

Bill provides for the reduction of inspection fees—he only asks that if the fishermen of Charlotte should prefer it, they might export their fish without having them stamped and inspected. If the law remains as it is, the fishermen can export their fish without being subjected to inspection, but the Government propose that, by a mere Order in Council, the county of Charlotte may be organized into an inspection district, and then it will be compulsory upon all the fishermen of that county to have their fish inspected, and that is what the amendment proposes to avoid.

Amendment (Mr. Gillmor) negatived on the following division:—

YEAS:

Messieurs

Anglin,	Gillies,	Pickard,
Bain,	Gillmor,	Rinfret,
Béchar, d,	Gunn,	Robertson (Shelburne),
Blake,	Guthrie,	Rogers,
Bord ^{er} ,	Haddow,	Ross (Middlesex),
Bourassa,	Holton,	Rymal,
Burpee (St. John),	Huntington,	Scriven,
Burpee (Sunbury)	King,	Skinner,
Cartwright,	Laurier,	Smith,
Charl ^{on} ,	MacDonnell (Inverness),	Thompson,
Coupal,	Malouin,	Trow,
Dumont,	Mills,	Weldon,
Fleming,	Olivier,	Wheler,
Geoffrion,	Paterson (Brant),	Yeo.—42.

NAYS:

Messieurs

Abbott,	Fulton,	Merner,
Allison,	Gault,	Mongenais,
Arkell,	Gigault,	Montplaisir,
Baker,	Girouard (Kent),	Mousseau,
Bannerman,	Grandbois,	Muttart,
Beaty,	Haggart,	O'Connor,
Beauchesne,	Hay,	Ogden,
Benoit,	Hesson,	Orton,
Bergeron,	Hilliard,	Onimet,
Bill,	Hooper,	Patterson (Essex),
Boulbee,	Houde,	Pinsonneault,
Bourbeau,	Hurteau,	Platt,
Bowell,	Ives,	Plumb,
Brecken,	Jackson,	Pope (Compton),
Brooks,	Jones,	Pope (Queen's),
Bunster,	Kilvert,	Richey,
Burnham,	Kirkpatrick,	Robertson (Hamilton),
Cameron (Victoria),	Kranz,	Rouleau,
Caron,	Landry,	Routhier,
Cimon,	Lane,	Royal,
Colby,	Langevin,	Ryan (Montreal),
Costigan,	Lantier,	Rykert,
Coughlin,	Longley,	Schultz,
Coursol,	Macdonald (King's),	Scott,
Currier,	McDonald (Cape Breton),	Shaw,
Daly,	McDonald (Picton),	Sproule,
Daoust,	McDonald (Vict., N.S.),	Strange,
Dawson,	Macmillan,	Tasse,
DeCosmos,	McCallum,	Tellier,
Desaulniers,	McConville,	Tilley,
Desjardins,	McQuaig,	Valin,
Domville,	McDougall,	Vallée,
Drew,	McGreevy,	Vanasse,
Dugas,	McQuade,	Wade,
Elliott,	McTory,	Wallace (Norfolk),
Farrow,	Manson,	White (Cardwell),
Fitzsimmons,	Masson,	Williams.—113.
Fortin,	Massue,	

Bill read the third time and passed.

PATENT ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Mr. POPE (Compton), in moving the second reading of Bill (No. 45) (from the Senate) to amend the Patent Act of 1872, said: It has been found that many people do not quite understand the operation of the Act passed in 1872, which varied considerably from the previous Act. It has frequently happened that applications for patents, coming a day or two after the expiring of the time required for notice, or even on the same day, and the applications being lodged in the Patent Office, the parties suppose it is all

Mr. LAURIER.

right. The object of this Bill is to give the Commissioner of Patents, in cases where applications are made in good faith, but a day or two late, an opportunity to investigate the matter, and if he is satisfied that they acted in good faith, he may give them an extension of time, but not to interfere with any person that may have used the patent in the meantime. This Bill is brought in in obedience to a pressing demand from many parties for legislation in the direction pointed out. The hon. member for West Durham will find, by looking at the first clause of the Bill, that the change made in the Senate is confined to applications made one year ago. My own impression is that it may work a little hard. However, if the Bill passes the second reading we can discuss the matter in Committee of the Whole. In some cases it appears the party was not duly authorized to take out the patent at that time, and did not send their transfer, or something of that kind.

Sir ALBERT J. SMITH. How many cases are there?

Mr. POPE. Perhaps there may be twenty. I do not know. That is the object of that clause. The second clause merely carries out the present arrangement. The third clause is for the purpose of relieving persons who have acted in good faith, and supposed the matter was all right. Section seventeen is for the purpose of setting forth clearly that a fresh patent was to be taken out before the expiration of the patent. It is also proposed to insert the words "before the expiration of the second five years." I make these alterations that no more mistakes may occur. That is the whole intent and object of the Bill, which I submit for the consideration of the House. In respect to the fifth clause it has been found in fact that the provision for all applications to pass through the Attorney-General is a mere matter of form. It is not done. They are perhaps submitted to some clerk, and the Minister knows probably no more about such matters than the clerk; consequently we thought it better to strike out that provision.

Mr. BLAKE. I will leave the Minister of Justice to answer the observations made by the hon. gentleman with respect to the manner in which the duties devolving upon the Department of Justice have been performed. The 18th section of the Patent Act provides:

"Every patent and instrument for the extension of time as aforesaid shall, before it is signed by the Commissioner or any other member of the Privy Council and before the seal hereinbefore mentioned is affixed to it, be examined by the Minister of Justice, who, if he finds it conformable to law, shall certify accordingly, and such patent or instrument may then be signed and the seal affixed thereto, and be duly registered shall avail to the grantee thereof."

I understand the hon. Minister of Agriculture to make two objections. First, that the Minister of Justice has not performed his duty in point of fact, but has left it to some clerk who knew nothing about it; and second, that it would not have been better if it had been left in the hands of the Minister of Justice himself, as he knew no more about it than the clerk. I certainly would not have made such an observation, but, in the frankness and familiarity which necessarily arises from the cordial relations which subsist between those hon. gentlemen, they can talk about these matters in a manner which I would not venture to adopt. It is of much consequence that these important documents should be made conformable to the law, and this will not be accomplished by striking out the clause. With respect to the other parts of the measure, it was certainly introduced in the Senate in a more liberal form for the patentees, whose patents have expired, than its present form; and if I rightly understood the Minister of Agriculture he rather objected to the limitation introduced by the Senate, and was inclined to suggest that the House should revert to the original terms of the Bill. It will be satisfactory at an early stage to know what the views of the Government are—what, in