of the coast had been neglected. He had taken the course of not most effective. The Canadian plan had attracted so much attention in Europe that Engineers had been sent from the commissioner last year to enquire into the matter. He quoted from the report of Sir Frederick Arrow, the Commissioner, to the effect that the system adopted was admirably adapted for the wants of the country. The London *Times* had devoted a long article to the subject. He had received from Sir F. Arrow's report as to the lowlights of Canada, which he termed good and effective, comparing it favourably with the system in operation in the States. He argued that his Department was in possession of the fullest and most detailed charts and information, and that there was no necessity for any further survey. He was in hopes that the House would think that either his Department or the Government had been careful.

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