

Mr. Dufresne said the Bill provided that it should take effect from the 1st July next.

Sir J. A. Macdonald said he had no hesitation in stating what the course of the Government in this matter would be. They did not think they were constitutionally bound in any way to assist in the preparation or maturing of a measure to which they were opposed; but of course they must submit to the opinion of the House so unmistakably expressed as that opinion had been by the vote on this question. They would, therefore, offer every facility for the measure to pass through. So long as the House was sitting, so large a majority could procure the passing of the Bill through this House, and Government would not advise His Excellency to prorogue Parliament until the Bill had an opportunity of passing this House.

Mr. Mackenzie—And the other House?

Sir J. A. Macdonald said of course the other House would deal with the Bill as it pleased. If it was the unanimous desire of the House that the Bill should pass through all its stages at once, so far as Government was concerned, no opposition would be offered. The Government did not approve of the principle on which the Bill was founded, but acting in obedience to the will of the House would offer every facility for its passage.

Hon. Mr. Holton hoped the member for Montcalm would accept the suggestion of the leader of the Government, and treating this in the same way as a Supply Bill which could be passed at once through all its stages, after the resolutions had been passed in Committee, would move that the three stages be taken now.

Sir J. A. Macdonald said that could not be done. The Bill must first be printed.

Hon. Mr. Holton said the rules of Parliament did not require that the Supply Bill, founded on resolution, should be printed before being passed through all its stages.

Hon. Mr. Dunkin objected to any unseemly haste. An opportunity should be given to the House to amend every line of the Bill. It should be before the House day by day as it passed through its successive stages.

Dr. Parker said he would prefer to have the matter arranged by an amendment to the clause in the Consolidated Revenue Bill relating to the Governor's salary. He would rather not have a special Bill introduced.

Mr. Dufresne said perhaps the Government would not proceed with that Bill.

The Bill having been introduced,

Mr. Dufresne moved that it be read a second time to-morrow.

Hon. Mr. Holton suggested to add the words, "and that it be then the first order of the day."

Hon. Mr. Dunkin objected to such an addition being made to the motion without notice. He did not want the journals of the House to show any undue precipitation.

Mr. Mills urged that the Government were just as much responsible for the passing of measures initiated by private members as for those initiated by themselves. He thought they should provide for this reduction of salary by an amendment to their Consolidated Revenue Bill.

Sir J. A. Macdonald said if the honourable gentleman would look into the Parliamentary practice of England, he would find many cases similar to this where Government allowed measures to pass to which they were opposed. He hoped Mr. Holton would not press his addition to the notice, when Government stated they would give every facility for the passage of the Bill, so as to allow it to be considered in the upper House.

Mr. Walsh made some remarks in opposition to reducing the Governor's salary.

The motion for the 2nd reading to-morrow was then agreed to.

ENLARGING QUEBEC COUNTY

On motion of the **Hon. Mr. Chauveau**, the Bill to annex portions of the seignory of Bel-air to the Counties of Quebec and Port Neuf was considered in Committee, and ordered to be read a third time to-morrow.

COAL

Mr. Brousseau moved that the Bill to amend Chapter 63, Con. Stat. of Lower Canada, insofar as the same relates to the measurement and discharge of coal, be read a second time and referred to the Committee on Banking and Commerce.

Hon. Mr. Holton said that he would not oppose the measure at that stage, as it apparently only affected Montreal and would be referred to the Committee on Banking and Commerce.