

much larger returns from the soil, and give a broader basis and increased strength to the business of the whole country. The agricultural interest, which he did not desire unduly to protect or pamper, was the foundation of all the rest, and if it could be advanced by judicious encouragement in the shape of loans for improvements and better cultivation, the country, as a whole, would prove a very large gainer.

After some discussion, in which Hon. Messrs. Dickey and Allan criticised some of the provisions of the bill or scheme, as of an extraordinary and visionary character, likely to lead to losses and disappointments hereafter,

Hon. Mr. BUREAU admitted there was room for much improvement, which he was willing to assist in securing.

The bill was read a second time, and on the suggestion of Hon. Messrs. Ferrier and Dickey, referred to the Banking Committee.

Hon. Mr. BUREAU then moved the second reading of the bill to amend that respecting Le Credit Foncier du Bas Canada, seconded by Hon. Mr. Penny.—Carried.

On motion of Hon. Mr. SCOTT, the House adjourned at five o'clock.

FRIDAY, May 1, 1874.

The House met at 3 o'clock.

LIBEL BILL.

Hon. Mr. KAULBACH presented the report of the Select Committee, to whom was referred the bill respecting the crime of libel, setting forth that several amendments had been made. Before the chairman had completed the reading of the usual announcement in such cases,

Hon. Mr. MILLER rose to a point of order. He said he wanted the enforcement of the rule applicable under such circumstances. The 94th said: When the chairman of a Select Committee presents a report to the Senate, the other members of the Committee shall stand up. (Laughter.)

Hon. Mr. KAULBACH, apparently thinking the point was raised in jest, continued his reading of the notice, when

Hon. Mr. MILLER pressed his objection, amid laughter, when the other members of the committee rose and remained standing till the Clerk had read the formal report presented.

Hon. Mr. MILLER then said the bill was an important one, and as the amendments were numerous, and some of them very

material, he suggested the consideration of the report be not taken up before Monday or Tuesday.

Hon. Mr. AIKINS, concurring, said in the meantime the amendments could be printed.

Hon. Mr. BOTSFORD suggested that the report should be considered in Committee of the Whole when members had time to consider the amendments.

Hon. Mr. KAULBACH would have preferred the immediate consideration of the report, but, in deference to the House, he would move that the Bill, as amended, be referred to Committee of the Whole on Monday next.—Carried.

LIGHT HOUSES.

Hon. Mr. DEVER said in placing this notice for to-day, he simply did so as the speediest mode of bringing the matter before the proper head of the Department as well as before the Government as a whole. His attention to the want of this light house was brought by parties well acquainted with the value of such a structure to a large class of fine men who are engaged in the daily, and he might say nightly, toil of earning their bread navigating the various crafts indicated in the notice, as well as by a large number of merchants, whose property is constantly being moved about by those men. He would further say he had no private ends to serve, and would ask that the Government may consult with other members and gentlemen from St. John to see that the work will be of great utility and value, and cost very little. With these remarks he would ask whether it is the intention of the present Administration to erect one of those efficient light houses [similar to those erected by the late Government of the Dominion at several points along the River St. John) on the Western point of Navy Island, in the harbor of St. John, to assist parties engaged in the navigation of timber rafts, scows, wood boats, and other craft, through that dangerous passage known as Below the Falls, at St. John, New Brunswick?

Hon. Mr. SCOTT said he was not aware that the necessity of a lighthouse at that point had ever been brought under the attention of the Government. On enquiry he found it was not intended to erect a lighthouse at the place indicated.

Hon. Mr. WILMOT said the cost of those structures was very small. A light house could be erected for \$160 on the River St. John, while the cost of maintenance would be about \$80 a year. A lighthouse at this point would be very useful,