

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE laid on the table the sentence of outlawry on LOUIS RIEL.

It being six o'clock the House rose for recess.

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AFTER RECESS.

Mr. COLBY said he had not had the opportunity of listening to the explanations of the Hon. Postmaster General nor had he the opportunity of giving the Bill more than a cursory reading. He could not, however, refrain from expressing the satisfaction he felt in common, he believed, with perhaps every member of the House with the main features of the Bill. It was one he believed which would give great satisfaction to the country. At the same time he was inclined to agree with the suggestions of the members for North Oxford and South Waterloo with regard to postage on newspapers. There were special reasons why this matter should receive the favourable consideration of the Government at the present time. In consequence of the recent convention with the United States our newspaper and magazine publishers had to encounter an opposition which they had hitherto never met in their business. It was well known that the leading magazines and newspapers of the United States were conducted in a very enterprising manner, and having large circulations they were able to have a large amount of capital at their command. At Chicago the other day he was told that one newspaper proprietor paid no less than \$400 to \$600, a day for a verbatim report of the testimony in the celebrated Beecher case, and either that proprietor or another newspaper proprietor ran a special Sunday morning train between Chicago and Milwaukee for the delivery of its Sunday edition. This spirit of enterprise was not confined to Chicago, but existed in the management of all great newspapers in New York, Boston and other cities. While we in this country had very many valuable magazines and newspapers, yet some of them had a hard struggle for existence, and in many instances proved to be disastrous to their promoters. Now the practical effect of this convention would be to cause an inundation of newspapers and magazines from the United States into Canada. He was told by a mail-conductor that since that convention

the increase in the amount of literature of that kind introduced into Canada from the United States was astonishing. Our newspapers, therefore, would have to encounter this kind of competition. Moreover, the American publishers having a large field for their papers, and being able to command the highest talent were able to produce very valuable and readable papers—papers which from a mere money point of view were better than any that could possibly be produced in this country. While our newspapers generally would have to encounter this kind of competition, it would fall with special force upon the local press of the country. The country newspaper not only contained the local news of its constituency, but required to have a certain amount of what may be called domestic reading, and in this respect it would be affected very seriously by the competition of a large class of family newspapers in the United States. The amount of revenue which would be derived from the postage of newspapers under the present Bill would be very small, and he trusted that the postage on newspapers would be entirely removed.

Mr. MILLS said he did not propose to enter into any lengthened discussion on this Bill. It seemed to him that it had generally met with the approval of the House, and he thought deservedly so. With the exception of the objection made by the hon. member for Cardwell all the objections to the Bill were as to mere matters of detail, and not to the principle of the Bill. He was one of those that were opposed to the abolition of newspaper postage. He had never been able to understand upon what grounds its abolition could be defended. The Government in undertaking to carry letters and newspapers undertook in so far the work which belonged to common carriers, and he was sure that if any private parties were to undertake to perform the work now being done by the Government it would seem a very extraordinary proposition that they should do work free for the parties receiving the papers, and be paid for doing it out of the public treasury. He could see no difference whatever between the public treasury paying for the transmission of newspapers or letters and the removing of the postage altogether from newspapers. The people of this country were not so indifferent to newspaper